City Council May 24, 2012

Late Backup

Item #135 Comprehensive Plan:

The current Comprehensive Plan is a source of wide-spread dissatisfaction and disillusionment based on the following facts:

- does not reflect the will of all the people but instead only reflects the wants and desires of certain interests both outside and within the city
- plan's emphasis is on the newbies to Austin at the expense of citizens who have supported Austin for generations
- a distinct lack of interaction with the Northeast/East Austin areas regarding the planned increase in commercial zoning in these areas
- the placing of most of the 750,000 additional citizens east of IH 35
- the lack of planned funding sources to pay for infrastructure improvements, land and water, to accommodate the needs of these new citizens, and
- revisions to current Neighborhood Plans and the current LDC compatibility standards by the planned revision of the Land Development Code which, with certainty, will follow approval of the Comprehensive Plan

We need a new plan based on:

- reality not party games - in-depth interaction with all citizens regardless of economic status and/or location - the needs of citizens at all age levels - protection of multi generational housing from gentrification - giving equal emphasis to the needs of long time Austin residents versus the emphasis placed on newbies to the Austin area - no input from consultants - no overload from the city's bureaucracy

We have no assurances that, in the future, the concerns and needs of Northeast and East Austin not adequately addressed in the Comprehensive Plan which does little, if anything, to support the culture, the needs, and participation of area residents in CoA initiatives while expecting these residents to accept more than their share of commercial development - will receive full attention, funding, and CoA support at levels now provided to areas west of IH35.

Vera Givens, President University Iville neighborhood association