

Planning Commission changes & vote to approve (7-0; April 11, 2012)

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List of topics for first year workplan

(final language to be approved at April 24 PC meeting)

1. Contract for an economic analysis or the effect of IACP based on full implementation of the plan and an economic analysis of the current trend scenario from which we hope to diverge. This analysis should be conducted to assess the likelihood that IACP will deliver on the goals and objectives of the plan.
2. Estimate the geographic distribution of housing by size and cost throughout the planning area for some future years (e.g., 5, 10, 30 years out)
3. Estimate the statistical distribution of household incomes and of housing costs in 2019, 2029, and 2039 to predict the gap in housing needs (number of households spending more than 30% on rent/mortgage + utilities or number of households spending more than 45% on rent/mortgage + utilities + transportation). Use the findings to set affordability targets by neighborhood and geographic area.
4. Develop a set of tools to direct land development consistent with IACP and discourage land development inconsistent with IACP.
5. Consider additional future high capacity or high capacity/rapid transit corridors.
6. Study the effect of density increases on drainage.
7. Study the effect of density increases on parking.
8. Assess means to deal with rapid increases in the senior population in terms of their needs and quality of life.
9. Continue to develop a robust GIS mapping tool to visualize and track performance of IACP indicators.

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| # | Location | Change recommended by CP Cmte |
| Recommendations in response to Urban Parks Workgroup | | |
| 1 | Chapter 4, City Facilities & Service building block, Figure 4.11 caption (p150) | Include the following caption with figure 4.11 (Walkable access to parks): "Walkable access to parks reflects the City Council's 2011 policy that publicly-accessible and child-friendly parks or green space be provided within 1/4-mile walking distance of all urban core residents and within 1/2-mile walking distance of all residents outside the urban core." This map -- which the Task Force asked us to include -- basically adopts PARD's 1/4 mile and 1/2 mile buffers as is. |
| 2 | Chapter 5, priority programs (pp169, 177, 189) | Include the Urban Parks Workgroup Report Recommendations in Related City Initiatives for the following priority programs: Invest in a compact & connected city, Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city, and Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city. |
| 3 | Chapter 5, "green infrastructure" priority program (p177) | <p>Make the following changes to the "green infrastructure" priority program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- "These efforts will maintain our pleasant outdoor setting and provide safe access to green space *and recreation* for all Austinites, *particularly in urban activity centers and corridors*." -- Short term step 1(c): "Develop green infrastructure targets (such as percentage of tree cover, connectivity, or *current or anticipated residents within walking distance of parks (see figure 4.11)*) and priorities for new areas for conservation, parks and open space, green streets, and urban trails." -- Incorporate the following into goals and metrics: "Access to parks: Units within walking distance of parks (1/4 mile in urban core; 1/2 mile outside the urban core)" |
| Local business | | |
| 4 | Economy building block (p130), Key challenges, 6th bullet | "Reducing the number of obstacles facing <u>local, small, and creative</u> businesses, such as the availability of physical space..." |
| 5 | Economy building block (p130), Key challenges, 8th bullet | "Encouraging and supporting the stability and growth of local business to sustain our homegrown business community, <u>including the creative sector.</u> " |
| 6 | Priority program #3 (invest in workforce, education, entrepreneurs) (p175), step 8 | "Encourage entrepreneurship and local businesses <u>by creating programs and policies that enable local businesses to thrive.</u> " |
| 7 | Actions: E A-18 (p221) | Delete "Expanding the 'Go Local' card concept." |

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| Barton Springs Zone | | |
| 8 | Throughout | "Southern Edwards Aquifer" replaced with "Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer" |
| Complete community example (pp82-83) | | |
| 9 | "How we complete communities" (p82) | Include name of community (included in current draft) |
| 10 | "How we complete communities," p82, replace both paragraphs: | Revise this paragraph: "Imagine a large neighborhood of approximately 50,000 people. Once full of middle-class families, it is now troubled by poverty, school overcrowding and violence, isolation from the rest of the city, crime, lack of access to health care services, and <u>the highest rate of childhood obesity in the city</u> . Despite this, residents are devoted to the neighborhood where they raise their families, with its affordable homes, proximity to jobs, schools, recreation center, and library. <u>Schools and community-based organizations have mobilized to support residents' expressed needs and interests. By fulfilling these identified needs, the community is moving closer to completion.</u> " |
| 11 | "How we complete communities," list of priorities (p83) | Replace existing list as follows: "1) Address Safety Issues: In the following order: a) Violence b) Theft c) Gang Activity d) Vandalism e) Speeding f) Code Enforcement 2) A comprehensive health facility, centrally located within the neighborhood. 3) In order of priority, build the following schools: a high school, another middle school, another elementary school and a community college in the community. 4) Additional retail and community services 5) Another library and recreation center 6) Improved public transportation service" |
| Sustainable Food Policy Board recommendations | | |
| 12 | Vision, Natural & Sustainable, 3rd bullet (p77) | Change to "We conserve water, energy, <u>soil</u> , and other valuable resources." |
| 13 | Vision, Natural & Sustainable, 4th bullet (p77) | "...value our farmland, <u>critical to</u> local food production. |
| 14 | City of Complete Communities (p80) | Last line of first paragraph: "Some needs like parks <u>and healthy food</u> should be within or near every neighborhood." |
| 15 | Complete Communities matrix (p80 and throughout) | 2nd bullet: Change to "Employment, <u>Food</u> , & Housing Options" |

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| 16 | Chapter 4, Land Use & Transportation, LUT P5 (p108) | "Create healthy and family-friendly communities through development that includes a mix of land uses and housing types and affords realistic opportunities for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian travel and provides community gathering spaces, <u>neighborhood gardens and family farms</u> , parks and safe outdoor play areas for children." |
| 17 | Chapter 4, Economy, new policy (p133) | Staff and SFPB members developed this language: "Develop a sustainable local food system by encouraging all sectors of the local food economy, including production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste recovery." |
| 18 | Chapter 4, Urban Design, LUT P34 (p110) | "Integrate green infrastructure elements such as the urban forest, <u>gardens</u> , green buildings, stormwater treatment and infiltration facilities, and green streets into the urban design of the City through "green" development practices and regulations." |
| 19 | Chapter 4, People-friendly places spread (p120) | "Great city parks, plazas, trail systems, open-air <u>and farmers</u> markets, streetscapes, waterfronts, <u>gardens</u> , and other public places define a city's attractiveness." |
| 20 | Chapter 4, Neighborhoods, HN P10 (p126) | "Create complete neighborhoods ... and access to <u>healthy food</u> , schools, retail, employment, community services, and parks and recreation options." |
| 21 | Chapter 5, Invest in a compact and connected city, relationship to other programs (p171) | "Create a Healthy Austin program. Investing in an accessible transit, pedestrian, and bicycling network will provide Austin residents with alternatives to driving. Through improved land use, transportation, and urban design, Austin's places can contribute to healthy lifestyles by encouraging walkable communities, parks, <u>community gardens</u> , open space, and recreation, and by <u>increasing access to local and nourishing food</u> and reducing air pollution." |
| 22 | Chapter 5, Workforce, education, and entrepreneurs priority program, related actions and policies (p175) | Connect this program to the following actions: new Economic policy (above) S A-10 and S A-13 (related to rebuilding the food system) |
| 26 | Chapter 5, Workforce, education, and entrepreneurs priority program, relationship to other programs (p176) | Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city. Create better rules for flex space and adaptive re-use to support small businesses, <u>urban farms</u> , and start-ups. |
| 27 | Chapter 5, Workforce, education, and entrepreneurs priority program, relationship to other programs (p176) | "A "Healthy Austin" program will help develop a strong local food system in which food production, processing, distribution and consumption are integrated to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and nutritional health of Austin and Central Texas." |

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| 29 | Chapter 5, Green infrastructure priority program, short-term step 1b (p177) | 1.b. Perform an initial inventory and evaluation of existing green infrastructure resources, such as conserved land, the urban forest, habitat, trails and bike paths, greenbelts, <u>community gardens</u> , <u>urban farms</u> , parks and recreation areas, and green streets. Identify current plans, such as the Travis and Hays County Greenprint plans, networks, and identify gaps. |
| 31 | Chapter 5, Green infrastructure priority program, new ongoing/long-term step (p178) | "Protect farmland and conduct and stimulate research to facilitate growing techniques that minimize water usage and build healthy soils accounting for regional climate change." |
| 32 | Chapter 5, Green infrastructure priority program, new metric (p178) | Inventory of land, buildings, and other assets for current and potential food production sites (size, type, location) |
| 33 | Chapter 5, Green infrastructure priority program, relationship to other programs (p179) | Create a Healthy Austin program. Investing in accessible walking and biking networks, <u>community gardens</u> , <u>family farms</u> , <u>parks</u> and open space will provide Austin residents opportunities for outdoor exercise <u>as well as contribute to healthy lifestyles by increasing access to local and nourishing food and reducing air pollution.</u> |
| 34 | Chapter 5, Healthy Austin program, new short-term step (p187) | "Enact strategies and policies to boost the impact of federal food and nutrition assistance programs." |
| 35 | Chapter 5, Healthy Austin program, metrics (p188) | Units within 1/4 and 1/2 mile of a grocery store or farmer to consumer sales location. |
| 36 | Chapter 5, Healthy Austin program, metrics (p188) | Enrollment numbers in, and/or dollars from, federal food and nutrition assistance programs. |
| Sustainability for current and future residents | | |
| 37 | Ch. 1, Imagine Austin Core Principles for Action, p9, 1st paragraph | "These policies and actions express six core principles for action to make our 'imagined' Austin a reality <u>for Austinites of today and tomorrow.</u> " |
| 38 | Ch. 1, With Housing and Sidewalks for All sidebar, 1st sentence (p10) | "As outlined by the vision statement, Imagine Austin strives to make our city a place where the necessities of life are affordable and accessible for all <u>current and future Austinites.</u> " |

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| "Civic creativity" | | |
| 39 | Chapter 1, Core Principles (p10) | Edits to existing core principle with: "Think creatively and work together" Austin's spirit of creativity most openly manifests itself in the local music and arts scenes and by those engaged in these and other creative enterprises. However, it also transcends Austin's creative community, to shape our entrepreneurs and business <u>es</u> , local government, <u>non-profits</u> , and <u>community</u> at large to embody a broader, innovative mindset and approach to solving problems. The challenges of a growing population, finite natural and fiscal resources, and a changing climate will require Austinites and their local government to become ever more resilient. Resilience—the ability to adapt to challenges and change—will be a hallmark of successful communities in the 21st century. Innovation <u>is</u> one of the key attributes of resiliency. <u>Sustaining our culture of creativity and harnessing the collective energy of our people</u> are essential to realizing the future envisioned by Imagine Austin." |
| Imagine Austin process sidebar | | |
| 40 | Chapter 1 (pp8-9) | Include a sidebar of activities during the Imagine Austin process and a pointer to Appendix B. |
| Map captions | | |
| 41 | For each | Include descriptive captions for all maps. |
| Chapter 2 | | |
| 42 | Austin's Historical Context (p21) | Include closing the East Austin Tank Farm and Holly Power Plant in the 1990s and 2000s. P20: Adjust sentence and add new sentence: "These efforts are best exemplified by the passage of the Save Our Springs ordinance and initiation of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. <u>The health of Austin's urban environment was also a concern and was reflected in the closing and relocation of the "Tank Farm" (a large gasoline storage facility) in 1993 and the decision to decommission the Holly Street Power Plant in 2007.</u> " |
| 43 | What does it mean? -- Housing and neighborhoods, last bullet (p30) | Replace first sentence: "Though the numbers are declining, many people in Austin continue to <u>be homeless</u> ." |
| 44 | Land Use (p34), second bullet | Update 38% of land is undeveloped to 34% for 2010. |
| 45 | Environmental Resources, Water Resources, 3rd bullet (p46) | Add as new last sentence: "However, only 28% of the Barton Springs Zone is within Austin's planning area." |

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| 46 | Arts and Culture, Economic Impact and Funding (p62) | <p>Update language in this section with updated (2012) figures from TXP, Inc.</p> <p>* The creative sector (including music, film and visual media, not-for-profit performing arts, visual arts, and arts-related tourism) contributed <u>48,000</u> permanent jobs, over <u>\$71</u> million in tax revenue, and over <u>\$4.35</u> billion in annual economic activity in <u>2010</u>.</p> <p>* The city's film, television, sports, and animation industries generate approximately <u>\$113</u> million in <u>2010</u> and provided over <u>3,500</u> jobs. <u>The city's gaming industry generated over \$900 million in 2010, providing more than 7,200 jobs.</u></p> |
| Centers & corridors description | | |
| 47 | Growth concept map, p89, 6th bullet | Revise as follows: " <u>Directs growth away from the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zones and other water-supply watersheds.</u> " |
| 48 | Chapter 4, growth concept map description (p96) | <p>Include new second paragraph describing the growth concept map to clarify how centers/corridors relate to existing development and plans:</p> <p>"The activity centers and corridors included on this map identify locations for additional people and jobs above what currently exists on the ground. Unlike more detailed small-area plan maps, the growth concept map provides broad direction for future growth and is not parcel specific. Centers that are already established by existing small-area plans, such as those for East Riverside Drive or Highland Mall, are drawn to reflect those plans. Centers without small-area plans are simply shown with a circle, indicating scale and general location. Specifying boundaries for these centers may occur through small-area plans or general guidelines for implementing this plan."</p> |
| 49 | Chapter 4, neighborhood center description (p97) | <p>Include addition after second sentence: "<u>However, depending on localized conditions, different neighborhood centers can be very different places. If a neighborhood center is designated on an existing commercial area, such as a shopping center or mall, it could represent redevelopment or the addition of housing. A new neighborhood center may be focused on a dense, mixed-use core surrounded by a mix of housing. In other instances, new or redevelopment may occur incrementally and concentrate people and activities along several blocks or around one or two intersections. Neighborhood centers will be more locally focused than either a regional or a town center. Businesses and services—grocery and department stores, doctors and dentists, shops, branch libraries, dry cleaners, hair salons, schools, restaurants, and other small and local businesses—will generally serve the center and surrounding neighborhoods. Neighborhood centers range in size between approximately 5,000-10,000 people and 2,500-7,000 jobs.</u>"</p> |
| 50 | Chapter 4, following growth concept map descriptions (p102-103) | Include new visual illustration relating how centers and corridors relate. |

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| 51 | Chapter 4, activity corridor description (p98) | Include new sentence at end of description: "To improve mobility along an activity corridor, new and redevelopment should <u>per capita</u> reduce car use and increase walking, bicycling, and transit use. Intensity of land use should correspond to <u>the availability of</u> quality transit, public space, and walkable destinations. Site design should use building arrangement and open space to reduce walking distance to transit and destinations, achieve safety and comfort, and draw people outdoors." |
| Growth concept map | | |
| 52 | p95 | Add neighborhood center at Lamar & Rundberg |
| 53 | p95 | Create a new activity center designation, replacing the "Redevelopment over the Edwards Aquifer" section and symbols: <p>"Activity Centers for Redevelopment in Sensitive Environmental Areas Five centers are located over the recharge or contributing zones of the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer or within water-supply watersheds. These centers are located on already developed areas and, in some instances, provide opportunities to address long-standing water quality issues and provide walkable areas in and near existing neighborhoods. State of the art development practices will be required of any redevelopment to improve stormwater retention and the water quality flowing into the aquifer or other drinking water sources. These centers should also be carefully evaluated to fit within their infrastructure and environmental context. One of the Land Use and Transportation policies, LUT 20 (p. 105), clarifies the intent, "Ensure that redevelopment in the Edwards Aquifer's recharge and contributing zones maintains the quantity and quality of recharge of the aquifer.""</p> |
| 54 | p95 | The new symbols for these centers will clearly stand out on the map and will be easily distinguished from the yellow/orange/red used to show neighborhood, town, and regional centers. |
| 55 | p95 | Activity corridor on West 38th Street: Remove designation between Speedway and Guadalupe. |
| 56 | p95 | Neighborhood center at MoPac & William Cannon: Shift center to include more of the large developed tracks west of MoPac. |

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| Priority programs | | |
| 57 | p168 | New paragraph to immediately follow list of priority programs: "The final program, to revise Austin's development regulations and processes, is an important step to promote each of the above priorities and to protect all that has been identified as valuable in the plan. The priority programs, policies, and actions in the plan all seek to achieve real functioning sustainability for Austin's future. As discussed in Chapters 1 and 4, a compact and connected city encapsulates household affordability, environmental protection, and complete communities, with easier, greener, healthier transportation options linking residents to jobs, arts and culture, parks, schools, health care, shopping and other destinations. Each of these programs has important connections to the others that should be recognized throughout implementation." |
| 58 | For each | Include list of Related Actions for each program. |
| 59 | Green infrastructure priority program (p177) | Include CE A-17 as new step "g" in the green infrastructure priority program: "Develop and implement unified, comprehensive land management of all City of Austin lands for integrated environmental sustainability, including carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity, and education." |
| 60 | Code revision priority program, intro text, list of bullets (p190) | Include new bullet after second paragraph: "Promote affordability for Austinites at every stage of life and income level." |
| 61 | Code revision priority program, steps 1 and 2 (pp190) | Move current step 2 to become step 1. Edit first sentence in step 2: " <u>Engage key stakeholders to create a public involvement process...</u> " |
| Appendix C: Glossary | | |
| 62 | Creative community (pA-18) | Edit existing definition: "People and organizations engaged in <u>a broad range of</u> artistic and knowledge-based pursuits contributing to the creative economy." |
| 63 | Creative economy (pA-18) | Edit existing definition: "A <u>wide</u> range of economic activities which focus on the generation of knowledge and <u>innovation, including fields such as</u> advertising, architecture, <u>culinary arts,</u> design, fashion, <u>software and computer game development,</u> electronic publishing, music, <u>film,</u> performing arts, <u>visual arts,</u> publishing, television and radio. " |
| Appendix G: Attached plans | | |
| 64 | pA-36 | Include section for transportation plans: Austin Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan and Bicycle Master Plan. |

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| Relation between Imagine Austin, neighborhood plans, and other small area plans | | |
| 65 | pp197 & 200 | <p>The following text replaces the last paragraph on page 195 ("Imagine Austin guides updates to existing ..." through to the first full paragraph on page 198 ("...generate the ideas and themes for these plans."):</p> <p>The Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan recognizes and embraces all previous master and small area plans. As depicted on pages ### and ### of Imagine Austin, the comprehensive plan is an "umbrella" plan that serves as a guide on city-wide, cross-department issues to achieve the vision statement. Imagine Austin is not a plan that supersedes previous plans, but acts as a chaperon to the future projected growth of Austin over the next 30 years. During this growth period, inconsistencies between Imagine Austin and other plans may be discovered. Changes to the master plans will be addressed through a public amendment process by the City Council. Changes to the small area plans (e.g., Neighborhood Plans) will continue to include public input from affected parties and will follow the adopted neighborhood plan amendment process. Changes to Imagine Austin should be addressed through the annual review.</p> <p>As the City of Austin develops new master and small area plans, Imagine Austin will serve as a guide to policy direction. In areas not covered by small area plans, Imagine Austin will serve as an instrument for developing plans and providing planning parameters. As with the Imagine Austin planning process, public involvement will be included that could potentially generate ideas and themes for these plans.</p> |
| 66 | Priority program #8, p189 | <p>Add this language to the end of the introduction to this priority program:</p> <p>"Since its adoption in 1987, the Land Development Code has been a continually modified and updated document reflecting countless hours of community participation and input. Elements of the Land Development Code and the broader City Code incorporate carefully crafted compromises and significant community decisions that have been reached through long-lasting committees, task forces, and citizen referenda.</p> <p>The existing neighborhood and area plans were crafted within context of this code and decisions were reached based upon the assumptions of the continued utilization of its provisions. This includes elements of the Land Development Code that are not specifically addressed in neighborhood and area plans but on which decisions were based (e.g., compatibility standards). The vision of the comprehensive plan can be achieved by retaining these protections and the approaches taken in the neighborhood and area plans.</p> |

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| | | <p>"Any suggested rewrite of the City Code, while striving to achieve the broad goals of the comprehensive plan, must recognize, respect, and reflect these carefully crafted compromises, balances, and the assumptions upon which the existing neighborhood and area plans were based and depend.</p> <p>Continued protection and preservation of existing neighborhoods and the natural environment must be considered top priorities of comprehensive revisions to the City Code. The consequences and impact of additional density and infill in existing neighborhoods must be carefully identified and analyzed to avoid endangering the existing character of neighborhoods and exacerbating community health and safety issues, such as flooding.</p> <p>Impacts on sustainability and livability by increased infill and density of units, including associated infrastructure costs and impacts on affordability, should be identified prior to adoption of a new city code. Modifications to the city code and building code should be measured with regard to their ability to preserve neighborhood character, consistency with adopted neighborhood and area plans, i</p> |
| Affordable housing revisions | | |
| 67 | p184, step 6 | Replace this step with: "Examine potential regulatory barriers and policies that impede the provision of household affordability, including infrastructure costs; the costs and benefits of zoning ordinances on housing development; and examine how the City's waste removal fees and other City fees and requirements impact the cost of living for the families of Austin." |
| 68 | p214, HN A-3, 6th bullet | Replace bullet that begins with "Modify regulations ..." with "Examine regulations and policies that adversely affect affordable housing and consider approaches to minimize cost impacts for units attainable for families at significantly less than market values." |