

April/24/2018

Support the People's Plan. Send Email to All Council Members:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/email/all-council-member>.

We call on the City to make its highest priority preventing our displacement from our East Austin communities, and put CodeNEXT on the backburner. On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a coalition of groups kicked off the Poor People's Campaign with the People's Plan, which lays out in detail 6 resolutions or draft ordinances that City Council can adopt and begin implementing now.

CodeNEXT is NOT the answer to preventing our replacement by affluent newcomers. The solution is to enact specific programs that have worked in other cities: making major public investments in low income affordable housing and restricting land use to prevent demolition and redevelopment of our neighborhoods.

The People's Plan is laid out in detail in 6 resolutions or draft ordinances that council can adopt and begin implementing NOW:

1. Create Low income housing trust fund and appropriations.

Establish a separate, dedicated low income housing trust fund in which all City housing funds are placed. Allocate 1% of City's Budget each year to the trust fund to construct or subsidize housing for low income families. 20% of all future general obligation bond elections will be included for low income housing.

2. Adopt right to Stay and Right to Return Programs for east Austin residents.

Develop policies to reduce or freeze property taxes for low income residents and seniors; create home repair programs. Use public owned land property to build new land-banked and land trust homes for low income former families of East Austin.

3. Use City Owned Land for Low Income Housing. Identify eight properties owned by the City of Austin that can be quickly made available for building low income housing.

4. Expand use of Neighborhood Conservation Combined Districts and Historic Districts. Apply tools to help conserve and preserve our neighborhoods and prevent gentrification and displacement.

5. Establish Interim Development Regulations in Areas with Inadequate Drainage.

6. Implement Austin Environmental Quality Review.

Coalition Members: NAACP, PODER, Save Montopolis School Coalition, Eastern Crescent Right to Stay Coalition, Community Not Commodity.