

Late Backup

A. Economic Development Policy

The City Manager shall make recommendations for ~~revising~~ ~~reforming~~ the City's economic development incentives policies, including a thorough examination of a full-range of incentive agreement options and tools, including, but not limited to, job-based, investment-based, and place-based incentives, as well as innovative financing mechanisms and the potential for matching funds from public, private sector, or non-profit entities, to result in more equitable and inclusive economic opportunities and improved, positive health outcomes for all Austinites. The updated incentive policies should be aligned with Priority Programs of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, including Priority Program 3 (see definition below).¹

Recommendations for ~~revising~~ ~~reforming~~ the City of Austin's economic development incentives policies should result in increased community benefits, including, but not limited to:

- Community benefits identified in the current existing City of Austin Economic Incentives Policy, including a provision of jobs that pay no less than the City's adopted living wage or prevailing wage, domestic partnership benefits provisions, and other provisions that promote the well-being of workers;
- The creation of middle-skill jobs in targeted occupations identified by the ~~most recent~~ Community Workforce Master Plan (currently Information Technology, Healthcare, and Skilled Trades), support for job training and paid internships or apprenticeships in targeted occupations industry clusters, and located within Imagine Austin Activity Centers and Corridors² and Job Centers in the Eastern Crescent, or providing better employment opportunities for those in the Eastern Crescent;
- Increased employment among populations that are hard-to-employ;
- Increased access to goods and services in communities that are traditionally underinvested, including, but not limited to, opportunities for healthy food options in the Eastern Crescent;
- Increased availability of affordable commercial space for locally-owned small businesses including the creative arts sector;
- Development of vibrant, mixed-use commercial corridors and Imagine Austin Activity Centers;
- Leverage public investments to improve positive health outcomes for low-income residents.
- Retention of local small business employers struggling to survive and stay in Austin.

¹ p.186, Imagine Austin, Priority Program 3 - "continue to grow Austin's economy by investing in our workforce, education systems, entrepreneurs, and local businesses.

² Imagine Austin Appendix D: Centers and Corridors (p. 310)

Item #32 Adler Amendment to Affordability Action Plan

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