

WHEREAS on November 6, 2014 the City Council passed CodeNext Approach 2.5 with the goal of improving the Land Development Code's effectiveness, clarity, consistency, predictability, and ease of implementation and administration, and

WHEREAS the Zucker Report recommended that the City implement digital plan review services to reduce the reliance on paper and improve the efficiency of the review process, and

WHEREAS Gridics and possibly other companies have software platforms that can build a database using zoning rules, overlays, property records, GIS shapes, as well as infrastructure capacity and topography, and

WHEREAS such software can be used to provide 3D visualization of the zoning in both the current and CodeNext Draft 3 land development code; and

WHEREAS the changes proposed in CodeNext are difficult to understand without 3D models, and

WHEREAS such software can be used to easily check and expedite permit applications; a particularly important benefit as Development Services Department adapts to the use of a new land development code; and

WHEREAS Austin has a strong tech community and a reputation as a forward thinking city,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Zoning and Platting Commission asks the Mayor and City Council to direct the City manager to acquire the services of a software company that will provide the necessary digital services to allow Commissions, Council, and citizens to visualize and understand the impact of the CodeNext proposal and provide the digital tools to facilitate permit and plan reviews once a new code is implemented.