



## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014**

(This report is due in the first quarter of each calendar year for the previous year.)

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### **Downtown Commission**

**(Official Name of Board or Commission)**

**The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:**

- (1) advise the City Council and city staff regarding policies and projects impacting downtown Austin;
- (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;
- (3) maintain liaison relationships with city staff and other boards and commissions; and
- (4) perform other activities as directed by City Council.

**1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

- Recommendation 20140115-005 regarding extending the Downtown Austin Density Bonus Program to the Rainey District
- Recommendation 20140115-006 regarding creation of a Rainey District Master Plan
- Recommendation 20140521-004 regarding barriers to activating downtown public plazas
- Recommendation 20140618-004 regarding criteria for evaluating requests to exceed the maximum FAR of the Downtown Austin Density Bonus Program
- Recommendation 20140618-005 regarding Project Connect

- Recommendation 20140618-006 regarding recommendations of the Boards and Commissions Transition Task Force
- Recommendation 20141119-005 regarding non-peak hour permits for concrete installation
- Made two recommendations on zoning cases
- Made one recommendation on an alley vacation
- Received twelve briefings where no action was taken
- Created one working group

**2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

The Board's actions complied with the mission statement.

**3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

- Assist with implementation of the Downtown Austin Plan (including the Commission serving as a host for public outreach).
- Continue to work on activating the downtown alleys.
- Provide policy recommendations to the City Council on opportunities for supporting activation and creation of a diverse range of public open spaces in downtown.
- Work with staff on regulatory hurdles downtown and make recommendations on the process.
- Be engaged and support Rainey Street's planning effort to support quality of life issues and urban design.
- Focus discussion on downtown transportation, parks, downtown's interface with UT and State properties, public safety and general quality of life. Consider the Commission serving as a "bully pulpit on public realm issues."