

AGENDA



Thursday, February 25, 2010

**Public Hearings and Possible Actions
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 78**

Subject: Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan by adopting the East Riverside Corridor Master Plan. The planning area includes properties within approximately one-quarter to one-half mile on the north and south sides of East Riverside Drive, bounded by Interstate 35 on the west and Highway 71 on the east.

For More Information: Erica Leak, 974-2856; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by Planning Commission.

Prior Council Action: November 29, 2007 – Council approved a motion authorizing the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Anton Nelessen and Associates, Inc. for the East Riverside Drive Corridor Master Plan.

December 17, 2009 - Council set a public hearing for February 25, 2010, at 4:00 p.m.

This action will consider adoption of the East Riverside Corridor Master Plan. This corridor planning area includes portions of the East Riverside/Oltorf Combined and Montopolis Neighborhood Planning Areas.

East Riverside Drive and the area around it is an important commercial and residential corridor located near downtown. The purpose of the East Riverside Corridor Master Plan is to guide future redevelopment and city infrastructure improvements so that they are in line with the community's vision for the area. The Corridor Plan was called for in the East Riverside/Oltorf Combined Neighborhood Plan and was spurred-on by active discussions of introducing streetcar/light rail service to Austin's core neighborhoods and centers of activity, including along East Riverside Drive.

The consulting firm A. Nelessen Associates, Inc. (ANA), along with a number of subconsultants, were selected by Council in November 2007, to develop a Master Plan for the East Riverside Drive area and include transportation, land use, zoning, and urban design recommendations. The ANA consultant team and Urban Design staff in the Planning & Development Review Department have been meeting with neighborhood stakeholders, including property owners, renters, business owners, developers, residents from surrounding neighborhoods, City staff, and local, regional, and state agency staff with jurisdiction in the area since July 2008 to develop the Master Plan.

Attached is a boundary map of the East Riverside Drive Corridor planning area.