

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-1-141 OF THE CITY CODE  
REGARDING THE DOWNTOWN COMMISSION.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** Section 2-1-141 of the City Code is amended to read as follows:

**§2-1-141 DOWNTOWN COMMISSION.**

- (A) The Downtown Commission is composed of 15 members appointed by the city council. If no more than the number of members necessary to provide a ~~[only]~~ a quorum of the Downtown Commission is present at a meeting, a board action is adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the quorum. If more than a quorum is present at a meeting, a board action must be adopted by an affirmative vote of the number of members necessary to provide a quorum.
- (1) The mayor ~~[may nominate two commission members]~~ and each ~~[other]~~ council member may nominate one commission member to be appointed by the council.
- (2) The council shall also appoint eight ~~[seven]~~ commissioners from the membership of the boards and commissions described in Subsection (C). The council shall appoint one ~~[One]~~ commissioner ~~[is to be appointed]~~ from each board or commission to serve as a representative of that board or commission. The terms of a ~~[these]~~ Downtown Commission member[s] appointed to represent another board or commission shall coincide with the member's ~~[their]~~ term[s] on the board or commission that the member ~~[they]~~ represents.
- (B) The council intends that participation will be solicited from downtown stakeholder groups, such as ~~[Each of the following groups, organizations, and institutions may be represented by a commissioner]:~~
- (1) downtown residents;
- (2) providers of human and social services in the ~~[tø]~~ downtown area ~~[clients];~~

- (3) commercial property owners [~~Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce~~];
- (4) business owners, operators, and associations [~~Downtown Austin Alliance~~];
- (5) workers and employees [~~East Sixth Street merchants and residents~~];
- (6) civic and religious organizations [~~Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce~~]; and
- (7) real estate developers [~~Hispanic Chamber of Commerce~~];
- ~~(8) Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team;~~
- ~~(9) Women's Chamber of Commerce; and~~
- ~~(10) Urban Land Institute].~~

(C) Each of the following boards and commissions shall recommend to the council one of its members for appointment to the commission:

- (1) the Arts Commission;
- (2) the Austin Music Commission;
- (3) the Design Commission;
- (4) the Downtown Austin Community Court Advisory Committee;
- (5) [(4)] the Historic Landmark Commission;
- (6) [(5)] the Parks and Recreation Board;
- (7) [(6)] the Planning Commission; and
- (8) [(7)] the Urban Transportation Commission.

(D) The Downtown C[e]ommission shall [~~should~~]:

- (1) advise the city council and city staff regarding policies and projects impacting downtown Austin [~~participate in the development of a long range comprehensive plan for the downtown area~~];
- (2) serve as stewards for the Downtown Austin Plan and, as such,:
  - (a) serve as a sounding board for the city council and staff on the implementation of the Downtown Austin Plan; and
  - (b) offer recommendations on amendments to the Downtown Austin Plan as needed [~~be a clearinghouse through which public and private studies and projects are heard in order to achieve the greatest benefit from those studies and projects and to avoid potential duplication of effort~~];
- (3) maintain liaison relationships with city staff and other boards and

- commissions [establish formal lines of communication between its individual members, respective boards and commissions, and other entities represented on the Downtown Commission]; and
- (4) perform other activities as directed by city council [hold public forums to solicit broad public participation in the development of the downtown comprehensive plan; and
  - (5) request that studies on the downtown area performed by any city, county, state, or other public office and the private sector be brought to the Downtown Commission for informational and coordination purposes].
- (E) [The commission shall:
- (1) facilitate coordination among City boards and commissions regarding projects and planning proposals for the downtown area;
  - (2) act as the advisory board to the city council and city staff, to help define appropriate development for downtown;
  - (3) provide review and comments to the council and to city departments, boards and commissions concerning the consistency or appropriateness of proposed projects and planning initiatives, ordinances, and other relevant matters affecting downtown Austin as they relate to the Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team Implementation report, "A Call to Action," and the vision for downtown Austin contained in the report;
  - (4) coordinate with the city council, city departments, boards, and commissions in addressing the planning needs for the areas of downtown not addressed by the Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team Implementation report; and
  - (5) review city activities in connection with downtown plans, projects and proposals periodically as it deems necessary, and shall forward its recommendations for coordination to the city council and other appropriate city boards and commissions.
- (F) ]For purposes of this section, the downtown area is the area bounded by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Interstate Highway 35, Lady Bird Lake, and Lamar Boulevard.

**PART 3.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2012      §  
                                 §  
                                 § \_\_\_\_\_  
                                 Lee Leffingwell  
                                 Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Karen M. Kennard  
                         City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Shirley A. Gentry  
                         City Clerk