

Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan Update December 2012

- Comprehensive Urban Forestry Plan (CUFP)
In Review
- Urban Forestry Board (UFB) Working Group
examines Ongoing Challenges
- Next Steps

Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan In Review



CUFP Review Process
The CUFP is a living document that is updated as new information is gathered. The review process is ongoing and involves the following steps:

- 1. Review of the CUFP by the UFB Working Group
- 2. Review of the CUFP by the UFB
- 3. Review of the CUFP by the City Council
- 4. Review of the CUFP by the Mayor
- 5. Review of the CUFP by the Public

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CUFP UFB Working Group

Comprehensive Urban Forestry Plan
Update December 2012

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1992-2011 | Several attempts are made to complete the Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan. None result in a final product.

November 2011 | Staff Brainstorming Session
• Brainstorming session held for staff from various Austin departments and facilitated by [unclear]

December 2011 | 2 UFB Working Group Meetings
• Review and revision of initial draft
• Drafted Vision statement

January 2012 | CUFP UFB Working Group Meeting
• Preparation for UFB Working Group Retreat
• Retreat Activities:
1) Board to chair and threats in
2) Board revised Principles

April 2012 | Public Meeting
• The public was invited to provide input on the Vision Statement
• Urban Forest Opinion Survey generated

June 2012 | 2 CUFP UFB Working Group Meetings
• Working group reviewed
1) adequate public input
2) 1st draft should be completed
• The Urban Forestry Board
• UFB working group reviewed
Tasks for each member

November 2012 | City of Austin Staff Added to CUFP Working Group
• Staff capacity increased for CUFP development
• Plan outline organized into sections
• Revised Plan timeline developed

December 2012 | 2 CUFP UFB Working Group Meetings & Monthly UFB Meeting
• Using the Urban Forestry Board's Retreat results as the ground work for this collaborative process, the working group crafted priority challenges for each

Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan In Review



2010 Tree of the Year - St. Andrews Live Oak

1992 | City Code mandates the creation of a
Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan for Austin.

1992-2011 | Several attempts are
Comprehensive Urban Forest
product.

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Urban Forest Plan for Austin.

1992-2011 | Several attempts are made to complete the
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- Brainstorming session held for staff from several
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Several attempts are made to complete the
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November 2011 | Staff Brainstorming Session

- Brainstorming session held for staff from several different City of Austin departments and facilitated by professional CoA moderators.

December 2011 | 2 UFB Working Group Meetings

- Review and revision of initial outline developed by staff.
- Drafted Vision statement

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January 2012 | CUFP UFB Working Group Meeting & UFB Retreat

- Preparation for UFB Retreat
- Retreat Activities:

- Review and revision of initial outline developed by staff.
- Drafted Vision statement

January 2012 | CUFP UFB Working Group Meeting & UFB Retreat

- Preparation for UFB Retreat
- Retreat Activities:
 - 1) Board to characterize ideal urban forest, and challenges and threats in reaching that ideal
 - 2) Board revised Visions Components and Guiding Principles

April 2012 | Public Meeting

- The public was invited to review and comment on CUFP

2) Board revised Visions Components and Guiding Principles

April 2012 | Public Meeting

- The public was invited to review and comment on CUFP Vision Statement, Components, and Guiding Principles.
- Urban Forest Opinion Poll conducted—900 responses generated

June 2012 | 2 CUFP UFB Working Group Meetings & Monthly UFB Meeting

 Working group reviewed progress to date and reached consensus on

Vision Statement, Components, and Guiding Principles.

- Urban Forest Opinion Poll conducted—900 responses generated

June 2012 | 2 CUFP UFB Working Group Meetings & Monthly UFB Meeting

- Working group reviewed progress to date and reached consensus on
 - 1) adequate public input has been gathered on the outline;
 - 2) 1st draft should be produced by staff.
- The Urban Forestry Board unanimously approves all content to date.
- UFB working group reviews first draft of the plan, provides revisions. Tasks for each member are assigned.

12 | City of Austin Staff Added to CUFP Initiative
city increased for CUFP development
organized into sections

- The Urban Forestry Board unanimously approved
- UFB working group reviews first draft of the plan
Tasks for each member are assigned.

November 2012 | City of Austin Staff Added to CUFP Initiative

- Staff capacity increased for CUFP development
- Plan outline organized into sections
- Revised Plan timeline developed

UFB Working Group Meetings & Monthly UFB Meeting
UFB Board's Retreat results as the ground work for this
The working group crafted priority challenges for each



November 2012 | City of Austin Staff Added to CUFP

- Staff capacity increased for CUFP development
- Plan outline organized into sections
- Revised Plan timeline developed

December 2012 | 2 CUFP UFB Working Group Meetings & Monthly UFB Meeting

- Using the Urban Forestry Board's Retreat results as the ground work for this collaborative process, the working group crafted priority challenges for each of the six vision categories.
- Urban Forestry Board meeting – Dec 19. Review of progress to date.

CUFP UFB

Working Group

Examines Ongoing Challenges
Section of the Plan

Working Group Goal
Create consensus that identified the top three to five ongoing challenges that address the City of Austin's vision of a sustainable future.

Process
Using the Urban Forestry Support Report created in the previous step, the working group will identify ongoing challenges for each of the five vision categories.

Ongoing Challenges
The ongoing challenges will be incorporated into the State of the Urban Forest section of the Plan.

CUFP UFB

Working Group

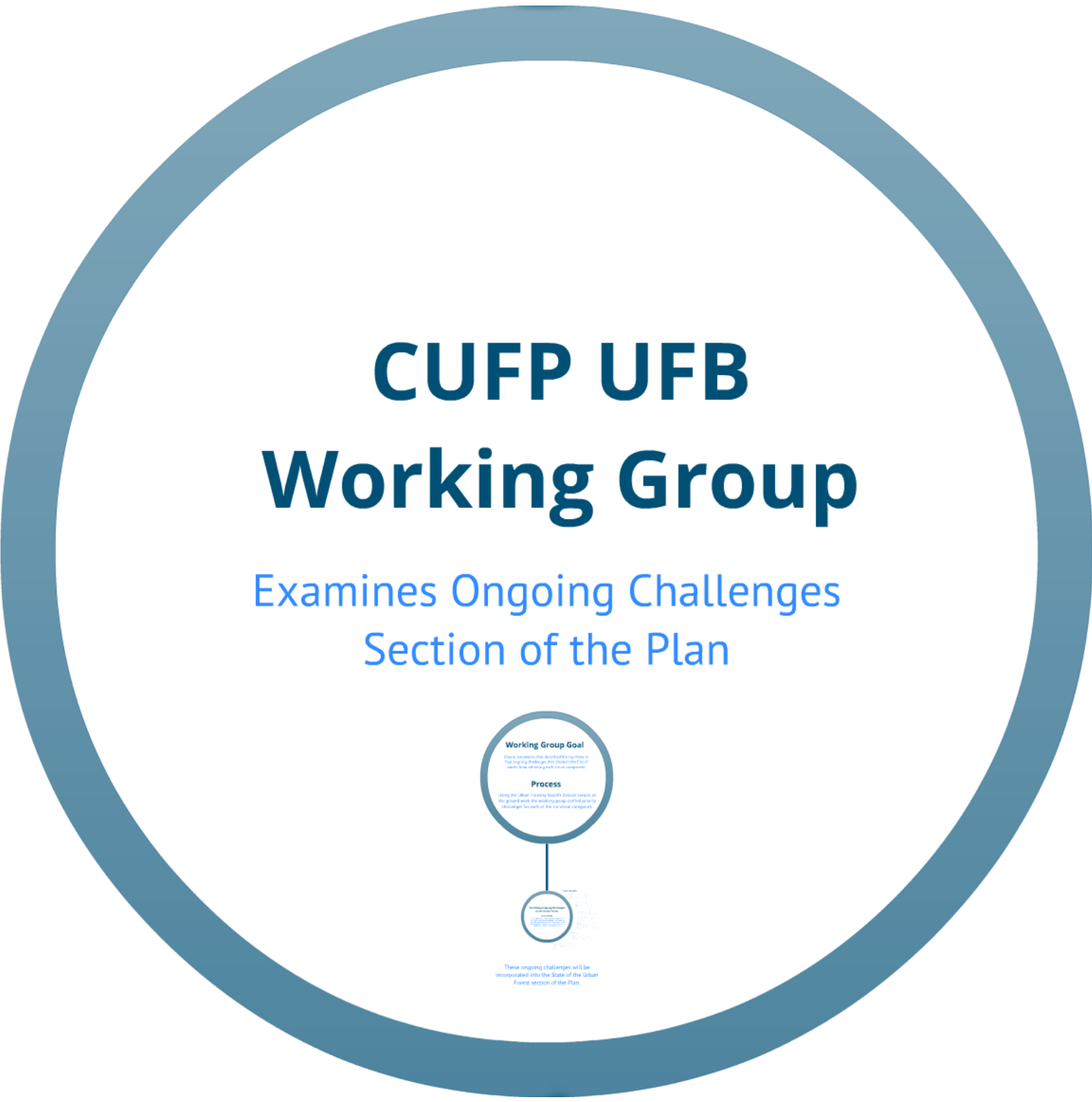
Examines Ongoing Challenges
Section of the Plan

Working Group Goal
Create consensus that identified the top three to five ongoing challenges that address the City of Austin's vision of being a green, vibrant, and resilient city.

Process
Using the Urban Forestry Support Report created as part of the goal, the working group participated in challenges for each of the five vision categories.

Working Group
The working group consists of representatives from the City of Austin, the Urban Forestry Support Report, and the Urban Forestry Support Report.

These ongoing challenges will be incorporated into the State of the Urban Forest section of the Plan.



Working Group Goal

Create statements that described the top three to four ongoing challenges that obstruct the City of Austin from achieving each vision component.

Process

Using the Urban Forestry Board's Retreat results as the ground work the working group crafted priority challenges for each of the six vision categories.

Identifying Ongoing Challenges to the Urban Forest

VISION STATEMENT

Austin's urban forest is a healthy and sustainable mix of trees, vegetation, and other components that comprise a contiguous and thriving ecosystem valued, protected, and cared for by the City and all of its citizens as an essential environmental, economic, and community asset.

1. CONTIGUOUS: a contiguous urban forest is a forested corridors for transportation, community, and recreation throughout the city.

- Lack of Integrated land classification and planning
- Fragmented regional comprehensive planning
- Competing land use/urban development pressures

2.PROTECTED: trees and vegetation are protected through sustainable site design and management practices; ecosystem health is maintained

- Insufficient resources for protection and sustenance
- Misperception of value
- Insufficient mechanisms for protection and sustenance

3.HEALTHY: a healthy urban forest is diverse, native, and adapted to the local climate

- Lack of appropriate species selection
- Lack of appropriate site design
- Lack of appropriate regional planning
- Lack of appropriate management practices

4.VALUED: a valued urban forest is valued for the well being of the community

- Lack of local benefits and value
- Inadequate financial benefits
- City government associated funding

5.THRIVING: a thriving urban forest is a thriving ecosystem and ecosystem capacity

- Biotic and abiotic stressors, i.e. climate change
- Lack of financial resources for ecosystem capacity
- Attrition of urban forest due to climate change
- Lack of quantitative and qualitative resource

Identifying Ongoing Challenges to the Urban Forest

VISION STATEMENT

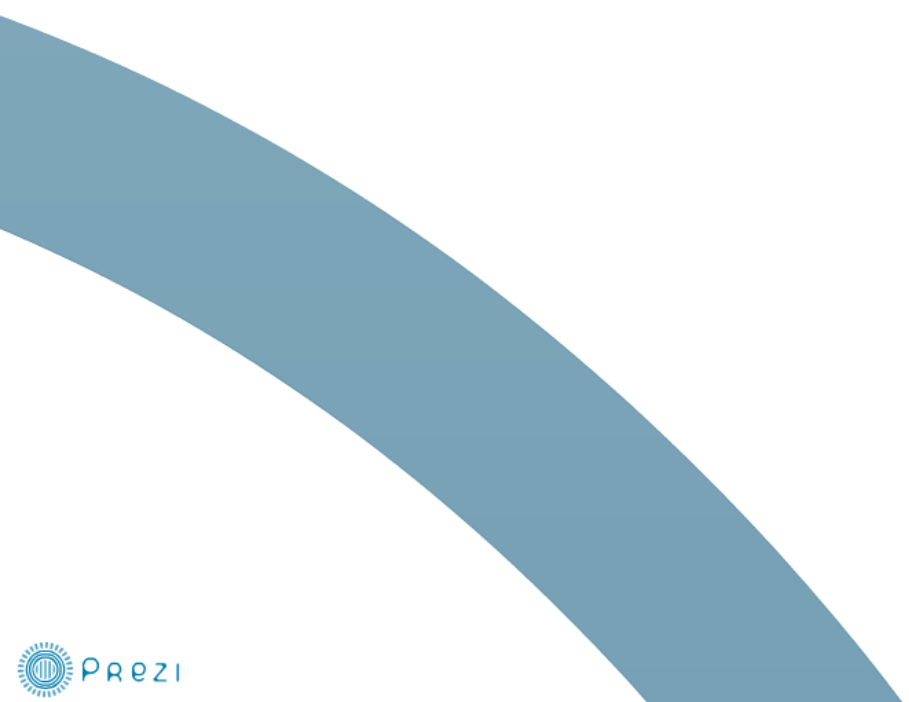
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6 VISION COMPONENTS

1. CONTIGUOUS: a contiguous urban forest is composed of forested corridors for transportation, community, recreation throughout the city.

- Lack of Integrated land classification and management
- Fragmented regional comprehensive planning/land use
- Competing land use/urban development patterns



ON COMPONENTS

1. CONTIGUOUS: a contiguous urban forest is composed of interconnected, forested corridors for transportation, community, recreation and wildlife throughout the city.

- Lack of Integrated land classification and management of public lands
- Fragmented regional comprehensive planning/land classification
- Competing land use/urban development patterns

2.PROTECTED: trees and environmental features are protected through sustainable site design and land management practices so that ecosystem health is maintained

- Insufficient resources to promote and enforce tree regulations
- Misperception of what a sustainable site is

• for transportation, community, recreation and wildlife
city.

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regional comprehensive planning/land classification
and use/urban development patterns

2.PROTECTED: trees and environmental features are protected utilizing sustainable site design and land management practices so that long-term ecosystem health is maintained

- Insufficient resources to promote and enforce tree regulations
- Misperception of what a sustainable site is
- Insufficient mechanism to update standards and specifications for tree protection and sustainable site design.

3.HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM: a healthy urban forest is comprised of a diverse, native, and uneven-aged palette of species and structure adapted to the unique growing conditions of ecosystem types

- Lack of education and/or utilization of ecosystem-specific

- Insufficient mechanism to update standards and specifications for tree protection and sustainable site design.

3. HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM: a healthy urban forest is comprised of a diverse, native, and uneven-aged palette of species and structure adapted to the unique growing conditions of ecosystem types

- Lack of education and/or utilization of ecosystem-specific appropriate species
- Lack of comprehensive inventory
- Lack of coordinated effort to create a comprehensive locally and regional planting plan that supports diversity of age and species
- Lack of resources to accomplish the above things.

4. VALUED: a valued urban forest is recognized as essential for the long term well-being of the community and the ecosystem



- Lack of comprehensive inventory
- Lack of coordinated effort to create a comprehensive locally and regional planting plan that supports diversity of age and species
- Lack of resources to accomplish the above things.

4.VALUED: a valued urban forest is recognized as essential for the long term well being of the community and the ecosystem

- Lack of local government and public awareness and education of the benefits and value of the urban forest
- Inadequate methods for quantifying the ecosystem services and the financial benefits of the urban forest
- City government does not value trees as a public utility deserving of associated funds and regulations

: a thriving urban forest is one that is optimized according to site
em capacity

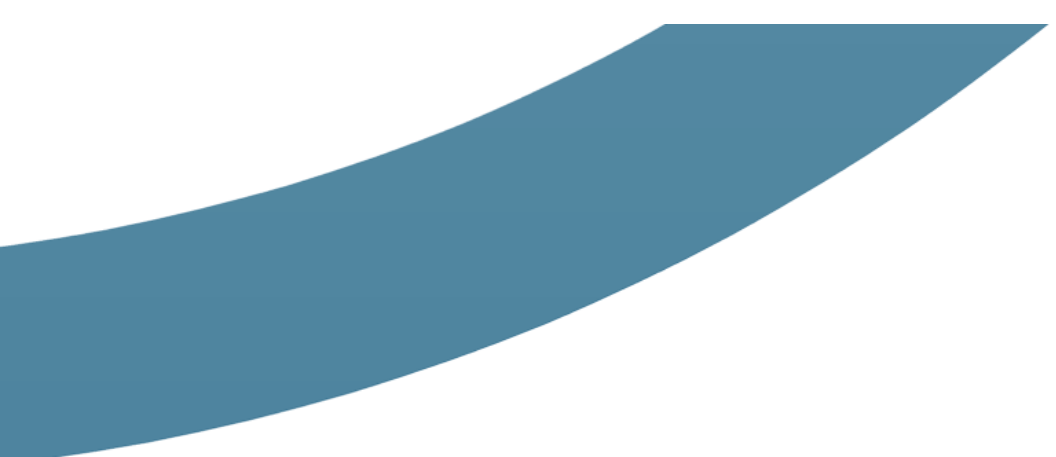
nd abiotic stressors, i.e. invasive species, urban soil, and climate

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5.THRIVING: a thriving urban forest is one that is optimized according to site and ecosystem capacity

- Biotic and abiotic stressors, i.e. invasive species, urban soil, and climate change
- Lack of financial resources for expanding the urban forest to optimal capacity
- Attrition of urban forest due to competing land uses and site design
- Lack of quantitative and qualitative information about the urban forest resource

managed for



capacity
•Attrition of u
•Lack of quan
resource

6.CARED FOR: a well-cared for urban forest is proactively managed for health, longevity, and safety

- Lack of resources prevents proactive urban forest maintenance
- Large size and complexity of City of Austin and ecosystem
- Lack of coordinated urban forest planning and management effort on a citywide scale
- Lack of education

trees, vegetation, and other components that comprise a contiguous and thriving ecosystem valued, protected, and cared for by the City and all of its citizens as an essential environmental, economic, and community asset.

4 VALUED: a valued urban forest is recognized as essential for the long term well being of the community and the ecosystem

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5 THRIVING: a thriving urban forest is one that is optimized according to site and ecosystem capacity

- Biotic and abiotic stressors, i.e. invasive species, urban soil, and climate change
- Lack of financial resources for expanding the urban forest to optimal capacity
- Addition of urban forest due to competing land uses and site design
- Lack of quantitative and qualitative information about the urban forest resource

6 CARED FOR: a well-cared for urban forest is proactively managed for health, longevity, and safety

- Lack of resources prevents proactive urban forest maintenance
- Large size and complexity of City of Austin and ecosystem
- Lack of coordinated urban forest planning and management effort on a citywide scale
- Lack of education

These ongoing challenges will be incorporated into the State of the Urban Forest section of the Plan.

Next Steps

- Monthly Updates to the Urban Forestry Board
- CUFP UFB Working Group will meet Monthly and Bi-Monthly
- Aggressive March First Draft Goal

This Presentation Covered

Comprehensive Urban Forestry Plan (CUFP) In Review

Urban Forestry Board (UFB) Working Group examines
Ongoing Challenges

Next Steps



Thank You

Please submit your comments to:

- Email - urbanforestplan@austintexas.gov



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Please submit your comments to:

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- During the Board's Citizen Communication period

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