



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Joe Pantalione, Interim Assistant City Manager JSP

Date: March 9, 2018

Subject: CodeNEXT Schedule

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update regarding the CodeNEXT schedule and next steps.

On February 12, 2018, the City released CodeNEXT Draft 3, the staff policy recommendation. Since that time, staff and the consultants have reviewed Draft 3 with the City Council, Planning Commission (PC), Zoning and Platting (ZAP) Commission, and the Environmental Commission. Staff and consultants have also been meeting with community stakeholders to answer questions and discuss concerns.

Next steps include requesting a recommendation from PC and ZAP. Both commissions have agreed to hold joint public hearings on April 28th and May 1st. After the joint public hearings, the ZAP and PC will meet separately to formulate their recommendations to the City Council. Additionally, in response to Council direction, staff will also request recommendations from the Environmental Commission and the Historic Landmark Commission.

To streamline communication and minimize confusion with the public, staff would like to mail one notification postcard identifying the land use commission public hearing dates as well as the City Council public hearing dates. The notification postcard would be sent to approximately 250,000 property owners and utility account holders in Austin. Staff would like to provide the community with at least three weeks advanced notice of the first public hearing. Therefore, the final notification postcard, including commission and Council public hearing dates, must be provided to the printer by March 26th.

In order to facilitate the notification process and the potential for Council consideration on first reading in June, staff intends to proceed with the following schedule:

- City Council public hearings to be held on May 30th and May 31st

- Special called meetings on June 6th and June 7th. Staff anticipates that the City Council will have discussions, ask questions of the CodeNEXT team, and discuss possible amendments on both days.
- Special called meetings on June 12th and June 13th for a first reading vote.

Should Council approve the schedule above, staff will utilize the month of July – when the City Council traditionally breaks from formal meetings – to make necessary changes based upon the direction given during first reading. Staff recognizes that setting City Council public hearings for the end of May would require action by PC and ZAP within the month of May. Therefore, during the remainder of March and April, staff is scheduling additional work sessions with PC and ZAP to continue discussions on specific CodeNEXT topics.

Staff will be placing an item on the March 22nd City Council agenda requesting Council action to set the public hearings for May 30th and May 31st. Upon Council approval of the public hearing dates, staff will mail the notification postcard to all property owners and utility account holders in the City providing information about the PC, ZAP, and City Council's public hearing schedule and ways to learn more about CodeNEXT. Staff will also provide Council offices with an advance copy of the notification postcard.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Greg Guernsey, Planning and Zoning Director at 512-974-2387 or Jerry Rusthoven, Planning and Zoning Assistant Director, at 512-974-3207.

Cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
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CodeNEXT Executive Team
Stephen Oliver, Chair, Planning Commission
Jolene Kiolbassa, Chair, Zoning and Platting Commission