ZONING CHANGE, NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN AMENDMENT, AND ORDINANCE AMENDMENT REVIEW SHEET

C.C. DATE: May 9, 2013
CASE NUMBERS: East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan
Code Amendment Case Number: C20-2011-003
Zoning Case Numbers: C14-2012-0111a, C14-2012-0111b, & C14-2012-0112
Plan Amendment Case Numbers: NPA-2012-0021.02 & NPA-2012-0005.04

Description:
Conduct a public hearing and consider:

- An ordinance amending Title 25 of the City Code to:
  1. Create the East Riverside Corridor (ERC) base zoning district and establish associated use and site development regulations as specified in the East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan;
  2. Amend LDC Section 25-2 Subchapter E: Design Standards and Mixed Use to exempt development built pursuant to the East Riverside Corridor ERC zoning district regulations; and
  3. Approve a collector street plan for the East Riverside Corridor Area.

- Amending the Neighborhood Plans for properties in the East Riverside Oltorf Combined (EROC) and Montopolis Neighborhood Plans that are included in the East Riverside Corridor Zoning District (as identified in Exhibits A and C), and

- Rezoning identified properties within the boundaries of the East Riverside Corridor Zoning District, (as identified in Exhibits B and C) to East Riverside Corridor (ERC) base district zoning.

Departmental Comments:
The draft ERC Regulating Plan was circulated for Inter-Departmental Review on June 14, 2012. Revisions were made to the Regulating Plan in response to departmental comments.

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends the proposed zoning changes, plan amendments, and code amendment, with proposed minor amendments to the Sept. 14, 2012 draft E. Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan.

AREA: 35 tracts on approx. 900 acres

APPLICANT: City of Austin, Planning and Development Review Department (PDRD)

AGENT: City of Austin, Planning and Development Review Department (PDRD), Erica Leak

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS:
Del Valle Community Coalition
Austin Neighborhoods Council
PODER
Vargas Neighborhood Association
Montopolis Neighborhood Association 2008
South Central Coalition
Homeless Neighborhood Assn.
Holly Neighborhood Coalition
East River City Area (ERCA)
Sentral Plus East Austin Koalition (SPEAK)
Eastville-Central
Home Builders Association of Greater Austin
The Real Estate Council of Austin, Inc.
Save Town Lake.Org
South River City Citizens Assn.
Austin Monorail Project
Tejano Town
Austin Heritage Tree Foundation
Pleasant Valley
Super Duper Neighborhood Objectors and Appealers Organization
East Riverside/Oltorf Neigh Plan Contact Team
Cristo Rey Neighborhood Association
Montopolis Neighborhood Plan Contact Team (MNPCT)
Riverside Meadows Homeowner's Association
Montopolis Area Neighborhood Alliance
City of Austin Downtown Commission
Southeast Corner Alliance of Neigh (SCAN)
Govalle/Johnston Terrace Plan TM of Neigh.
River Bluff Neighborhood Assoc.
Southeast Austin Neighborhood Alliance
Greater South River City Combined Neighborhood Planning Team
Zoning Committee of South River City Citizens Assn.
Carson Ridge Neighborhood Association
Southeast Neighborhood Plan - COA Liaison
East Cesar Chavez Neigh Plan - COA Liaison
Govalle/Johnston Terrace Neigh Plan COA
Greater South River City Neigh Plan - COA Liaison
Montopolis Neigh Plan - COA Liaison
East Riverside/Oltorf Neigh Plan -COA Liaison
Bonnett Neighborhood Association
Montopolis-Ponca Neighborhood Association
Onion Creek Homeowners Assoc.
Chambord-Austin Owner's Association
Greater East Austin Neighborhood Association
East Cesar Chavez Neighborhood Association
United East Austin Coalition
Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation
Austin Independent School District
Waterfront Planning Advisory Board
Southeast Combined Neighborhood Plan Contact Team
AREA OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES: The East Riverside Corridor Zoning District is generally bounded by Lady Bird Lake on the north, State Highway 71 on the east and south, and I-35 on the west. See the attached maps for the East Riverside Corridor Zoning District boundaries.

WATERSHEDS: Country Club Creek, Carson Creek, Colorado River, Harper's Branch, Town Lake, Country Club Creek West, Country Club Creek East

DESIGNED DEVELOPMENT ZONE: Yes

SCHOOLS: Portions of the East Riverside Corridor Zoning District are served by AISD and portions are served by DVISD. Baty Elementary (a DVISD school) is the only school located within the boundaries of the East Riverside Corridor Zoning District.

STAFF COMMENTS:
The proposed rezonings to ERC base district zoning will implement the land use and urban design recommendations of the East Riverside Corridor Master Plan, adopted by City Council on February 25, 2010. The draft East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan, which contains specific design-based site development and design standards for the proposed ERC zoning district, is included as Exhibit G.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:
Exhibit A: Zoning Map
Exhibit B: ERC Zoning Tract Map
Exhibit C: List showing properties to be rezoned to “ERC” by Tract #, TCAD Property ID and City of Austin Address and properties to have the Future Land Use designation changed to “SRD” by Tract #, TCAD Property ID and City of Austin Address
Exhibit D: Affordability Impact Statement
Exhibit E: Public Comments
Exhibit F: Staff and Planning Commission recommended amendments to the Sept. 14, 2012 Draft East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan
Exhibit G: Draft East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan

PLANNING COMMISSION DATE & ACTION:
Planning Commission Subcommittee on Codes and Ordinances – Voted to recommend this item to full Planning Commission on October 16, 2012. Vote: 4-0.
Planning Commission – Following a public hearing, the Planning Commission recommended adoption of the proposed code amendment, zoning cases, and neighborhood plan amendments with staff and Planning Commission recommended amendments to the Sept. 14, 2012 draft E. Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan on a vote of 8-0. They also recommended that staff review the following items before bringing the cases to council:

1. Alternative Equivalent Compliance notification;
2. Collector street map modifications;
3. P. 51, Subsection 3.5.6.C. – If acceptable to the Fire Department, should alleys be able to be used for fire access?; and
4. Adding minimum density, FAR, or height requirements.

CITY COUNCIL DATE & ACTION:
City Council – Staff briefed City Council on the proposed amendment, zoning cases, and neighborhood plan amendments on November 1, 2012.
City Council – A public hearing at City Council was conducted and closed on November 8, 2012.

ORDINANCE READINGS:
1st – Approved 7-0 on March 7, 2013.
2nd - Approved 6-0 (Martinez off the dais) on April 25, 2013.
3rd - Scheduled for May 9, 2013.

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER:
Erica Leak PHONE: 974-2856 E-mail: erica.leak@austintexas.gov

BACKGROUND

On February 25, 2010 the Austin City Council adopted the East Riverside Corridor (ERC) Master Plan as an amendment to the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan to guide future development and redevelopment in the East Riverside Corridor area. The purpose of the ERC 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 urban rail service to Austin’s core neighborhoods and centers of activity, including along East Riverside Drive.

When the ERC Master Plan was adopted, the City Council directed City staff to develop a comprehensive set of zoning and site development regulations to implement the land use and urban design recommendations of the plan. The Master Plan recommends the creation of a design-based zoning code to:

- Promote residential and mixed-use development in the planning area;
- Require better standards for urban design, building placement, and street connectivity;
- Require pedestrian accommodation in site design; and
- Create a development bonus system allowing increased building height and square footage to incentivize the provision of public benefits (such as affordable housing).
In response to City Council action on February 25, 2010, the Planning and Development Review Department is proposing that properties in the planning area be rezoned and given East Riverside Corridor (ERC) base district zoning. The draft East Riverside Corridor Regulating Plan (Exhibit G) contains specific design-based site development and design standards for the proposed ERC zoning district.