



## **Annual Internal Review**

**This report covers the time period of 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017**

### **Small Area Planning Joint Committee of the Planning Commission and the Zoning and Platting Commission**

**The Board/Commission mission statement is:** The council creates the Small Area Planning Joint Committee of the Planning Commission and the Zoning and Platting Commission to advise the council on issues surrounding planning and zoning in areas such as downtown, corridors and centers, neighborhoods, the waterfront, planned unit developments, and transit oriented developments. (LDC 2-2-205)

- 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.**

#### Developing a Land Use Decision-Making Framework

During the time covered by this report, the SAPJC has engaged in an extended dialogue over *Imagine Austin's* vision statement and how its different elements relate to the Planning Commission and the Zoning and Platting Commission's decision-making process for land use cases. The ultimate goal of this discussion is develop a shared framework for both commissions to use when making land use recommendations to the City Council.

#### Small Area Plans

During this reporting period the SAPJC discussed an area-wide plan amendment for the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Plan.

The Committee also continued to discuss the ongoing issue as to whether or not to recommend that a small area plan be developed for the East Cesar Chavez Street corridor (I-335 to US 183) After a lengthy conversation amongst the members of the Committee they decided to not recommend developing a plan.

The Committee began a discussion on the relationship between small area plans and CodeNEXT and how the two will relate once the draft code is adopted.

The Committee has discussed different approaches to small area planning as the neighborhood planning areas are nearly all planned. In memo to the City Council the Committee recommended that Imagine Austin's Activity Corridors should serve as the basis for future small planning efforts.

#### Waterfront Overlay

Over the past year, the SAPJC has received briefings on the content of the Waterfront Overlay Combining District (WO). The purpose of these was to develop a better understanding of specific regulations as well as to understand the context in which it was developed.

The Committee was briefed on the Lamar Beach Master Plan and recommended its adoption to the Planning Commission and to City Council.

The Committee discussed the importance of having a member of the committee with extensive knowledge and experience with development issues in the area covered by the Waterfront Overlay. They will be writing a memo to the City Council recommending that this person have ex officio status on the Committee.

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

The SAPJC actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

The Committee's first three meetings of 2017 were canceled due to a lack of a quorum.

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

- Assist City staff with matters regarding the selection process for future planning areas.
- Review small area plans as they become available.
- In matters regarding planning for small areas, create consistency in the approach between the Planning Commission and Zoning and Platting Commission by determining roles of each in the process and how to best use the joint committee in doing so.
- Study the concept of Complete Communities to create a common evaluation system for use by the Land Use Commissions.
- With respect to the Waterfront Overlay Combining District:
  - Becoming more aware of Code provisions of the Waterfront Overlay
  - Review variances and other planning issues within the Waterfront Overlay Combining District