IMAGINEAUSTIN
Year 5 Progress Report

Contents

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Executive Summary

The *Imagine Austin Year 5 Progress Report* provides a valuable opportunity for reflection on the City of Austin's progress towards the community vision laid out in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan in 2012. This report fulfills an important performance monitoring requirement that states that once every five years, an evaluation and appraisal of the comprehensive plan should be composed and include an assessment of the overall progress of the plan and results of the performance indicators to measure our progress towards the outcomes desired by the community.

At year five, the Imagine Austin study area appears on track to reach forecasted population and jobs milestones, though the decline of Austin's share of regional population growth has presented a wrinkle in historic trends. The eight priority programs of Imagine Austin have formed cross-departmental implementation teams composed mostly of City staff, though some include strategic community partners, and have accomplished many important items in their short-term work program and initiated work on many long-term and ongoing tasks.

One of the major strengths of the comprehensive plan that has become apparent is its ability to bring people together across subject areas to collaborate, coordinate, and innovate towards comprehensive solutions, though some priority programs have faced challenges navigating in departmental-focused budgets and organizational structures. Other major accomplishments have been regulatory improvements with wide-reaching impacts on environmental health, mobility, and accessibility as well as significant capital investments like the historic 2016 Mobility Bond and changes to our CIP decision-making process to use Imagine Austin's goals and objectives as criteria for future investment.

The indicators attributed to the plan have yielded complex and dynamic results. Over the last five years, out of 41 total indicators: 17 show improvement, 11 show little to no change, 12 show movement in the wrong direction, and one indicator lacks sufficient data to support conclusive results. The overarching themes emerging from the indicator results over the past five years show relatively positive results for environmental health, community health, and economic vibrancy and relative worsening of conditions for affordability and mobility. However, within many indicators, we show consistent inequities along racial, ethnic, and socio-economic lines.

Looking ahead, there are numerous upcoming moments for Austin that will have a substantial impact on Imagine Austin implementation in coming years, including: rolling out a new Land Development Code; developing a new Strategic Mobility Plan; implementing the $720 million Mobility Bond package; implementing the Strategic Housing Blueprint; prioritizing community health efforts in a new Community Health Improvement Plan; determining the future of small area planning; and developing a City of Austin Strategic Plan around six outcomes.

This effort of evaluating our progress has also served to bring together leaders in Imagine Austin implementation to assess strategies that are working, those that are not working, and barriers that are making it difficult to pursue particularly impactful solutions. These discussions will help City staff improve operations around implementation through the next five years and do more to move us towards our community vision.

Chapter One

Progress at Year 5

A lot can happen in five years. Since 2012, we've seen the addition of over 110,000 new Austinites to our community. We've transitioned from an at-large elected City Council to the election of 10 council members based on new geographic districts and an at-large elected mayor. We've adopted progressive and forward-thinking policies for watershed protection, complete streets, and parkland dedication. As a city, we are using the same total amount of water as we were in 1998, despite the fact that Austin Water is serving 300,000 more people. We've built over 70 miles of sidewalks and 50 miles of new bike lanes throughout the city. We've graduated more than 20,000 students from AISD high schools alone. And as a city, we've ridden the bus over 140 million times.

And yet, in the past five years, we've also experienced many of the problems that accompany rapid population growth. Cumulatively, we've sat in traffic about 200 million hours. We've had over 300 traffic fatalities on Austin roads. We know that more than 2,000 people are currently experiencing homelessness in our city. An estimated 290,000 tons of recyclable materials in Austin have gone into landfills. We saw hundreds of homes experience substantial damage from severe flooding in recent years. And we've seen the displacement of many in our most vulnerable communities due to gentrification.

We've only just reached our first five years since the adoption of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan in June of 2012, and though the following pages will highlight many of our hard-earned successes, they also paint of picture of the long road ahead of us. Imagine Austin laid out a vision for our community, one where Austin is a beacon of sustainability, social equity, and economic opportunity; where diversity and creativity are celebrated; where community needs and values are recognized; and where the necessities of life are affordable and accessible to all. But in order for us to achieve that vision, we must continue to work together as a community to take collective action to bring us closer to that future. We recognize that Austin's greatest asset is its people: passionate about our city, committed to its improvement, and determined to see our vision become a reality.

Cheers to five years, Imagine Austin!
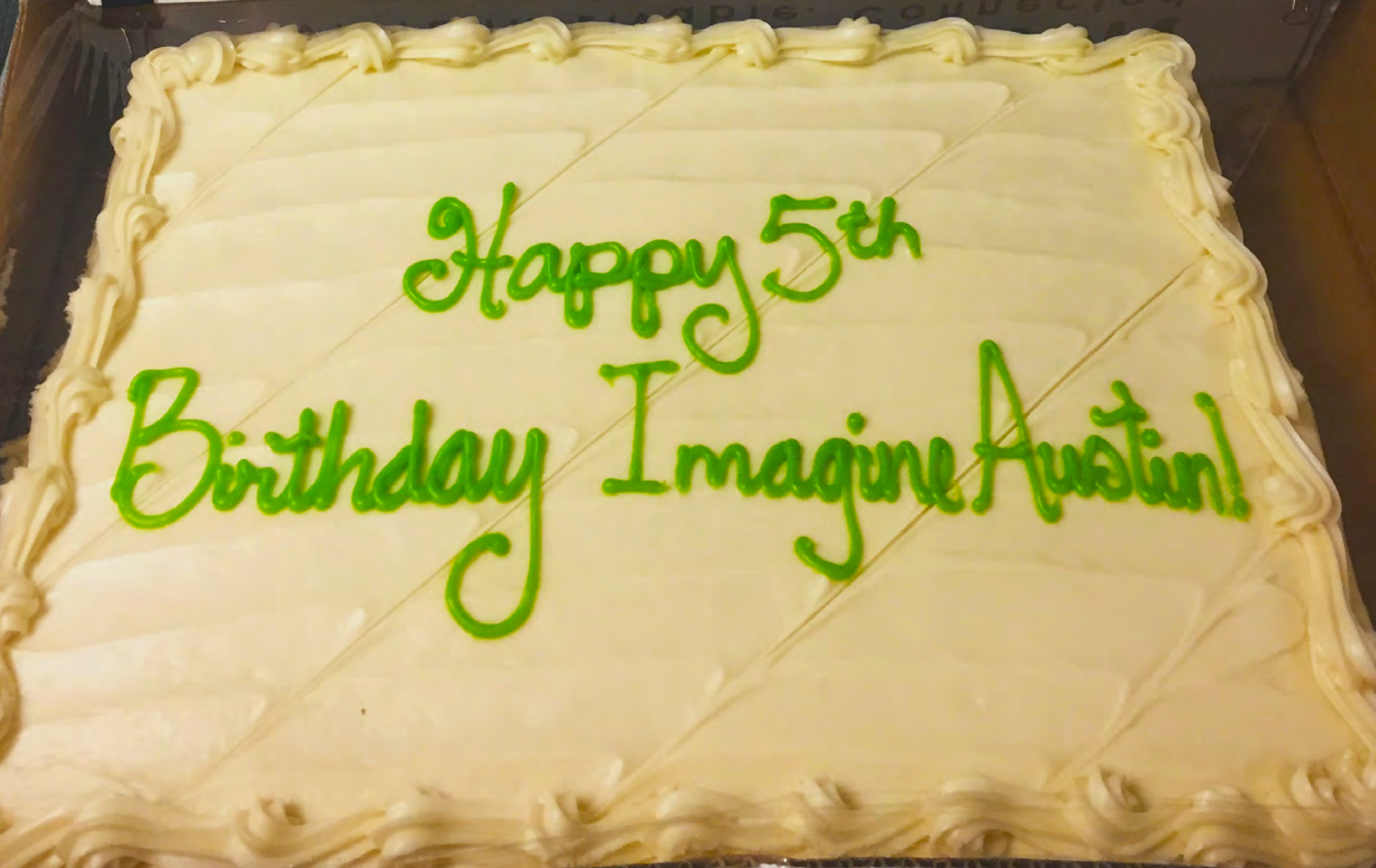
Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan Horizon
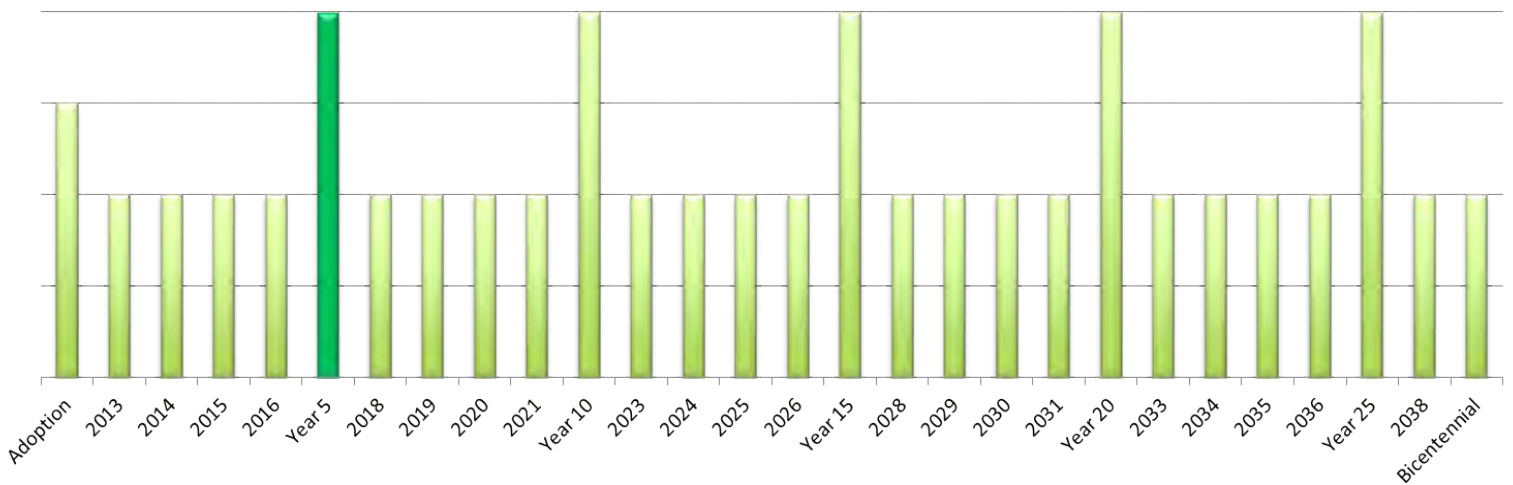
Imagine Austin Population and Jobs Forecast
A check-in on the Imagine Austin population and jobs forecast by City Demographer, Ryan Robinson

The population and jobs forecast for the Imagine Austin study area (City of Austin full, limited, and extra-territorial jurisdiction) serves as the quantitative foundation for the comprehensive plan, providing forecasts for years 2020, 2030, and ultimately the plan's horizon year – 2039. As the plan reaches its fifth birthday it is appropriate and necessary to assess this foundational element of the plan.

From a 2017 perspective, are we where we thought we would be along the trajectory of the population and jobs growth forecast?

The simple answer to this fundamental question is: yes, but a few wrinkles to the predicted future population and jobs scenario are beginning to appear. And we really won't have a solid performance measure available until results from the 2020 decennial census are made available in early 2021.

At the core of the Imagine Austin long-range population and jobs forecast is the underlying theory that the rate of overall growth will begin to slow during the forecast period and that our historically durable doubling period will expand from every 20 years to something closer to every 35 years. Annualized rates of population growth are expected to descend from historic highs with levels hovering around 3.5% to a final overall annualized growth rate of 1.9% for the totality of the forecast period.

## Austin Area Population History and Forecast
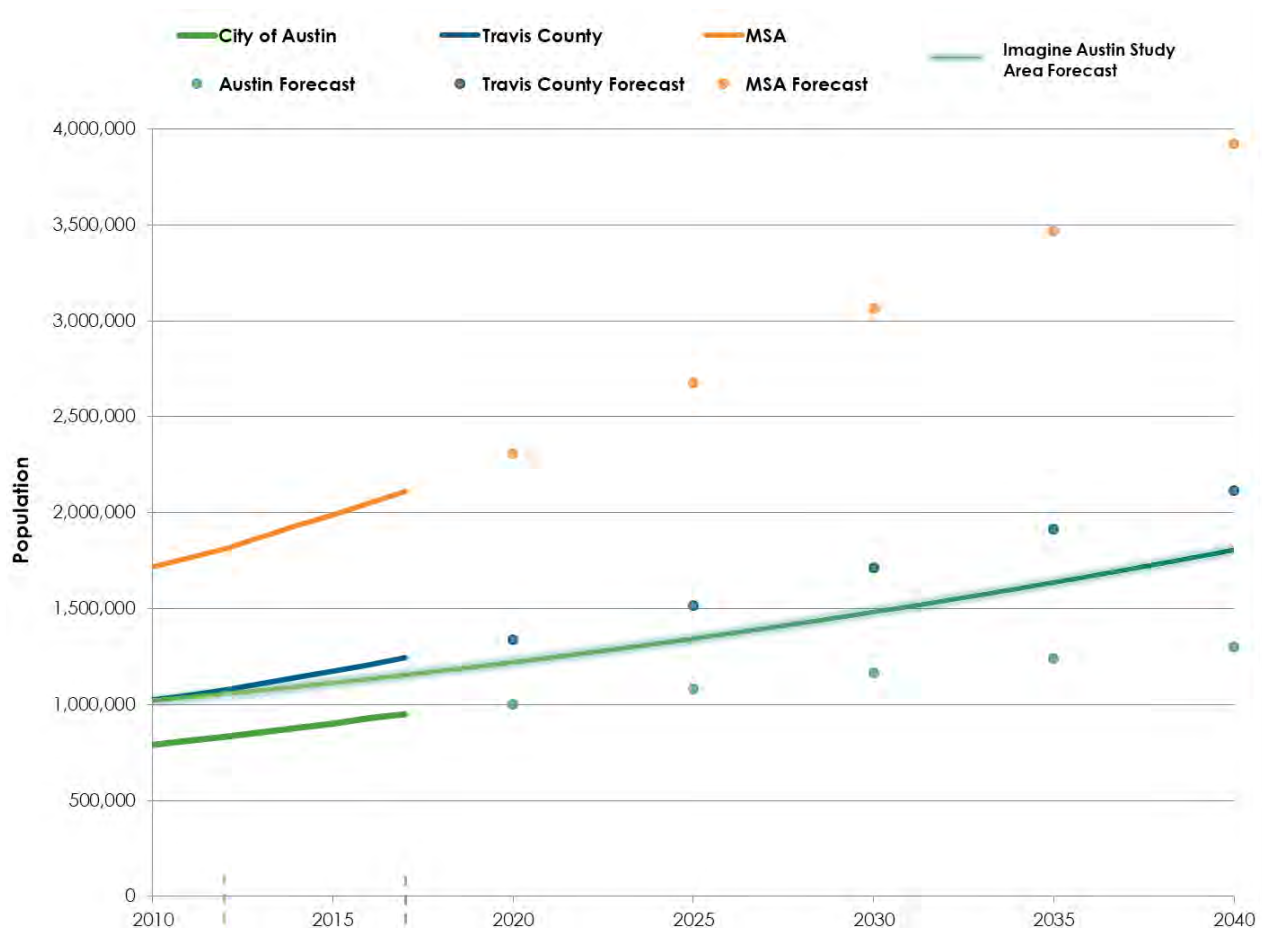
And yet, even with forecasted rates of growth at levels significantly below what has been experienced in the past, the expectation of about 750,000 in additional population and about 350,000 new jobs by 2040 was met with stout suspicion from skeptical sectors of the Austin community. When I created the forecast I wrote then that,

"The Imagine Austin projections have an inherent ethical responsibility to forecast a moderate level of future growth to describe a very likely future urban population and jobs environment—thereby envisioning a foundation upon which sound planning principles should be pursued. Put another way, to allow for thoughtful and forward-thinking urban planning, as a community, we have a responsibility to our grandchildren to assume that Austin will continue to grow along at least a moderate trajectory of increase."

Metropolitan Austin continues to surge

In terms of percent change year over year, the Austin—Round Rock MSA continues to be the nation's fastest growing large metropolitan area. It has held this distinction since 2010 with annual population gains bouncing between 55,000 and just under 60,000. Metropolitan Austin is now home to over 2.1 million people and hosts more than 1.0 million jobs. Job growth on a year over year basis was growing well above 4% for almost three years, but now job creation is running at about 2.8% annually. We should see a corresponding downshift in population growth at the regional level sometime soon.

Austin Area Population Growth Rates
— City of Austin — Travis County — MSA
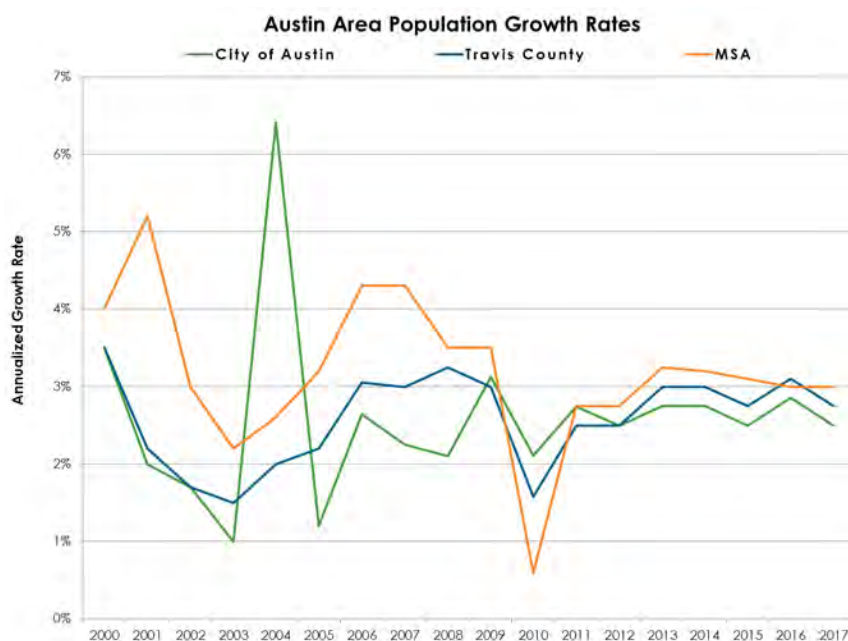
City's share of regional growth reaches an all-time low

The bigger story is the fact that Austin's share of total metropolitan population growth has slipped significantly, now sitting at just over 30 percent. As recently as 2011, the city's take was almost half of all metro area growth. Some of this lost market share has certainly shifted to suburbs outside the city but within the ETJ and are thus still within the full planning area. When forecasters revisit the Imagine Austin projection series during the next decade, they may want to adjust the predicted population and jobs mix between the city itself and its ETJ.

The city's share of overall regional job growth appears to have remained somewhat more stable than its slice of regional population growth. Although metropolitan job clusters are beginning to decentralize and spread out into regional centers, they are not dispersing as rapidly as accumulations of population are.

Benchmark year 2020 totals are within easy reach

The next milestones of 1.22 million total people and almost 740,000 total jobs by year 2020 seem to be within easy reach. Austin's population, even at a slightly slower pace, should still reach and surpass the one million mark by 2020 with the remainder coming from the ETJ. However, it is more difficult to know where we are along the trajectory of job creation. Based on data from the Census Bureau's Local Employment Dynamics datasets, it appears as though we are well on our way of making the 740K mark by 2020.

Imagine Austin
Progress at Year 5

8 Priority Programs

Chapter 5 of Imagine Austin laid out a framework for implementing the plan's many policies and actions to move us towards our community vision. One element of that implementation model was the formation of eight priority programs to provide structure and direction to accomplish the plan's many goals and more efficiently coordinate its operations, investments, and the provision of core services. These priority programs span the core principles of the comprehensive plan and enable the City of Austin and its partners to pull together, break down silos, make connections, and leverage resources for more effective implementation. Each of the priority program teams are made up of a cross-departmental and diverse team of staff, and all have their own unique way of tackling their work. Each of these priority programs also have important relationships with the others and make valuable connections across subject areas. The programs are:

1. Invest in a compact and connected Austin

2. Sustainably manage our water resources

3. Grow Austin's economy by investing in our workforce, education systems, entrepreneurs, and local businesses

4. Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city

5. Grow and invest in Austin's creative economy

6. Develop and maintain household affordability throughout Austin

7. Create a healthy Austin program

8. Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city (CodeNEXT)

The following section contains the story of the first five years of each of these eight programs. These stories are an important opportunity for reflection on our biggest successes, our toughest challenges, and the lessons we've learned along the way since the plan's adoption.

INVEST IN A COMPACT AND CONNECTED AUSTIN

progress at year 5

The Invest in a Compact and Connected Austin Priority Program calls for coordination of capital investments, incentives, and regulations in order to support the vision of Imagine Austin. This priority program focuses primarily on:

- investing in a transportation system that supports the Imagine Austin Growth Concept Map and decreases dependence on driving

- using the City's economic development toolkit and partnering with the private sector to leverage more beneficial development in support of Imagine Austin

- aligning the overall Capital Improvement Program with Imagine Austin

Program Champion
Mike Trimble
Corridor Program Office

Contributing Departments
Corridor Program Office
Public Works
Planning and Zoning
Economic Development
Austin Transportation
Watershed Protection

Since the adoption of Imagine Austin, the City of Austin has worked to implement priority program #1 by aligning city departments and partners, developing detailed mobility and capital investment plans, funding capital investments that support the Imagine Austin vision, and partnering with the private sector to maximize implementation of the comprehensive plan.

Alignment in Support of a Compact and Connected Austin

One of the first projects of the multi-departmental Compact and Connected Priority Program Team was to develop curriculum for City staff for a Compact and Connected training program. Since 2012, over 345 employees have taken this training to help support the implementation of the Compact and Connected Austin Priority Program. Alignment across all City Departments has been crucial for bringing about the large-scale policy changes and projects that support the implementation of this priority.

A major victory for this priority was the adoption of a robust Complete Streets policy in 2014, which ensures that Austin's streets are built to serve all users and modes, connect travel networks, and are safe, comfortable, and beautiful places for people.

More recently, the passage of a historic $720 million Mobility Bond in 2016 for local, corridor, and regional transportation and mobility improvements led to the creation of the Corridor Program Implementation Office. The Corridor Office oversees the design and construction of corridors that support mobility, livability, and other important outcomes from the Imagine Austin vision. The development of the City of Austin's Long Range Capital Improvement Projects Strategic Plan has also been significant for the implementation of the comprehensive plan by allowing for evaluation and prioritization of capital investment needs based on Imagine Austin values and principles.

Planning in Support of a Compact and Connected Austin

The adoption of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan in 2012 has been followed by several plans and reports that have intended to activate the plan through on-the-ground projects and policies. They have taken the vision, principles, and priorities of Imagine Austin and incorporated them into more detailed plans often including design standards, strategies for implementation, and specific goals. The Urban Trail Master Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, and Sidewalk Master Plan were all developed in support of Imagine Austin and will guide investments in these areas over time. The Corridor Mobility Reports have identified short, medium, and long-term safety and mobility projects in multiple Imagine Austin corridors. And in 2016, the City began the development of a new Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP), which will expand the vision of Imagine Austin into actionable mobility-related goals and objects to guide near and long-term transportation investments citywide. The development of the ASMP is being coordinated with other mobility planning initiatives, such as Capital Metro's Project Connect, which will develop a vision for a regional high capacity transit network.

Capital Metro also recently adopted its Connections 2025 Plan including near term operational improvements to the rapid bus and local bus network in Austin, which will support mobility goals from Imagine Austin. The City is also coordinating with regional mobility partners including the Texas Department of Transportation, the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), and other regional mobility partners in the development and implementation of the Mobility 35 Improvement Program for improvements to the Interstate 35 corridor and the CAMPO 2040 Plan, which designates activity centers in the region consistent with the Imagine Austin growth concept map.

Funding Capital Investments and Partnering in Support of a Compact and Connected Austin

The Compact and Connected team has worked with partners to fund major capital investments in support of Imagine Austin. In November 2012, Austin voters approved the 2012 Bond Program, which included $306.6 million in bond propositions to fund Imagine Austin-supportive capital improvements. And again last November, Austin voters approved the 2016 Mobility Bond, which included $720 million in bond funding for local, corridor, and regional transportation and mobility improvements that support Imagine Austin. The City has also continued to implement projects supporting a compact and connected Austin through past bond programs from 2006 and 2010 as well as through federal and state grants and partnerships.

Since 2012, the City's Economic Development Department has initiated and continued numerous targeted programs that support economic development and partnerships to help build a compact and connected Austin, including BizOpen, Small Business Program, Soul-y Austin, Business Expansion and Relocation Assistance, and the Art in Public Places Program. They have also partnered with other City departments to invest in partnerships with the private sector in the Waller Creek and Seaholm districts, as well as the Mueller development.

"Learning from their experiences in the past, the City created a Corridor Program Office in order to support the considerable coordination that will be necessary to implement the ambitious 2016 Mobility Bond package, which will work closely with City Council and stakeholders to ensure effective use of funding."

Lessons Learned

Following the failure of the General Obligation Bond referendum for urban rail in 2014 and the withdrawal of Union Pacific support and subsequent cancellation of federal funding for the Lone Star Rail District in 2016, the City and its partners have moved toward development of a new plan for regional high capacity transit. This new approach includes focusing on low-cost improvements to existing transit services such as the Capital Metro Connections 2025 Plan and the re-boot of the Project Connect visioning effort in concert with the development of a new approach to strategic mobility planning.

Another issue that has complicated the City's ability to complete past bond projects has been the need for considerable coordination with stakeholders, particularly when a project receives only partial funding. In order to support the considerable coordination that will be necessary to implement the ambitious 2016 Mobility Bond, the City created a Corridor Program Office, which will work closely with City Council and stakeholders to ensure effective use of corridor funding.

Looking Ahead

With the first five years of Imagine Austin behind us, the Compact and Connected priority program has big plans in store for the next 5, 10, and 20 years. The team will be working to implement corridor improvements that were funded through the 2012 and 2016 bonds to improve safety and accommodate multiple modes of transportation along important corridors to create a more mobile and interconnected Austin. The development of the new ASMP as well as Project Connect provides exciting opportunities to identify innovative mobility solutions, fund critical mobility investments, and pursue high capacity transit for our city. The priority program team is pursuing partnerships with the private sector to support smart technologies and travel demand activities that will shift Austinites away from reliance on driving alone. The rewrite of Austin's Land Development Code through CodeNEXT has the potential to pave the way for more compact and connected investments in our public infrastructure. And work has begun with a Bond Election Advisory Task Force to develop a future bond package that would continue to support further implementation of the comprehensive plan and bring us closer to the Austin we imagine.

Compact and Connected Indicators

Some of the Imagine Austin indicators associated with the Compact and Connected Priority Program demonstrate progress towards our goals, while others show that the unprecedented growth of our region is difficult to manage. Although the majority of new residential and non-residential development has been located in the Imagine Austin activity centers and corridors, greenfield development continues to consume large amounts of land. This accounts for a relatively static intersection density in Austin over the past decade.

To date, densification of the city has not led to a more efficient transportation system. Infill projects often accommodate car ownership regardless of their proximity to transit (often it is even required by our current Code), thus most residents continue their reliance on cars. If this trend continues, improvement in the transportation indicators will likely continue to trail behind development indicators. Though we have seen consistent improvement in leading indicators like the percentage of street frontage with sidewalks and bicycle lane miles within the city, lagging indicators have not shifted at the same rate as we can see by the decline in the percent of Austinites who commute by biking or walking in recent years and the slower decline in the number of transit passenger trips.

The Compact and Connected indicators all have varying degrees to which the City of Austin as an entity can affect them. Indicators directly influenced by City regulations and investment, such as percentage of street frontage with sidewalks and bicycle lane miles, have significantly improved over the past five years. Vehicle miles traveled and transportation system delay has risen sharply though the City has only a tangential relationship with them. Although it is important to be aware of any changes in these indicators and to use them in pursuing data-driven strategies, it is equally important to understand the City's ability to influence or bring about changes in any given indicator. The City cannot reach the vision laid out in Imagine Austin alone; we will continue to rely on strong partnerships with Austin's greatest asset - our people.

See below for the list of 10 compact and connected indicators. For the results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at
austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#26 developed land area
#66 annual unlinked transit passenger trips
#67 vehicle miles traveled per capita
#70 percentage of street frontage with sidewalks
#71 bicycle lane miles and percentage of streets
#77 percentage of trips by biking and walking
#83 intersection density
#109 percent of new housing units within the growth centers and corridors
#110 percent of new non-residential development within the growth centers and corridors
#117 transportation system total annual delay

SUSTAINABLY MANAGE OUR WATER RESOURCES

progress at year 5

The Sustainably Manage Our Water Resources (SMOWR) priority program focuses on sustainable management of Austin's water resources; water, wastewater, reclaimed water, and storm drainage systems; floodplains; and the water quality of our lakes, rivers, streams, and aquifers. Through the five years since Council adoption of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the SMOWR team has coordinated on numerous water resource management-related efforts from the local to the regional scale. Each of the two lead departments, Austin Water and Watershed Protection, working in conjunction with others, have made significant accomplishments in all of the priority program's work plan tasks.

Program Champions
Teresa Lutes
Austin Water
Matt Hollon
Watershed Protection

Contributing Departments
Austin Water
Watershed Protection

Consistent with Imagine Austin, the SMOWR team recognizes that water resources are vital to Austin's quality of life and viability as a city. Bringing together existing efforts allows us to move forward with more integrated strategies that span a comprehensive range of water resource issues such as supply, quality, conservation, public health, and recreation.

The SMOWR Priority Program team has coordinated on numerous water resource management efforts from the local to regional scale. The work of this priority program has supported efforts to respond to challenges posed by a changing climate, major flooding, drought, population growth, and other factors that require adaptation and increased planning and coordination. Through the recent historic drought (2008-16), Austin has responded to a wide-range of complex water management challenges. Coming together as a SMOWR team during this time has strengthened communication and coordination between Austin Water, Watershed Protection, and other partner departments.

The SMOWR team has come together over these five years to support and collaborate on the important work each department and staff teams do to sustainably manage Austin's water resources. Some of their 5-year highlights are explained as follows.

Strong Gains in Water Conservation

Austin continues to be a leader in water conservation. In 2016, Austin Water was the top scoring utility in Texas as recognized by the Texas Water Conservation Scorecard (developed by the Texas Living Waters Project – a collaboration of the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Galveston Bay Foundation). In 2007, lawn watering was limited to no more than two days per week in the "Conservation Stage" and one day per week during drought stages. It has now been ten years since Austin's outdoor watering restrictions were strengthened to limit lawn watering as a permanent water conservation strategy. These measures were critical in getting Austin through the drought. Building on these experiences, last year the City Council adopted further water conservation code revisions that limited watering by automatic irrigation systems, the least efficient form of irrigation, to no more than one day per week, including the Conservation Stage.

Austin's total gallons per capita per day (gpcd) water use is one of the SMOWR priority program indicators and has seen consistent improvement. With strong community participation through an array of water conservation, drought management, and water reuse strategies, Austin's per capita water use has reduced from 190 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) in 2006 to 122 gpcd in 2016 – a drop of more than 35%.

Austin continues to experience strong population growth and in 2016 Austin Water reached a milestone of serving more than one million people. Our community's lower per capita water use has resulted in the utility being able to serve more people with less water. For example, even while Austin Water is serving over 300,000 more people, our city is using about the same total amount of water today as in 1998. Including managing through the recent historical drought, Austin has continued to maintain reduced overall water use rates through targeted water conservation programs, water use and leak reduction programs, and watering restrictions.

Onion & Williamson Flood Property Buyouts

Onion and Williamson Creeks experienced catastrophic flooding in 1998, 2001, 2013, and 2015. Over one thousand homes were at risk for very damaging and even deadly flooding. Since 1999, more than 840 properties in these watersheds have been purchased and their families safely relocated out of the floodplain, including more than 560 properties since the 2012 Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan was adopted. This accounts for a 24% reduction in structures citywide in the 100-year floodplain. Through these unfortunate events of severe flooding, our community's flood awareness has grown tremendously. This awareness is pervasive across the entire community and has resulted in a renewed committment to prevent future severe flooding and to reduce the threats to public safety and private property posed by flooding in the future. The City Council created the Flood Mitigation Task Force in 2015 specifically to review flood mitigation and preparedness strategies for our community.

"While Austin Water is serving over 300,000 more people, our city is using the same total amount of water today as in 1998."

Watershed Protection Ordinance

A major action called for in Imagine Austin was for "a new watershed protection ordinance to streamline and expand protection of headwaters, and to promote low-impact stormwater management strategies, and reduce capital expenditures required to mitigate water quality problems, erosion, and flooding." In 2013, the City's Watershed Protection Ordinance met this challenge. Following a robust public stakeholder process, the ordinance protected 400 miles of headwaters creeks, introduced natural floodplain protections, and established Erosion Hazard Zones, and over 200 other changes. This ordinance has been a major win for Austin's vision of being natural and sustainable and protecting our watersheds and water resources.

Update of the Watershed Protection Master Plan

Another significant item in the comprehensive plan was a call for an update of the existing Watershed Protection Master Plan to "expand the program to include other watersheds, and implement integrated strategies to protect and enhance water quality and supply, reduce flood risk, and prevent erosion." In less than 3 years, the Watershed Protection Department completed this work by updating the original 2001 plan, documenting improved technical methods, adding solutions, and expanding the scope from 17 core watersheds to more than double that number. This 2015 Watershed Protection Master Plan update has been crucial to providing a strategic plan for addressing erosion, flood, and water quality problems in Austin.

Lessons Learned

The 2016 Watershed Protection Master Plan concluded that, "despite ... considerable progress, flood, erosion, and water quality problems continue to be widespread, primarily due to development prior to Austin's protective watershed regulations. The Watershed Protection Department must continue to find ways to cost-effectively address these needs and take corrective action to avoid even greater costs if this action is deferred." Austin's clear lesson, with over 40 years of environmental and drainage experience, is that prevention of problems using effective regulatory protections dramatically reduces the public and private expense and damage otherwise incurred by urbanization.

Looking Ahead

Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Plan

Austin Water is currently leading the development of Water Forward – Austin's 100-year Integrated Water Resource Plan. Plan development is being supported by a citizen task force appointed by City Council, which also includes ex-officio representatives from various City Departments including Watershed Protection, Austin Energy, and the Office of Sustainability. The plan has a goal of ensuring a diversified, sustainable, and resilient water future, with strong emphasis on water conservation. The plan, including recommendations of strategies to help manage our water and meet our community's future water needs, is projected to be complete in mid-2018.

Sustainable Water Indicators

There has been consistent improvement over the past five years in the indicators associated with the Sustainable Water priority program. The Onion and Williamson Creek property buyouts resulted in a significant reduction in the number of developments within our 100-year floodplains, which aligns well with Imagine Austin's goal of reducing the threats posed by flooding to public safety and property. Concentrated water conservation strategies have seen positive results in reducing our water consumption per capita. Additional policy changes and protections as well as a more sustained baseflow in Austin's creeks due to increased rainfall in recent years have resulted in improved stream water quality. The latest scores show that 75% of Austin's watersheds have an Environmental Integrity Index score of "good" or better.

However, Austin's sprawling development pattern has increased the developed land area within one of our most critical environmentally sensitive areas over the Edwards Aquifer. Imagine Austin calls for directing growth away from the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zones and other water-supply watersheds, but over 50% of the Edwards Aquifer Zone within the city is now developed.

See below for the list of sustainable water indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#34 development within edwards aquifer zones
#35 development within the 100 year floodplain
#37 total water pumpage in gallons per capita per day
#38 residential water consumption in gallons per capita per day
#39 environmental integrity index scores

GROW AUSTIN'S ECONOMY BY INVESTING IN OUR WORKFORCE, EDUCATION SYSTEMS, ENTREPRENEURS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

progress at year 5

The Workforce and Education Priority Program seeks to ensure Austin's continued economic health by developing a widely skilled workforce, recruiting new businesses, retaining and growing existing businesses, and tapping into our entrepreneurial spirit. In particular, this priority program seeks to increase job opportunities for Austin residents and increase small businesses and entrepreneurship.

After several years of accelerated economic growth and success, Austin is only recently beginning to see signs of more moderate growth as compared to the recent boom that landed Austin among the nation's economic leaders of late. This trend holds true among the Imagine Austin indicators for employment and small business growth.

Program Champion
Preston Stewart
Economic Development Department

Contributing Departments
Economic Development
Planning and Zoning
Parks and Recreation
Austin Public Library
Human Resources
Austin Public Health

Taken as a whole, Austin's economy has been the envy of many cities for its exceptional workforce, small business growth, entrepreneurship, and overall healthy business climate. The City of Austin continues to invest in the workforce, and has seen successes in attracting and retaining businesses while building a growing global reputation as an entrepreneurial center and job creator. Maintaining many of the investments, partnerships and initiatives that have helped to create the environment for Austin's emergence as an economic leader, the City has also made progress towards addressing many of the economy-related action items called for in Imagine Austin. The following are some of the major highlights and stories of Austin's Workforce Priority Program over the past 5 years.

Workforce Development

In 2016 the City was awarded an International Economic Development Award for Human Capital based on its work with Capital IDEA to enhance the skills sets of low-skilled and other disadvantaged workers, and to better align economic development and workforce development activities. Looking to further increase the collaboration, coordination, and successful outcomes of area workforce development efforts, 2017 saw the City of Austin, Travis County, and Workforce Solutions Central Texas (the governing body for the regional workforce system) engage stakeholders in the creation of the first Master Community Workforce Plan. This plan will be critical for this priority program and its goals and will provide opportunities for improved collaboration with key partners in the coming years.

New Tools for Economic Development in a Changing Economy

Despite continued overall success in retaining and attracting businesses, the past several years have made it clear that Austin is in a unique position, facing challenges and opportunities much different than in years past. In response to these changes, the City's Economic Development Department has initiated the first phases of an important process to update our economic development and incentive policies that help attract and retain businesses. Hundreds of citizens and organizations have engaged with this process by providing information and feedback through surveys and small group community conversations held around the topics of business expansion, small business, real estate, workforce, business recruitment, creative sector, and non-profit and social enterprise. Alongside additional community outreach and feedback, this input will be critical in informing and directing City staff recommendations for City Council for the revision of the current Economic Development Incentive policy. The update to these policies will be important to ensure continued progress on the goals of Imagine Austin by guiding City investments for years to come.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Small business and entrepreneurship continue to be a strength of the local economy and a defining characteristic of our community. Since implementation of Imagine Austin began, the City has continued to expand and evolve training and support for small business. The creation of the Family Business Loan Program, a public-private partnership between the City of Austin, US Department of Housing and Urban Development(HUD), and participating private lenders, offers low-interest loans to qualified small businesses that are expanding and creating jobs. 2017 saw the addition of the Veteran Business Loan to include a $250,000 micro loan pool available for veterans to start or expand an existing business in Austin. The last five years have also seen the creation of the first annual State of Small Business report as well as the kickoff of an annual Small Business Festival, which includes classes, resources and events across the community, both of which would not have been possible for our city were it not for significant collaboration between the City of Austin and many community partners.

Soul-y Austin Business District Incubator

In recent years, the City's new Soul-y Austin Business District Incubator program has presented a prime example of a cross-cutting initiative that supports multiple priority areas within Imagine Austin. With the aim of supporting the creation and retention of stable, organized commercial districts, Soul-y Austin provides a flexible set of tools and resources to assist in the formation of merchants associations that will anchor Austin's business districts. The program is designed to promote and support businesses of all sizes and types within the city's commercial areas and corridors. Vibrant commercial districts offer a range of businesses and services that reflect a unique culture, provide amenities to the local community, and foster diversity in character that further contribute to the distinctive identity that makes Austin a destination. Through this program, the Economic Development Department along with other City and community partners, are currently assisting six business districts. Soul-y Austin generated a document outlining alignment with specific policies and priorities of Imagine Austin, a process the priority team may seek to replicate in effort to better track the huge range of related programs, projects, and initiatives.

"The market forces that accompany an economic boom and rapid population growth have exacerbated the issue of affordability for many residents and businesses in Austin. The question of equity - who and how many benefit from Austin properity - has resounded through the city and our community."

Challenges Faced and Lessons Learned

Austin's recent economic success does not yet mean prosperity for all. While experts and economists begin to consider the implications of growth slowing from recent highs, some very real challenges have become apparent during the recent period of rapid growth and economic success. The market forces that accompany an economic boom and rapid population growth have exacerbated the issue of affordability for many residents and businesses in Austin. Questions of equity - who and how many benefit from Austin's prosperity - have resounded through the city and our community in recent years. If Austin is to realize the equitable prosperity envisioned in the Imagine Austin plan, then we will need to maintain a keen awareness of issues of equity and inequity in our work, and continue to create new tools and strategies to incorporate equity-focused solutions into the work of all of the priority programs.

The long and wide-ranging list of topics included under this priority program – economy, workforce, education systems, small and local business – have presented challenges in establishing processes for coordinating and tracking all related activities across City departments and in the broader community. The broad extent and high-levels of activity around many of the themes included within this priority program demonstrate both the great opportunity for coordinated collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders and partners as well as the difficulties in doing so. Early attempts to map the full landscape of activities related to economy, workforce, education systems, and small and local businesses within the City of Austin and the broader community proved difficult and time-intensive. This priority program has struggled with finding effective and efficient methods of tackling the wide-range of subject areas that fall within their purview. This priority program has also faced difficulties when attempting to navigate the City of Austin's role in affecting change in topics like education systems, which fall mostly outside of the City's direct zone of control.

Looking Ahead

The subject areas covered by priority program #3 closely align with two of Council's strategic outcomes identified by the 3-5 year Strategic Planning effort. These outcomes will be a primary focus of this priority program as it seeks to overcome implementation challenges by working closely with the strategic outcome teams to elevate recommendations and work across departments and budgets for the Economic Opportunity and Affordability, and Culture and Learning Opportunities outcomes.

Economy and Workforce Indicators

Given the overall strength of the Austin economy, this priority program's indicators for unemployment and small business growth track similarly well. This clearly reflects Austin accelerated economic expansion, which spans the five year period since the adoption of Imagine Austin.

Unemployment continued to decline from its most recent recession highs in 2009-2010, with 2017 as the first time in the five-year period that Austin began the year with higher unemployment than the previous year. Similarly, year-over-year increases in small business growth continued at an accelerated rate with the most recent available data (2015) showing the smallest growth rate of the five year period.

Though limited data availability currently prevent us from tracking the jobs to households ratio (JHR) over shorter increments of time, 2010 data support what we already know about our community - we are a job-rich city, with a much higher proportion of jobs than households yielding a JHR of 1.56.

See below for the list of economy indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at
austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#88 ratio of jobs to households
#93 unemployment rate
#96 small business growth

USE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS AND INTEGRATE NATURE INTO THE CITY

progress at year 5

This Priority Program addresses a key Imagine Austin goal of integrating nature into the City. Green infrastructure, as broadly defined in Imagine Austin is

"strategically planned and managed networks of natural lands, parks, working landscapes, other open spaces, and green stormwater controls that conserve and enhance ecosystems and provide associated benefits to human populations."

The Green Infrastructure Priority Program Implementation Team (GIPPIT) was chartered with the a goal of managing Austin's urban and natural ecosystems in a coordinated and sustainable manner. The GIPPIT objectives are as follows:

- Continue public investment in green infrastructure
- Incentivize and/or require private investment in green infrastructure
- Maximize ecosystem function and services provided by green infrastructure on city-owned land
- Improve inter-departmental collaboration and coordination in the management of city-owned lands

Program Champion
Mike Personett *Watershed Protection Department*

Contributing Departments
Watershed Protection Planning and Zoning Development Services Public Works Parks and Recreation Austin Energy, Office of Sustainability Austin Fire Real Estate Services Resource Recovery Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Austin Transportation Building Services Aviation

Given the wide range of policies, actions, and priorities related to green infrastructure in the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the GIPPIT was organized into three groups with specific issues that they each tackle: open space acquisition, regulatory policy, and public lands management. There has been considerable progress made in each of these three areas that have moved the Green Infrastructure Priority Program closer to achieving the goals of Imagine Austin. In the following pages, you will find a selection of these accomplishments.

I imagine Austin...
More parks & Playgrounds

Open Space Acquisition

In early 2016, Austin City Council adopted sweeping changes to the Parkland Dedication Ordinance to establish more parks in areas with little open space, incentivize public space in new development projects, and expand the number of and types of parks throughout the city. The Parks and Recreation Department adopted Parkland Dedication Operating Procedures Rules to implement the changes and revised the Deficient Park Area Map to incorporate provisions of the new ordinance. The Deficient Park Area Map is now used as a tool to determine if parkland is required in residential development to expand parks in areas with little public open space.

Between 2012 and 2016, the City of Austin acquired 382 acres of new parkland through parkland dedication and bond funding. It also acquired a new golf course, adding another 292 acres. Park acquisitions have ranged in size from 1 acre at Astor Place Greenbelt to 68 acres on Bolm District Park.

Regulatory Policy

The 2013 adoption of a new Watershed Protection Ordinance brought about a major update to the drainage and water quality chapters of the Land Development Code after an extensive two-year public stakeholder process. The ordinance extended creek setbacks to over 400 miles of headwaters streams. The ordinance also recognized the importance of protecting natural floodplains and the need to mitigate natural and human-caused creek erosion. Together, these key changes will help foster the recovery and reforestation of degraded waterways, which will in turn better protect streams, rivers, and lakes downstream and preserve water quality for all of Austin. By improving the protection of creeks and floodplains citywide, the ordinance will also result in the creation of a network of protected and connected green infrastructure, which can support other city priorities such as the continued development of urban trails, community gardens, and parks.

Public Lands Management

GIPPIT has made significant progress in the area of public lands management by adopting a series of focused plans in different subject areas that outline goals, standards, and strategies for environmental preservation and protection, especially in a changing climate and a growing population. In the past five years, City Council has adopted an Urban Forest Plan and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan; the Watershed Protection Department has furthered coordination for improved implementation of the Invasive Species Management Plan, Integrated Pest Management activities, and the Grow Zone program; an Urban Forest Sustainability and Management Review has been initiated by a newly formed Forestry Leadership Team, which will be used to prioritize future urban forestry activity; and a new GIS land management classification system was developed for city properties so as to better integrate and inform land management planning decision across the city. This group has also identified major funding gaps for public tree services.

The adoption of the 2014 Complete Streets policy has seen positive effects across varying subject areas and marks an important step toward the realization of Imagine Austin's vision for a healthy, green, vibrant, compact, and connected community. The policy specifically calls out Green Streets as an integral part of Complete Streets. Since 2012, many City departments have proactively incorporated green elements into Right of Way (ROW) projects throughout the city and as a result, over 30 rain gardens have been built and 13,715 trees planted in public ROW. Other projects have incorporated green elements such as porous paving and native and drought tolerant vegetation.

"GIPPIT has made significant progress by adopting focused plans in different areas to outline goals, standards, and strategies for environmental preservation and protection, especially with a changing climate and a growing population."

Lessons Learned

Austinites love their community's trees, parks, greenbelts, gardens, and natural areas. They strongly supported these natural features and the multitude of benefits they bring as reflected in Imagine Austin's vision, policies and action items, and the Green Infrastructure priority program. Shade, beauty, clean air, clean water, reduced flooding, local food, human and ecosystem health, natural heritage, and countless other advantages all come from green infrastructure. And, with a growing population and resulting displacement of natural systems, these features become all the more essential—as is the need for their protection and maintenance. Austin's planning and implementation of parks, urban forestry, preserve lands, and watershed protection all underscore this need and commitment.

Looking Ahead

The Green Infrastructure Priority Program played a major role in the development of CodeNEXT recommendations that preserve and restore the natural environment, promote additional green infrastructure, and further integrate nature into the city. With these recommendations, the new code would build upon the solid foundation of Austin's historic environmental regulations with measures to enhance the environmental function and resiliency of sites—distributing landscape elements, enhancing ecosystem service benefits, and capitalizing on existing vegetation, trees, soils, and other natural features. In addition, the new code could request for sites to reuse their stormwater, which would present a big opportunity to manage runoff, create more sustainable developments, and take pressure off our water supply lakes. Leveraging the 2016 Parkland Dedication Ordinance, GIPPIT staff recommendations to CodeNEXT seek to improve open spaces in developments by requiring larger sites to make the open space more prominent and user-friendly. These spaces could even count toward parkland dedication if they were to meet the new parkland dedication ordinance standards.

As a result of a 2017 Council Resolution, the Green Infrastructure Priority Program team has been tasked with conducting a Green Stormwater Infrastructure Inventory and creating an Integrated Green Infrastructure Plan, which will involve conducting a gap analysis as well as several cost-benefit analyses for the financial impacts of green infrastructure and its many implications. We should see the first outputs of these projects in 2018.

Green Infrastructure Indicators

The indicators associated with the Green Infrastructure Priority Program have all seen improvement over the past 5 years. Community garden acreage has risen each year. Policy changes and the acquisition of new parkland have resulted in there being more residents who live within walking distance to parks than who do not. Additional policy changes and protections as well as a more sustained baseflow in Austin's creeks due to increased rainfall in recent years have resulted in improved stream water quality, with the latest scores showing that 75% of Austin's watersheds have an Environmental Integrity Index score of "good" or better. Tree Canopy Coverage saw minimal change from 2010 to 2014, and the four year data collection cycle means that we won't see data again until 2018. Past years' bond dollars have directly resulted in a gradual increase in the acres of permanently preserved land in strategic areas.

See below for the list of green infrastructure indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#8 community and school gardens per 1,000 people
#36 residents living within walking distance to parks
#39 environmental integrity index scores
#40 tree canopy coverage
#41 amount of permanently preserved land

GROW AND INVEST IN AUSTIN'S CREATIVE ECONOMY

progress at year 5

 "Creativity is the engine of Austin's prosperity. Arts, culture, and creativity are essential keys to the City's unique and distinctive identity and are valued as vital contributors to our community's character, quality of life, and economy."

This statement from the Imagine Austin vision theme – Creativity - reflects both the value of the economic impact of the arts and the value of arts for social well-being. The creative economy is an economic concept that creative assets generate economic growth and development in a community. It includes interconnected industries that focus on providing creative services, or creating and promoting intellectual property products. The importance of the arts is also about how culture connects and binds people to each other and a place. Neighborhoods with a critical mass of cultural assets and a web of social networks are more likely to experience stable social diversity as well as economic revitalization.

With representation from a number of departments, the Creative Economy Priority Program team in the past five years focused on three thematic areas: 1) Building Creativity Capacities in People; 2) Creating Development in Place; and 3) Building Knowledge through Studies and Planning.

Program Champion
Laura Esparza *Parks and Recreation Department*

Contributing Departments
Parks and Recreation Planning and Zoning Austin Public Library Economic Development Aviation

While the City's investment in the arts has increased and the Creative Economy Priority Program (CEPP) team has made significant progress in its work, the reality on the ground is that the creative sector is still struggling with affordability issues. The creative economy indicators show growth in the City of Austin's investment in the arts, and yet theaters, live music venues, and artist studios have continued to close. Every year more artists, creatives, and musicians move away from Austin because of the rising cost of living. Over the past 5 years since the adoption of Imagine Austin, the CEPP team has brought critical focus to the forces underlying Austin's Creative Economy through the actions explained below.

Studying the Current State of the Creative Economy

One of the primary items in the CEPP work plan was to survey creative arts and cultural individuals, nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, and creative for-profit businesses to determine gaps in technical assistance and identify additional ongoing strategies to further develop the creative sector. This item has been successfully accomplished through a series of studies and plans in different areas over the past five years.

In 2013, the City's Small Business Development Program conducted a "Needs Assessment of the For Profit Creative Industries." In 2014-2015, the City's Music and Entertainment Division commissioned Titan Music to conduct the ATX Music Industry Census and Needs Assessment, which is the most detailed survey of the Austin commercial music industry to date.

In 2015, the Cultural Arts Division (CAD) completed the "Building Austin's Creative Capacity" assessment, which evaluated the needs of individual artists and nonprofit arts and culture organizations in relation to different modes of capacity building.

Then in early 2016 with the passage of the Music and Creative Ecosystem Omnibus Resolution and after numerous community and commission meetings, City staff produced the Music and Creative Ecosystem Stabilization Recommendations, which identifies four key areas in need of further attention: 1) affordable creative spaces, 2) City regulations, operations, and incentives for the creative sector, 3) creative economy professional and industry development, and 4) health and educational services for creatives.

All of the various needs assessments and plans completed over the past five years will be critical in informing the Creative Economy Priority Program's work into the future.

Building Capacities and Creativity in People

With the adoption of Imagine Austin, the Cultural Arts Division (CAD) and the Small Business Program of Economic Development Department ramped up their opportunities for technical assistance and training for artists. In the fall of 2014, CAD worked with Mid-America Arts Alliance and delivered Artists' Inc., an intensive 8-week business training course, which graduated 98 artists. In 2015, the Small Business Program developed "Getting Connected & Creative Expo," a tradeshow-like event providing for-profit small businesses & nonprofit arts with technical assistance and access to lending institutions. A partnership between the City's Parks and Recreation Department and mindPOP used National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) funding to create the Emerging Teaching Artists Training, providing instruction for artists wanting to teach. This led to the creation of Creative Connections, which exposes artists to employment opportunities throughout the City of Austin.

Additionally, the Dougherty Arts Center opened its Artist Resource Center, a place for artists seeking jobs, grants, and portfolio advice. Artist Residences were first established at the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center, and then in subsequent years at the Carver Museum and Cultural Center and the Dougherty Arts Center.

In the film industry sector, the creation of the "Creative Content Incubator" with Troublemaker Studios fostered the commercialization of local talent, stories, gaming, film, and television production. The "Creative Content Incentive Program" also keeps Austin competitive for productions that employ local film and digital media workforce.

Building capacity in Austin's diverse community of artists, Our World Family Festival (October 2016) was created by Parks as a City-wide multicultural music festival bringing the City's diverse cultures into one event. Forklift Danceworks (and partners PARD and CAD), also received a NEA Our Town grant to engage East Austin residents in re-imagining parks and pools through collaborative dance productions.

"While the City's investment in the arts has increased and the Creative Economy Priority Program has made significant progress in its work, the reality on the ground is that the creative sector in Austin is still struggling with affordability issues."

Development of Creative Spaces

Creative space development has been an important part of CEPP's five-year work. In 2013, the Cultural Arts Division (CAD), with Austin Playhouse, contracted with Artspace Projects Inc. to conduct a market survey of individual artists and creative businesses to help inform the status of creative space needs together with price points and the types of spaces needed. Most recently, funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and ArtPlace America, the Cultural Arts Division has helped complete Austin's Cultural Asset Mapping Project (CAMP) and Thinking in Districts Toolkit to better understand Austin's creative asset locations, which helps to make informed decisions regarding planning and investment.

The CEPP is also continuing work researching creative space incentive packages and best practices. With the help of another ArtPlace America grant, the thinkEAST Living Charrette brought together Austin's creative communities, planners, developers, and City representatives to prototype a creative district of affordable live/work/arts space on the former 24-acre tank farm site in East Austin. These place-making grants have provided opportunities to work together in new ways and to forge lasting relationships for future development.

Finally, the Asian American Resource Center opened in September 2014 and quickly became a model for a new kind of cultural center – one that provides not only cultural activities but other services such as health and education to the Asian American community. That in part inspired the Community Creativity Centers White Paper; providing a blueprint for how small cultural centers can be incorporated into new construction or inserted into an existing building.

Creative Economy Indicators

Due to the unavailability of data from an originally identified source, the indicators that were associated with the Creative Economy Priority Program in 2013 have been replaced by indicators that could be reliably tracked. The three indicators listed below are reflective only of the City of Austin's involvement and influence in the creative economy in Austin. Therefore, these indicators are limited in what they can tell us and not necessarily representative of the vast creative economy in our city. However, they do provide a perspective of the City of Austin's contribution to and involvement in Austin's creative economy.

There has been a considerable increase in the City of Austin's investment in the arts over the past five years and a steady increase in the number of cultural contracts applications received. Participation in City arts, culture, and small business workshops has fluctuated over the same time period though, mostly due to variations in the number and types of programming offered by the City's various departments and programs each year.

See below for the list of creative economy indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#118 number of annual cultural contracts applications
#119 participants in arts, culture, and small business workshops hosted by the City of Austin
#120 overall investment in the arts by the City of Austin

DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY THROUGHOUT AUSTIN

progress at year 5

Priority Program #6 focuses on developing and maintaining household affordability throughout Austin. The Household Affordability program considers not only household costs such as mortgage, rent, and utilities but also transportation and access to daily and weekly needs as essential and inter-related components of holistic affordability.

Program Champion
Erica Leak
Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department

Contributing Departments
Neighborhood Housing & Community Development
Planning and Zoning
Economic Development
Austin Public Health
Austin Code
Development Services
Economic Development
Austin Transportation
Austin Energy
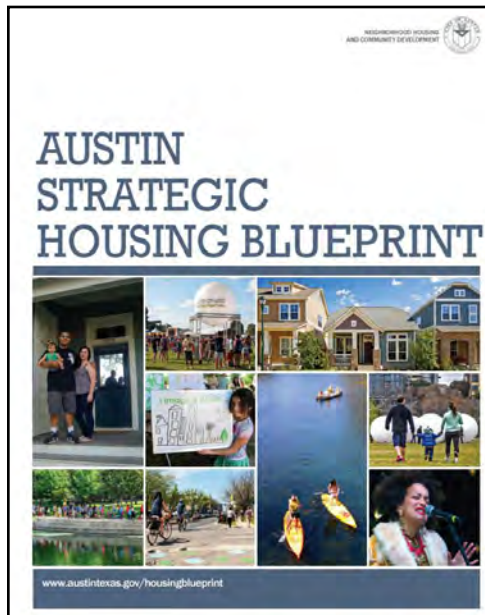
Since the adoption of Imagine Austin, the City has worked to implement Priority Program #6, Develop and Maintain Household Affordability throughout Austin by analyzing the depth and complexity of Austin's affordability challenge, refining and developing new policies and strategies to addressing affordability issues, and setting housing goals through the adoption of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint.

Analyzing Austin's Affordability Challenge

In the past five years, a series of critical studies and reports have been completed that have helped this team to analyze Austin's affordability challenge. In 2013, the City of Austin contracted with BBC Research and Consulting to provide an update to Austin's 2008 comprehensive housing market study. This study provided a more current assessment of housing needs and provided detail at a smaller scale. In 2014, HousingWorks Austin prepared a Preservation Study to better understand how affordability is impacting the Austin and its residents. In 2015, the City of Austin updated its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) which identified barriers to fair housing in Austin. The analysis also included recommended action items to address the barriers. All of these studies, reports, and analyses helped to inform the development of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint and continue to inform the CodeNEXT land development code rewrite.

Refining and Developing New Tools

The Household Affordability team worked to refine and introduce new tools, policies, and strategies to promote and preserve affordable housing in Austin. This effort has resulted in improvements to or the formation of several affordable housing programs, including Community Land Trusts, Homestead Preservation Districts, density bonuses, and the S.M.A.R.T. Housing development incentive program. This team also continues to work with the CodeNEXT team to identify code revisions that would affirmatively further fair housing choice, provide low- and moderate-income residents housing choices in high opportunity and gentrifying areas, and provide as many affordable housing options as possible for Austinites at various income levels and household sizes.

Setting Goals

In recent years, Austin City Council has set and met several housing-related goals. The 2010 goal of creating 350 Permanent Supportive Housing units in four years was completed as well as a 2014 goal to functionally end veteran homelessness in Austin. Additionally, the City is currently striving to meet a 2014 goal to produce 400 new Permanent Supportive Housing units in four years and preserve 20,000 affordable housing units over the next 20 years.

Though the City has demonstrated success in developing and meeting incremental housing goals, the development and adoption of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint in early 2017 represented a big step in strategic goal setting when it comes to affordability. The Blueprint includes numerical goals, timelines, and strategies to maintain and create affordable housing for a range of incomes throughout the city, as envisioned in Imagine Austin. The Blueprint identifies a need for 135,000 new housing units in the Austin metro area in the next 10 years with 60,000 of those units being affordable to households at 80% median family income and below. It also recommends that at least 75% of new housing units should be within 1/2 mile of an activity center or corridor, as defined by the Growth Concept Map. The plan also helps align resources, ensures a unified strategic direction, and facilitates community partnerships to achieve this shared vision. The Housing Blueprint includes funding mechanisms, regulation recommendations, and other creative approaches the City of Austin should utilize to achieve these housing goals.

"The development and adoption of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint represents a big step in strategic goal setting when it comes to affordability."

Looking Ahead

Though the approval of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint was a major accomplishment for this priority program and a valuable tool for pursuing household affordability, there is much work to be done in order to meet the aggressive housing goals proposed. The Household Affordability Priority Program will be essential to the implementation of the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint in coming years.

With direction from Austin City Council, the CodeNEXT land development code revision is exploring any potential for the new Code to affirmatively further fair housing and give low and moderate income residents housing choices in high opportunity and gentrifying areas. City Council has also directed that the new Code include as many affordable housing options as possible for Austinites at various income levels and household sizes. The Household Affordability priority program team has been instrumental to the CodeNEXT process, specifically for identifying code revisions that would fulfill these important resolutions and will continue to work with the CodeNEXT team to further develop Code revisions that would advance household affordability for Austinites.

In April 2017, City Council identified six strategic outcomes to pursue in the next three to five years. One of the six is Economic Opportunity and Affordability, to ensure that all Austinites have economic opportunity and resources that enable us to thrive in our community. The team has been reviewing numerous community and city developed plans, including Imagine Austin, and is developing a list of potential action items, qualitative information and data to support the development of challenge statements, strategies, and meaningful performance indicators.

Household Affordability Indicators

The Imagine Austin indicators associated with this priority program show complex and dynamic results from the past five years. Housing values and rents continue to rise, and although the median family income has increased, a significant number of Austin households are cost-burdened. The residential vacancy rate has remained fairly stable, and yet the housing supply has increased by over 20% since 2007, clearly revealing the immense demand for housing in the city.

The City has not been able to fund as many affordable residential units as in the past due to the rising costs associated with developing housing in the city as well as the exhaustion of previous housing bond funding.

In general, the affordability issue in Austin is dire, and certain groups in our community feel its consequences more acutely than others. Many indicators hint at the suburbanization of poverty or the displacement of low-income households from Austin. And while the City of Austin continues to leverage the tools we have to influence these distressing trends, tackling affordability in Austin in a comprehensive way is beyond the ability of the city government alone. Such a large-scale and difficult challenge requires considerable effort from a wide and diverse array of organizations, and the City of Austin will continue to rely on strong partnerships within our community to help us reach our vision of an Austin that is affordable and accessible to all.

See below for the list of household affordability indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#3 median housing values
#4 median gross rent
#5 residential vacancy rate
#6 cost-burdened residential units
#11 homeless count
#17 number of affordable residential units funded
#85 median family income

CREATE A HEALTHY AUSTIN PROGRAM

progress at year 5

A person's health and ability to make healthy choices is directly affected by where they work, live, learn and play[1]. The Healthy Austin Program seeks to improve community health and addresses how health risk factors are directly affected by our surroundings. This priority program works to address key elements of community health including physical activity, recreation, access to healthy foods, strengthening the local food system, tobacco-free living, access to healthcare, and improving the built environment to support healthy living.

Program Champion
Cassie DeLeon *Austin Public Health Department*
Contributing Departments
Austin Public Health Economic Development Neighborhood Housing & Community Development Office of Sustainability Parks and Recreation Planning and Zoning Austin Transportation

Austin is a relatively healthy city. Over the last five years Austin/Travis County has trended better than Texas and the nation on key health outcomes including obesity, smoking, physical activity, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes. While this is reassuring, we continue to see disparities along racial, ethnic, and socio economic lines within these same health outcomes.

The Healthy Austin Priority Program has focused on policy, environmental changes, and program interventions that meet the needs of the rapidly changing population and reduce disparities among special populations. Some of the major accomplishments of this program are explained below.

Major Gains Towards Tobacco-Free Living

Over the course of the last five years, tobacco use has been targeted through broad tobacco-free campus policies that support tobacco-free living and create a supportive environment for those wanting to quit. Through these efforts, tobacco-free policies have been adopted by hospitals and health clinics, City of Austin and Travis County facilities, City of Austin Parks, Austin Community College and the University of Texas, as well as many local employers and non-profits. Additionally, smoke-free policy has been implemented by Foundation Communities, Housing Authority of the City of Austin, and Travis County Housing Authority, which protects our most at risk and vulnerable populations from secondhand smoke exposure in their homes.

[1] For further reading on this subject try "How Does Where We Live, Work, Learn, and Play Affect Our Health?", a Health Policy Snapshot Publication Series by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Increasing Access to Healthy Food

Access to healthy food is key to reducing obesity and risks of chronic diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Throughout the last five years multiple initiatives have been implemented through the expansion of the Parks and Recreation Department's Sustainable Urban Agriculture and Community Garden Program, including the expansion of community and school gardens resulting in a significant increase from 5 gardens on City land to 20 gardens on City land (including 6 senior gardens for individuals aged 55 and up). In addition, the Austin Public Health Department and the Office of Sustainability have led efforts to increase incentives for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers markets for low-income residents. Together with community partners, they have expanded farm stand programs, developed new mobile markets in neighborhoods designated as food deserts, and integrated healthy food options into convenience and corner stores. The team has also worked to increase access to free healthy lifestyle educational classes.

The Healthy Austin program continues efforts to pursue a sustainable food system where more of the food consumed is produced locally. Residents can now find support in navigating the food system through an Austin Food Portal, which launched in 2015. A sustainable food system also includes connecting residents to distribution points supplied by local farmers, as well as ongoing assessment of neighborhood-level needs and the food system at large. Other critical components of a sustainable food system that the City is pursuing include preserving farmland and implementing new methods for farming within the urban landscape such as rooftop gardens and growing fruit-bearing plants and trees on public lands to create food forests.

Health and Safety Improvements to the Built Environment and Transportation System

The built environment and characteristics of our transportation system can directly impact our health. The Healthy Austin Program has worked to improve elements of the built environment and transportation system related to safety and accessibility such as access to parks and green space, increasing tree canopy coverage along sidewalks, improving the connectivity of our bike infrastructure with other roadways and trails, and providing free education programs.

The sweeping changes made by Austin City Council to the Parkland Dedication Ordinance has been indispensable in establishing more parks in areas with little open space; incentivizing public space in new development projects; and expanding the quantity and types of parks throughout the city. The Complete Streets policy adopted by City Council in 2014 formally recognizes that our streets should be safe and attractive places for people, not just cars.

I imagine Austin...
Affordable housing!
Local food!
Child care close to job centers!

"Austin/Travis County has trended better than Texas and the nation on key health outcomes, but we continue to see disparities along racial, ethnic, and socio economic lines."

The Austin Vision Zero program was developed in recent years with the goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and injuries by the year 2025. The Vision Zero program has since targeted hotspots for fatal and serious injury crashes and is using a diverse suite of strategies to reduce dangerous behaviors and improve street design to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes. Austin Transportation's Active Transportation and Street Design Division focuses on redesigning city streets to make them safer, more comfortable and convenient for people walking, biking, and travelling by all modes. Since 2012, many complete streets safety projects have been implemented, and nearly 250 linear miles of bike lanes now run throughout the city. Projects have included adding pedestrian refuge islands, improving traffic signals by adding lead pedestrian intervals, creating protected bike lanes, adding left turn protections, installing traffic calming and other crash reduction strategies, all in efforts to improve safety and encourage walking and bicycling. The SMART Trips program was also launched in order to reduce barriers to using alternative modes of transportation to single-occupancy vehicles, and to increase awareness of the range of transportation options that don't require car ownership.

Looking Ahead

CodeNEXT
The Healthy Austin Priority Program team has provided recommendations to the CodeNEXT Land Development Code revision process and will work to ensure that as the City grows, our Code supports healthy living for all Austinites.

Community Health Improvement Plan
In January 2017, community stakeholders in partnership with Austin Public Health launched the second Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA / CHIP). The 2017 Community Health Assessment collected and analyzed both qualitative and quantitative data to create a snap shot of health report. Community partners will use this report to prioritize where to focus efforts and develop a plan to collectively and collaboratively improve health. The Community Health Improvement Plan will launch in 2018.

City of Austin Strategic Plan
Additionally, the Austin City Council identified health as one of six strategic outcomes to pursue in the next three to five years. Work is underway to develop a plan that aligns with Imagine Austin, and existing community efforts to address health: enjoying a sustainable environment and a healthy life, physically, and mentally.

Healthy Austin Indicators

The Imagine Austin indicators associated with the Healthy Austin program show some successes such as an overall increase in the percentage of residents with health care coverage and some reductions in the prevalence of tobacco use and smoking; however, all of the indicators show significant and concerning disparities for our black and African-American population as well as our Hispanic population.

The safety indicators show a decline in our property crime rate in the past five years, but little to no change of Austin's violent crime rate.

See below for the list of health-related indicators. For the complete results of these indicators, see chapter 3 or view the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators.

indicators

This priority program is reporting on these indicators:

#18 rates of obesity, tobacco use, smoking, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes
#102 percent of residents with health care coverage
#114 percent of population that performs the recommended amount of physical activity
#115 violent crime rate per 1,000 population
#116 property crime rate per 1,000 population

REVISE AUSTIN'S DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND PROCESSES TO PROMOTE A COMPACT AND CONNECTED CITY

progress at year 5

CodeNEXT is the City of Austin's initiative to rewrite our outdated and complicated Land Development Code. The Land Development Code (LDC) has a far-reaching impact from shaping the kinds of places where we live, work, and hang out, to influencing the design of our streets and public spaces.

Imagine Austin lays out our vision for a city of complete communities that can respond to the pressures and opportunities of our growing city. When developing our comprehensive plan, we heard loud and clear that the City's regulations, specifically the Land Development Code, which contains the rules and processes that regulate what, where, and how much can be built in Austin, need to be updated to better reflect our community's values and to help us achieve the goals of Imagine Austin.

Program Champion
Jorge Rousselin *Planning and Zoning Department*
Contributing Departments
Planning and Zoning Development Services Watershed Protection Parks and Recreation Neighborhood Housing & Community Development

The current Land Development Code was written nearly 30 years ago, when Austin's population was half the size it is now. Over the past three decades, the Code has become overly complex after being amended hundreds of times to accommodate unforeseen issues. The Code needs to be changed to help us create the kinds of places we want, and the city we envisioned in Imagine Austin. We need to update the Code to better address the critical issues we face as a city today such as diminishing natural resources, household affordability, and access to healthy lifestyle.

The CodeNEXT process began in 2013 with informal outreach with key stakeholder groups and a series of Listening Sessions, which invited participants to take a survey; share their thoughts and experiences with the Code during a facilitated small group discussion; and mark areas where they live, work, and hang out on maps along with comments about what they like and don't like about those areas. The results of these Listening Sessions were documented in the Listening to the Community Report, which describes who participated as well as key themes that arose from the process.

The issues that arose during the Listening to the Community Report, in conjunction with major issues identified by city staff and the CodeNEXT team, led to the development of a Code Diagnosis in May of 2014. The Code Diagnosis summarizes major problems and challenges present in the current Land Development Code (LDC). This document has been used to help focus CodeNEXT efforts on ensuring that the new LDC addresses our biggest Code challenges.

Community Character workshops in January 2014 invited residents to identify the character of their neighborhoods with a do-it-yourself kit to capture the assets, contraints, and opportunities for improvement in your own neighborhood - documented in photos and maps. This work led to the Community Character Manual, which used community input in the form of photos and written information to document the patterns, form, and character of each neighborhood in Austin. This manual provided a foundation for good planning and policy decisions in the future and has been a resource throughout the CodeNEXT process, offering valuable insights into Austin's unique neighborhoods.

Based on information gathered during the first phases of CodeNEXT, the Code Approach Alternatives and Annotated Outlines document was released and described three types of approaches for reorganizing and revising Austin's LDC. The approaches ranged from reorganizing the content of the existing code to rewriting large sections of the LDC. Austin City Council voted in favor of a hybrid approach between a deep clean of the current code, and a complete makeover of the existing LDC.

As the CodeNEXT team began work on the draft LDC, a Sound Check Workshop was held in November 2015. The Sound Check events brought together code-writing professionals and more than 500 Austinites over five days in a learning exercise to understand and evaluate the effectiveness of emerging code regulations. This event was documented in the Sound Check Workshop Report and shows the outcomes of testing proposed code standards, the lessons learned, and next steps identified in order to produce a better land development code that works for everyone.

In early 2016, the CodeNEXT team released four Prescription Papers on the following topics: the natural and built environment, household affordability, mobility, and fiscal health. These papers discussed the challenges facing Austin in each of these areas and then proposed possible code solutions and also identified a need for additional efforts outside of the LDC to achieve the high-level goals and vision of Imagine Austin.

Using the lessons learned as well as information and input received from the public, the CodeNEXT team released the first public review draft of the new Land Development Code in January 2017 and was followed by a draft zoning map that applied proposed CodeNEXT zones across the city in April 2017. The release of these drafts was accompanied by extensive public outreach, including district-based public meetings, in-person office hours with CodeNEXT staff and members of the public, small group stakeholder meetings, City Council briefings, Code Advisory Group meetings, and meetings with other Boards and Commissions in addition to online feedback tools that facilitate comments directly on the draft text and map.

In September 2017, the CodeNEXT team released the second draft of the text and map after reviewing and considering the thousands of comments received throughout the initial phase of public engagement. The comment period for Draft 2 will be open through the end of October 2017 and will be followed by Draft 3, the staff recommendation, by the end of November.

indicators

This priority program is not reporting directly on any of the Imagine Austin indicators.

Imagine Austin
Implementation Highlights

5 Implementation Strategies

Chapter 5 of Imagine Austin outlines some of the major levers and tools available to the City of Austin for implementing this comprehensive plan. The plan is currently moving forward through a five-point implementation strategy. Those strategies include:

1. **Education and Engagement**
   As the city continues to implement the policies and actions contained in the comprehensive plan, education and engagement of both the public as well as City staff across departments is a top priority. The City uses a variety of media and forums to highlight success stories.

2. **Internal Alignment**
   Fulfilling the big picture vision of the comprehensive plan requires the City of Austin to take a more collaborative, cross-departmental approach to major initiatives. With this in mind, City staff are better integrating department work programs, decision-making, and long-range budgets to implement Imagine Austin.

3. **Regulations**
   Aligning and creating regulations in order to better support the comprehensive plan is major tool for implementing Imagine Austin. Revising out-dated regulations and codes or pursuing forward-thinking solutions can move us closer as a city to our vision for our future.

4. **Capital Investments**
   As City departments continue with budgeting and capital planning for the upcoming fiscal year and beyond, new requests for both operating and capital funding are being reviewed against Imagine Austin's vision, policies, and priority programs.

5. **Partnerships**
   Imagine Austin is a big plan with big ideas that extend beyond what the City of Austin can do as a single entity. Partnerships are critical to realizing Imagine Austin's community-wide vision.

The following section contains some of the progress made in each of these five implementation areas throughout the past five years. These successes are important for considering implementation in the next five years and determining where we should continue to do work, where we should increase our efforts, and also to re-examine the effectiveness of strategies used in the past and adapt accordingly into the future.

EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Imagine Austin Speaker Series

On September 18, 2012, the City of Austin's Imagine Austin hosted its first Imagine Austin Speaker Series entitled, "Development Trends Toward Walkable Urbanism" with Christopher Leinberger, an internationally acclaimed land use strategist, teacher, developer, and planning researcher. Since then, the Planning and Zoning Department, often in collaboration with other departments and outside organizations, has held 28 total Speaker Series events and workshops to promote and implement the policies and vision of Imagine Austin. The cumulative attendance for all of these events has surpassed 3,500.

The Imagine Austin Speaker Series at its core has presented opportunities to grow the implementation of Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan through shared dialogue and mutual learning. We accomplish this by inviting targeted thought leaders (including academics, planning professionals, developers, or government officials) from around the nation to give talks on the topics of land use, transportation, housing, development, the economy, the built and natural environment, health, social equity, and sustainability, which correspond to Imagine Austin's vision themes.

The Imagine Austin Speaker Series program has been able to attract noted speakers, both internationally and locally, such as: Jeff Speck, Ellen Dunham-Jones, Dr. Antwi Akom, Chuck Marohn, and Dr. Tim Beatley. The range of topics have been wide, from: making an age-friendly Austin to achieving zero waste.

Our goals for the future are to continue to promote and implement the Imagine Austin through educational programming and community events and to expand collaboratations with partner departments and organizations.

BY THE NUMBERS:

4,600+ Imagine Austin facebook likes	**4,300+** Imagine Austin newsletter subscribers	**4,750+** @imagineaustin twitter followers
28 Imagine Austin Speaker Series events	**3,500** Imagine Austin Speaker Series attendees	**320+** Imagine Austin Speaker Series Youtube views
20 Imagine Austin MeetUps	**347** Compact and Connected Training participants	**500,000+** Imagine Austin website views

INTERNAL ALIGNMENT

In many ways, the biggest strength of Imagine Austin in the first five years has been its ability to draw people together from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to collaborate, coordinate, and innovately work towards comprehensive solutions. Here are some of the ways that we have worked together to break down departmental silos and accomplish big things.

Climate Change: Planning for Resilience and Adaptation
When it comes to challenges facing our community like climate change, immense collaboration and innovative problem-solving are needed to keep our community safe. Throughout the past several years, the Office of Sustainability has been leading a process involving numerous City departments to ensure that our community is prepared for and responsive to extreme weather events and changing climate conditions. This effort has determined what Austin can expect from climate change (higher temperatures, extended droughts, intense flooding, and increased risk of wildfire), assessed the City's biggest vulnerabilities to these risks, and begun to develop strategies to increase our preparedness for and resilience to long-term changes in climate and major weather events in order to protect the economic, environmental, and social health of our community.

Vision Zero
The creation of an Austin Vision Zero program has been the product of collaboration from several City departments, members of the public, and state and local transportation agencies. This team brought together people with diverse backgrounds in transportation, urban planning, public health, and public safety to create an action plan that addresses traffic fatalities and serious injuries and to prevent needless deaths and injuries on our streets.

JJ Seabrook Neighborhood Projects
Beginning in 2014, five priority program teams (and many departments) came together to realize a series of ambitious improvement projects in the JJ Seabrook neighborhood to achieve components of Imagine Austin goals like integrating nature in the city, improving mobility and interconnectivity, and creating a built environment that encourages healthy behaviors. Projects like stream restoration, transforming a roadway into an urban trail, and reducing dangerous vehicular speeds helped to bring together the neighborhood both physically and communally.

Housing + Transit + Jobs Group (HTJ)
In 2014, City Council created an interdepartmental, interagency team to address Austin's affordability, transportation, and economic development challenges in a corrdinated manner. The HTJ group has worked to increase economic opportunity and improve conditions for affordability by providing solutions that connect housing, transportation, and jobs. The team previously worked to support a high-capacity transit project through LoneStar Rail, but also has worked on affordable housing preservation strategies and alignment of City initiatives like CodeNEXT to achieve the Imagine Austin vision.

City of Austin Strategic Plan
To bridge the gap between the long-range vision of Imagine Austin and the City's annual budget planning process, the Office of Performance Management is working with City staff at every level to create a 3-5 year Strategic Plan. This plan will be centered around six outcomes chosen by Austin City Council that every Austinite should experience: Economic Opportunity and Affordability, Mobility, Safety, Health, Cultural and Learning Opportunities, and a Government that Works. Imagine Austin's vision serves as the basis for this process and the priority program teams are playing a role in the plan's development. While the plan is still in the works, there is more to come from this strategic planning process and how it relates to Imagine Austin, so stay tuned.

REGULATIONS

Changing and creating regulations in order to better support and align with the comprehensive plan is another major lever we have for implementing Imagine Austin. The first five years since its adoption have already seen major improvements in the realm of environmental health and quality and mobility and accessibility. The next five years are sure to hold much more including a new Land Development Code for the city.

Watershed Protection Ordinance

A major win for Imagine Austin's natural and sustainable vision was the adoption of a new Watershed Protection Ordinance in 2013. This ordinance furthers the protection of natural floodplains and emphasized the need to mitigate natural and human-caused creek erosion. These new regulations are a step in the right direction for our Sustainably Manage our Water Resources priority by increasing protections for watersheds and water quality as well as the Green Infrastructure priority by expanding our network of protected and connected green infrastructure, which can support the creation of other developments like urban trails, community gardens, and parks.

Complete Streets Policy

The adoption of a Complete Streets policy by City Council in 2014 formally recognizes that our streets should be safe and attractive places for people, not just cars, and has seen positive effects across multiple Imagine Austin priorities, especially for mobility, accessibility, and health; while the inclusion of Green Streets elements has resulted in the addition of many green infrastructure elements in public Right of Way. This policy marks an important step toward the realization of Imagine Austin's vision for a healthy, green, vibrant, compact, and connected community.

Parkland Dedication Ordinance

Big changes to the Parkland Dedication Ordinance have been a critical success for expanding access to parks and open space for all Austinites. This ordinance cross-cuts many Imagine Austin goals for health and green infrastructure, and will help us to better integrate nature into the city in an equitable way so that all Austinites have the opportunity to access green spaces.

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Regulations

In 2015, Austin City Council approved an amendment to the land development code that eliminated the parking requirements for ADUs within a quarter of a mile of an Imagine Austin activity corridor that is also served by transit. This resolution also reduced other potential barriers to building ADUs like reducing the minimum lot size upon which they can be built and removing driveway requirements. This regulation was one of the first steps towards tackling burdensome parking requirements that may prevent the kinds of developments that we desire, and also served as the City's first attempt to tie concrete regulations to the Imagine Austin Growth Concept Map.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

Capital improvement projects and funding are a major lever that they City of Austin can use to help move us towards a compact and connected Austin. Since the adoption of Imagine Austin five years ago, the plan has been used in making decisions about where and what kind of projects are implemented.

2016 Mobility Bond

In 2016, Austinites voted to approve a historic bond to put $720 million dollars towards local, corridor, and regional transportation and mobility improvements. These bond dollars will be put to work to install local sidewalks, address safety concerns of routes to school, improve bicycle facilities, expand the urban trail network, improve intersections to reduce fatalities in top crash locations, renew substandard streets, and implement many of the improvements identified in corridor mobility reports.

Long-Range Capital Improvement Project Strategic Plan

The Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan was created to enhance the City's ability to implement the community's vision from Imagine Austin with the help of Capital Improvement Projects. This plan identifies strategic capital investment areas, planned projects, and opportunities for coordinated CIP investments. The plan is also a mechanism for transparency about our citywide capital infrastructure needs and, through analysis, provides information to decision-makers about how future capital infrastructure investment can meet Imagine Austin goals and objectives.

Neighborhood Partnering Program

In support of Imagine Austin, the Neighborhood Partnering Program (NPP) provides opportunities for community and neighborhood organziations to affect public improvements by sharing in the costs of those efforts with the City of Austin government. There are four programs within the NPP that allow the community to access and share resources in order accomplish a project from a neighborhood cost share program to grant assistance to parking benefit coordination. This program allows for communities to get involved in improving their own neighborhoods and connects the dots for the implementation of Imagine Austin on all scales, from neighborhood-based projects to large-scale city improvement projects.

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships are a crucial piece of implementing our community-wide vision for Austin. The City alone cannot realize the 30 year vision laid out in Imagine Austin, we must work together as a community often to truly become the Austin that we envision. In the past five years, we have seen several successful collaborations with community partners to help move us towards our goals, and we hope to continue building community and partnerships for many years to come.

In 2015, we partnered with the Austin American Institute of Architects (AIA) DesignVoice committee, HousingWorks Austin, the University of Texas School of Architecture, David Whitworth Development, and our own Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department to put on a series of educational talks and tours on "missing middle" housing in Austin. These events sparked conversation around the idea of compact and connected development and what it can look like in our own communities.

Later in 2015, City staff from the Planning and Zoning Department and the priority program teams collaborated for a kickoff event announcing the formation of Evolve Austin Partners. This non-profit was created with the goal of supporting the implementation of Imagine Austin by uniting and integrating a diverse set of civic-minded community organizations that are moving our community towards the vision laid out in Imagine Austin. At the kickoff event, the organization introduced their nine partner organizations, which has since grown to over 30, and rallied attendees to take collective action to accomplish their mission: "to champion the Imagine Austin comprehensive plan, crafted by the people of Austin to create a more affordable, mobile, and sustainable city."

In 2017, the Imagine Austin team partnered with the Austin Montior, Glasshouse Policy, and the Transit Center to celebrate our 5th birthday and discuss transportation and transit in Austin. We heard from a panel of folks like Capital Metro's Linda Watson, District 2 Councilmember Delia Garza, Mayor Adler, Texas House Representative Celia Israel, and the TransitCenter, a New York City based foundation dedicated to urban mobility. We also took advantage of TransitCenter while they were in town and had an intimate staff discussion about lessons learned and their experiences working to advance equitable transportation policy around the country.

Chapter Two

2016 - 2017 Annual Report

In addition to the year five progress report, the comprehensive plan lays out a plan monitoring and review schedule that includes an annual report for program monitoring to assess the City's progress in accomplishing the priority program's goals. This annual reporting process provides updates on projects and policies that have been implemented in the past year and an updated action matrix showing the implementation status of each of the 200+ actions from the plan.

This annual reporting section provides updates and accomplishments of the Imagine Austin Priority Program teams over the course of the past year, from mid-2016 to mid-2017. While not listing every City activity, the annual report highlights important initiatives that are helping make Imagine Austin a reality in our community.

2016 Mobility Bond

In November 2016, voters approved $720 million in funding to support local, corridor, and regional transportation and mobility improvements. The City has subsequently launched a robust implementation program for this funding, including creation of a Corridor Program Implementation Office, led by the Compact and Connected Priority Program Champion. The Office is working with City stakeholders and the public to ensure that investments meet the expectations of voters and support the vision of Imagine Austin.

Long Range CIP Strategic Plan

On May 9, 2017, the Planning Commission recommended approval of a recommendation letter transmitting the FY 2017-2018 LRCSP to the City Manager. The Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan is produced by the City of Austin and released each spring. The Plan takes a data-driven, collaborative approach to long-range planning for the Capital Improvement Program and provides detailed capital program recommendations in support of Imagine Austin. With formation of the Corridor Program Implementation Office, the Planning and Zoning Department took over responsibility for coordinating this year's update, which involved support from other members of the Compact and Connected Team.

Austin Strategic Mobility Plan

In Fall 2016, the city launched a planning process to develop a new city-wide transportation plan. The Austin Strategic Mobility Plan will expand the vision of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan into actionable, mobility-related goals and objectives to guide Austin's near-and long-term transportation investments. Staff anticipates bringing the ASMP to Austin City Council for adoption in early 2018. Members of the Compact and Connected Team will continue to support ATD staff as they develop this important initiative.

2016 Spotlights

As part of its educational mission to inform staff and the public of work advancing the objectives of Imagine Austin, the Invest in Compact and Connected team recognizes private sector projects that are helping to activate Imagine Austin through an annual "Spotlights" initiative. In fall 2016, the Compact and Connected Priority Program Team recognized four projects for advancing the Imagine Austin vision.

COMPACT + CONNECTED

The past year has marked a significant milestone for the CodeNEXT project. The first public review draft of the Land Development Code text was released on January 30, 2017. In April of 2017 the first draft map of the proposed CodeNEXT zones applied across the city was released, and then an update to the draft map was released later in May. Then in September of 2017, the CodeNEXT team released a second draft of the text and map after reviewing and considering thousands of comments from the initial phase of public engagement.

The comment period for Draft 2 will be open through the end of October 2017 and will be followed by Draft 3, the staff recommendation, by the end of November.

BY THE NUMBERS:

60
Office Hours to discuss text and map

30
meetings with small stakeholder groups

11
Council District-based map meetings

5
CodeText meetings

5
Code Talks

4
Code Advisory Group meetings

3,410
users on the CiviComment text comment tool

4,158
comments received on the CodeNEXT text

2,036
votes on individual comments

1,365
comments on the CodeNEXT draft map

700+
comments received at codenext@austintexas.gov

60
position papers received about draft text and map

CODENEXT
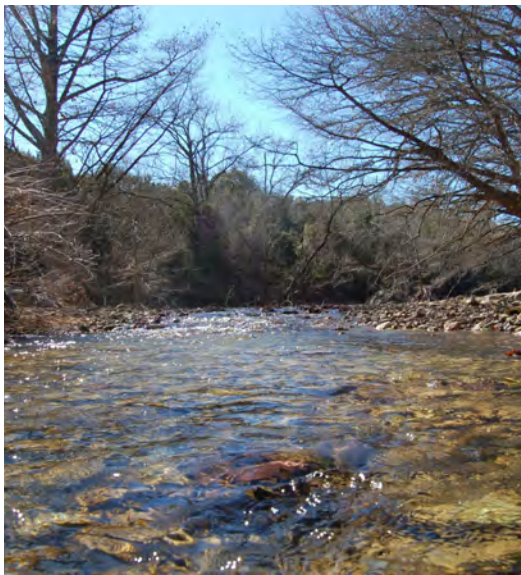
Sustainable Water Management

In May 2016, Austin City Council adopted water conservation code revisions that made permanent no more than one-day-per-week outdoor watering restrictions for automatic irrigation systems. The revised code, which has five stages, includes options for increased flexibility by allowing up to two days per week watering for residential hose-end sprinklers and no restrictions on drip irrigation in the "Conservation Stage". Outdoor uses account for approximately 22% of Austin's water use (based on average use estimates for years 2013, 2014, and 2015). As one of the fastest growing cities in the nation, these measures strengthen our community's long-term water sustainability, which helps maintain preparedness for changing climate conditions and drought.

Climate Resilience

Austin Water (AW) was invited to join the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA) which is a collaborative of large water utilities dedicated to enhancing climate change research and improving water management decision making. AW is the first utility to be added to the membership within the last ten years. The utility is involved in inter-departmental processes dedicated to climate resilience and adaptation. Using the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT), AW is assessing asset vulnerability to climate change and strategizing measures to protect the utility's assets from climate-related risk.

Completion of the Lower Onion buyouts

Imagine Austin calls for policies to "reduce the threats flooding poses to public safety and private property." In 2017, the Watershed Protection Department and the Office of Real Estate Services completed the acquisition of all 483 properties within the Onion Creek Corps Project Area. This accomplishment represents the culmination of an 18-year partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to acquire flood-prone properties in lower Onion Creek's 25-year floodplain and relocate the affected families to safe areas outside of the floodplain. WPD is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to restore 190 acres of the project area to a natural state, with an additional 100 acres designated for recreational uses.

CodeNEXT Beneficial Reuse & Flood Mitigation Proposal

City staff solicited community feedback for CodeNEXT with respect to flooding, water quality, and water conservation--all goals of Imagine Austin--through a series of Green Infrastructure Working Group public meetings. The results were included in this year's public draft of CodeNEXT to address flooding, sustainably manage our water resources, and enhance resiliency to climate change. The proposals will (1) require redeveloping sites to mitigate their fair share of downstream flooding, and (2) require development projects to use stormwater beneficially on-site by either soaking it into the ground or using it to offset potable water use.

SUSTAINABLY MANAGE OUR WATER

Parkland Dedication Ordinance

In 2016, the City Council adopted sweeping changes to the Parkland Dedication Ordinance with the goal of establishing more parks in areas with little open space; incentivize public space in new development projects; and expand the number of and types of parks throughout the city. The ordinance also created a new Park Development Fee, the proceeds of which can be used for improvements to new or existing parks in proximity to new development. The Parks Department adopted Parkland Dedication Operating Procedures Rules to implement the changes and revise the Deficient Park Area Map to incorporate provisions of the new ordinance. The Deficient Park Area Map is now used as a tool to determine if parkland is needed in residential development with little public open space.

Green Streets – Todd Lane Improvement project

The Todd Lane Improvement project was completed in the Fall of 2016. The project proposed an additional 6.8 acres of both new and redeveloped impervious cover to the existing transportation infrastructure. The City of Austin Land Development Code requires onsite water quality control(s) for the treatment of stormwater. Typically, this requirement has been met with a single, end-of-pipe, water quality control. Because the acquisition of additional right-of-way made a typical, end-of-pipe solution cost prohibitive distributed green stormwater infrastructure controls had to be considered. The resultant design is comprised of seven rain gardens and two partial sedimentation/biofiltration ponds. The biofiltration ponds and rain gardens capture stormwater and provide filtration. They filter out pollutants including fertilizers, pesticides, oil, heavy metals, and other chemicals, and enhance the baseflow to the nearby streams. This project received a 'silver' certification from Greenroads International, which offers a rating system for sustainability in roadway projects.

Cities Connecting Children to Nature

In March 2016, the City of Austin was one of six cities nationwide selected to receive a $25,000 planning grant from the project partners for Cities Connecting Children to Nature. The grant funded a six month strategic planning process that brought together representatives from ten City departments, local ISDs, the health sector, and nonprofit organizations in order to create a 3-year Implementation Plan to identify priority strategies where City leadership can administer support in terms of providing abundant and equitable access to nature for the children of Austin, with a specific focus on children in low-income communities and children of color.

Through 2019, Austin's Leadership Team will plan and execute the priority strategies, which include greening school yards, policy tracking, program and park activation, and a citywide public awareness campaign. Progress will be measured and assessed on a quarterly basis with metrics based on duration of children's outdoor play time, attitudinal change, and marketing impressions.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Midnight Pitch LIVE in ATX - Alibaba Pitch Sessions

Discussions started during the trade delegation mission to China last summer led to the first pilot event in the United States using livestreaming technology to give local small businesses an opportunity to launch their brands with the world's largest e-commerce company, Alibaba. The event is a good model for promoting Austin and Texas business abroad while creating opportunities and pathways for local small businesses to expand into international markets.

Veterans Business Loan

Together with Austin Mayor Steve Adler, the City of Austin Economic Development Department and Human Resources Department - Office of Veteran Affairs, announced a $250,000 micro loan pool available for veterans to start or expand an existing business locally in Austin. Loans are available up to $35,000 per applicant. The program is part of the Family Business Loan Program (FBLP), a public-private partnership between the City of Austin Economic Development Department and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which offers a low-interest rate loan and low borrower equity requirements to help create or expand a business.

New Online Tool for Small Businesses

New online tool for Small Businesses - Q&A platform will help with development related questions.
The Development Services Department and Economic Development Department collaborated on a new online tool, Smart Start, to help small business owners navigate the development process. Smart Start is an online Q&A forum where small business owners can explore information about zoning, permitting, and construction regulations before they lease or purchase a property. Users have the ability to post questions directly to staff for response, or browse through Q&A's posted by other users.

Launch of the FastForward Initiative

The City of Austin Economic Development Department is investing in the growth of Austin's small businesses by offering the FASTFORWARD Entrepreneur Training Program to selected businesses. The FASTFORWARD program is an intensive 12-week training initiative developed and led by the IC2 Institute of The University of Texas at Austin, based on its extensive experience accelerating entrepreneurial success and wealth in Austin and throughout the world. The program is offered to existing small businesses headquartered in Austin that embrace innovation.

ECONOMY, WORKFORCE, EDUCATION

The Cultural Asset Mapping Project (CAMP)

The CAMP is an initiative of the Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Development Department, which took to the road to map the places and resources that are important to Austin's cultural identity and creativity. During the summer of 2016, CAMP went to each of the 10 council districts asking community members to identify what places and resources they considered to be their cultural assets. With help from community members, CAMP compiled a directory of over 3,000 points depicting cultural assets like theaters, music venues, artist studios, and much more. The maps and directory created through CAMP will inform future planning efforts for the development of Austin's creative spaces and cultural assets, while recognizing existing and potential cultural hubs. A sneak peek at the dataset is available on the CAMP website.

Engaging with the Community

Community Engagment is a natural resource in the Parks and Recreation Department, especially when it comes to celebrating Austin's cultural diversity and arts. Our World Family Festival, held in late October 2016 at the Zilker Hillside Theater, was a City-wide multicultural music festival that brought all the City's diverse cultural centers into one event together. Additionally, the Dougherty Arts Center sought to deepen its engagement with artists by opening its new Artist Resource Center, providing information and services to artists who are checking for grants, jobs or commissions, meet with staff about developing their portfolio, or use the space to meet and collaborate with other artists. The Emma S. Barrientos received kudos from the Smithsonian Institution for its visionary community engagement activities that accompanied their first Smithsonian exhibit Bittersweet Harvest: The Bracero Program 1942-1964 which included the locally developed companion exhibition Taking It To The Road.

Creative Economy Priority Program

This priority program team completed its first five years under the leadership of Janet Seibert with eight priority actions initiated and one item completed. Work will be sustained on these eight actions in perpetuity while another six action items have been prioritized for the team to tackle over the next five years. CEPP has added several new team members including a representative from the Airport and the Executive Directors of several non-profits who will assist with interfacing with the private sector. The six new focus areas include concerted efforts to promote public art, develop cultural tourism, promote the use of non-traditional venues for performances and exhibits and the development and expansion of arts spaces.

CREATIVE ECONOMY

Strategic Housing Blueprint

Austin City Council adopted the City's first Strategic Housing Blueprint, which seeks to create 60,000 affordable units in the next decade for households earning approximately $60,000 or less per year. This will be achieved by integrating policy initiatives and leveraging community partnerships to achieve the goal. The Blueprint identifies five community values and provides thoughtful strategies to address each: Prevent households from being priced out of Austin; Foster equitable, integrated, and diverse communities; Invest in housing for those most in need; Create new and affordable housing choices for all Austinites in all parts of town; Help Austinites reduce their household costs.
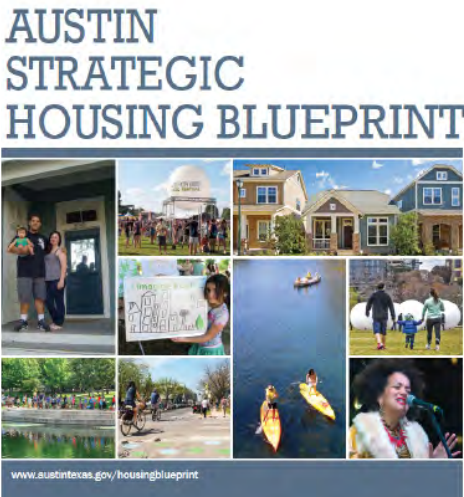
The Affordable Housing Bonds in Action: Bluebonnet Studios

Affordable housing bonds were used to help fund Foundation Communities' Bluebonnet Studios, an affordable housing development for individuals living at or below 30%-50% of the median family income ($16,350-$27,250 per year). This facility has on-site services for residents such as case management, mental health counseling, life skills training, budgeting and money management, advocacy for benefits, computer literacy, and vocational and supported employment services. The development was partially funded with $3.7 million in City of Austin voter-approved 2013 General Obligation Bonds, which leveraged other funding.

Austin wins $5.2 million grant to tackle youth homelessness

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded Austin a $5.2 million grant to tackle youth homelessness, a funding resource that could potentially bring new housing options and an emergency shelter specifically for youths ages 18 to 24. Youths experiencing homelessness confront a unique set of challenges compared with other populations who experience homelessness. Many local nonprofits and service agencies will work together with a recently formed youth advisory council made up of homeless and formerly homeless youth to develop a comprehensive plan to end youth homelessness in Austin.

HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY

"Fresh for Less" Healthy Food Access Projects

139 Farm Stand and Mobile Market Operational Days have taken place to date and have resulted in over 1700 customer encounters. From October to December 2016, 75% of participants surveyed said their ability to save money on fresh produce had increased somewhat or greatly because of the farm stands or mobile markets, and 69% reported the amount of fresh produce they ate increased somewhat or greatly.

Improve Diabetes Prevention and Management

In the past year, 377 inviduals have participated in the City's diabetes program, and over 80% of participants have reported making a lifestyle change as a results of these classes. There was also a measurable improvement in quality of life among participants with diabetes, with a drop of 58% in diabetes management-related distress. As a result of these classes, one participant said they "Eat healthier, (do) daily exercise, manage glucose levels, and control daily stressors. I plan to now sign up for healthy cooking classes thanks to the instructor."

Free Health and Fitness classes in City Parks

The Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Austin Parks Foundation and the Austin Public Health Department, has created more healthy recreation opportunities by offering free weekly fitness classes at elevent recreation centers in north, south, and east Austin and 2 parks. Classes include Zumba, Bootcamps, Walking, Dance, Kid's Yoga, Fitness, and Yoga. In addition, monthly free "Walk with a Doc" programs are provided at trails around the City. The monthly program provides fun group recreation and healthy information and snacks. These programs are organized by PARD's newly-created Health Promotions Unit.
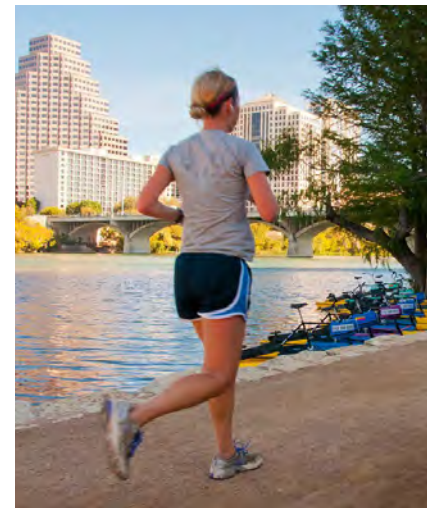
Health and Safety Transportation Improvements

The Austin Transportation Department's Active Transportation and Street Design Division focuses on redesigning city streets to make them safer, more comfortable, and more convenient for people walking, biking, and travelling by all modes. In the past year they have established a Pedestrian Program and installed a total of 40 complete streets safety projects throughout Austin making progress towards improved safety for pedestrians and bicyclists while encouraging biking and walking as affordable, environmentally-friendly transportation options and a healthy daily habit.

Since the Vision Zero Action Plan's Council adoption in May 2016 set a goal of eliminating deaths and serious injuries from Austin's streets by 2025, the Vision Zero Program was created to oversee its implementation. The plan outlines five focus areas for action: evaluation, enforcement, engineering, education, and policy. Early successes include *Vision Zero in Action*, a coordinated education and enforcement effort with Austin Police Dept., installation of numerous intersection and street safety improvements, an interactive input map, and the launch of a citywide multimedia campaign.

HEALTHY AUSTIN

Chapter Three

Complete Community Indicators

Collecting consistent and thorough data on a regular basis is important to measuring Imagine Austin's progress. Numeric indicators are used in plan implementation and monitoring to measure whether or not the goals and vision of the comprehensive plan are being met.

41 indicators are presented in the 2017 Imagine Austin Progress Report. These indicators were chosen based on their relevance to the comprehensive plan, the availability of data sources, and their relationship to the work of the Imagine Austin vision, Priority Programs, policies, and actions. The Imagine Austin indicators have been modified since the adoption of the plan in 2012 as new data and measurement techniques have become available or as circumstances have changed. For a summary of all changes made to the indicators, visit the appendix.

June 2017 marked five years since the adoption of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, which triggered the first evaluation of the indicators chosen to measure the progress of the plan.

The Imagine Austin indicators are grouped by their relevance to the 8 Imagine Austin Priority Programs. However, some indicators may have overlapping relevance to more than one priority program. This chapter is best accompanied by the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard (austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators), which contains detailed descriptions, visualizations, analysis of the results, and data sources for each of the indicators. The full spreadsheet of indicator results can also be found in the appendix.

we're improving

#8   community and school gardens per 1,000 people
#35   development within the 100-year floodplain
#36   residents living within walking distance to parks
#37   total water pumpage in gallons per capita per day
#38   residential water consumption in gallons per capita per day
#39   environmental integrity index of stream water quality
#41   amount of permanently preserved land
#70   percentage of street frontage with sidewalks
#71   bicycle lane miles and percentage of streets
#85   median family income
#93   unemployment rate
#96   small business growth
#102 percent of residents with health care coverage
#116 property crime rate per 1,000 population
#118 number of annual cultural contracts applications
#119 participation in arts, culture, and small business workshops hosted by the city of austin
#120 overall investment in the arts by the city of austin

we haven't changed

#5   residential vacancy rate
#6   cost-burdened residential units
#11   homeless count
#18.2 prevalence of tobacco use
#18.3 prevalence of smoking
#18.4 prevalence of cardiovascular disease
#18.5 prevalence of diabetes
#40   tree canopy coverage
#83   intersection density
#114 population that performs the recommended amount of physical activity
#115 violent crime rate per 1,000 population

wrong direction

#3   median housing values
#4   median gross rent
#17   number of affordable residential units funded
#18.1 prevalence of obesity
#26   developed land area
#34   development within the edwards aquifer zones
#66   annual unlinked transit passenger trips
#67   vehicle miles traveled per capita
#77   percentage of trips by biking and walking
#117 transportation system total annual delay
#121 percent of new residential units within growth centers and corridors
#122 percent of new non-residential development within growth centers and corridors

insufficient data

#88   ratio of jobs to households

Indicators Overview

It is helpful to keep in mind that this is relatively early in the plan's time horizon, and in fact, many of the indicators have limited data due to data collection and release cycles. Currently, many of the year 5 indicator results function best as establishing baselines and precedents.

Note that the "improving" or "wrong direction" classification used on the preceding page is relative to the indicator's relationship with the goals and objectives of the Imagine Austin comprehensive plan and may not be considered similarly "better" or "worse" in other contexts. Each indicator is best understood with additional context such as what is provided in the following pages and in the Imagine Austin Indicator Dashboard.

The indicators attributed to the plan also have varying degrees to which the City of Austin as an organization can affect them. Some of the indicators are directly responsive to City regulation and investment, while others have only minimal reactivity to the City's influence. Taken as a whole, they can provide a gauge for measuring if we are making progress towards our goals from Imagine Austin, but they do not paint the complete picture. Although it is important to be aware of the status of these indicators and to use them to pursue data-driven solutions, it is also important to take them in context especially with more focused lenses on equity and sustainability. It is our hope, that with sufficient and appropriate data and analysis, the Imagine Austin indicators can be used to inform the pursuit of effective and efficient strategies to tackling our biggest challenges as well as to help us understand if the methods we are employing to implement the plan are achieving the desired outcomes.

Providing clear and accurate data to the public is not only important for establishing transparency and accountability to the community we serve, but also because the City cannot reach the vision laid out in Imagine Austin alone. We will continue to rely on strong partnerships with Austin's greatest asset - our people. By sharing the status of these indicators, we encourage Austinites to reflect on their own community and to take a proactive stance for improving them.

See the Imagine Austin indicator dashboard at austintexas.gov/imagineaustin/indicators for the complete set of indicators, data, methodology, data sources, and analysis. The indicator dashboard also contains important context and breakdowns of the indicator results that reveal inequities and disproportionalities by race, income, or geography.

#26 developed land area

Source: City of Austin

2010 development footprint
Newly developed land 2010-2016
Undeveloped land
Open Space
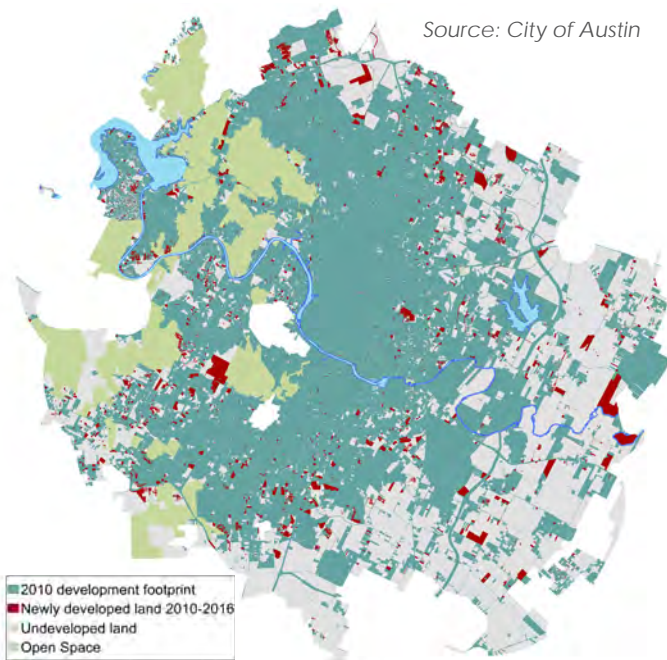
This indicator tracks the total developed land area of the Imagine Austin study area and is a way to measure sprawl. "Developed" land is any land that has been improved, either with buildings or other functions.

Imagine Austin calls for most new development to occur within the growth centers and corridors, and as infill development, while protecting agricultural, natural, and environmentally sensitive areas.

About 50 square miles of area within the City and ETJ have been developed between 2008 and 2016, for a total of 372.1 square miles. While a majority of new development occurred in activity centers and corridors since 2012, we continue to see sprawl development of large tracks of previously undeveloped or agricultural land. The city's developed area has continued to expand since the adoption of Imagine Austin in 2012, but the rate of expansion has slowed since 2010. In 2012, the annualized rate of expansion of developed land area was 1.59%, whereas the most recent rate of expansion from 2016 was 1.27%. The slower pace of sprawl is encouraging, but also points to the fact that developable land is growing scarce. Continuing a sprawl development pattern will move us further away from our community vision of a compact and connected city and would further exacerbate issues like traffic congestion, pollution, and financially unsustainable infrastructure and service costs.

Over 60% of the Imagine Austin study area is now developed and much of the remaining 40% of undeveloped land is used for agricultural purposes, or has environmental limitations such as floodplains, steep slopes, or riparian areas.

#66 annual unlinked transit passenger trips

Source: Federal Transit Administration
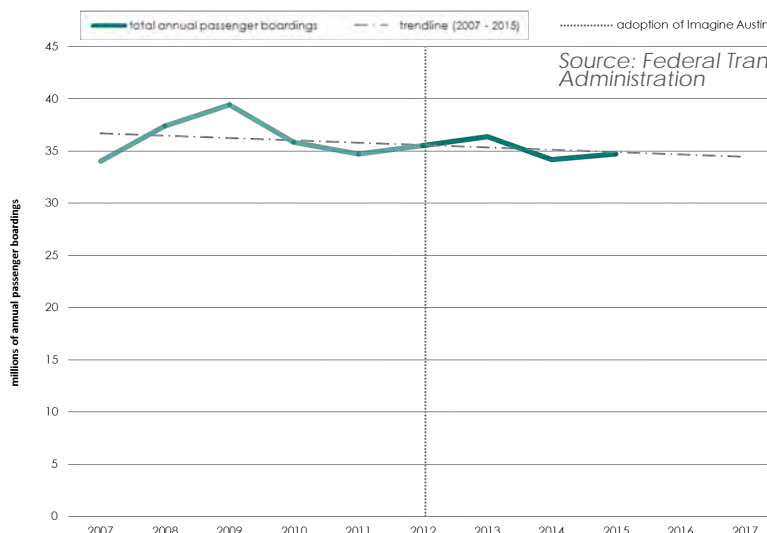
This indicator tracks the total number of passenger boardings on all Capital metro public transit options.

Imagine Austin seeks to increase public transit ridership by expanding service to activity centers and increasing the effiency of the current system.

The number of unlinked transit passenger trips has fluctuated over the last five years, but an overally decline. The most recent data show a slightly higher number of annual trips in 2015 than in 2007, but still lower than the 9 year average of 35.8 million.

The trend would suggest that ridership will continue to decline; however, Capital Metro's Connections 2025 Service Plan was designed to increase ridership through expansion of a high frequency network and other system improvements.

Transit ridership will be monitored continually, as it is still unknown what impact factors such as the rise of Transportation Network Companies (TNC) and car sharing services, the continued decrease in gas prices, the development of housing in and near activity centers, and the changing affordability of the housing market will have on our transit system.

COMPACT & CONNECTED

vehicle miles traveled per capita **#67**

This indicator is an estimate of daily vehicle miles traveled on public roads divided by the total population.

Reducing VMT is a major goal of Imagine Austin. Increased vehicle use means increased pollution, congestion, delay, and a general breakdown and overuse of our transportation infrastrucutre. It is a reflection of sprawl development, separation of home and work, and poorly designed infrastructure.

VMT per capita was declining steadily from 2007 to 2012, but has increased each year since 2012. The most recent figure from 2014 shows daily VMT per capita at 16.34 miles.

Source: Texas Transportation Institute
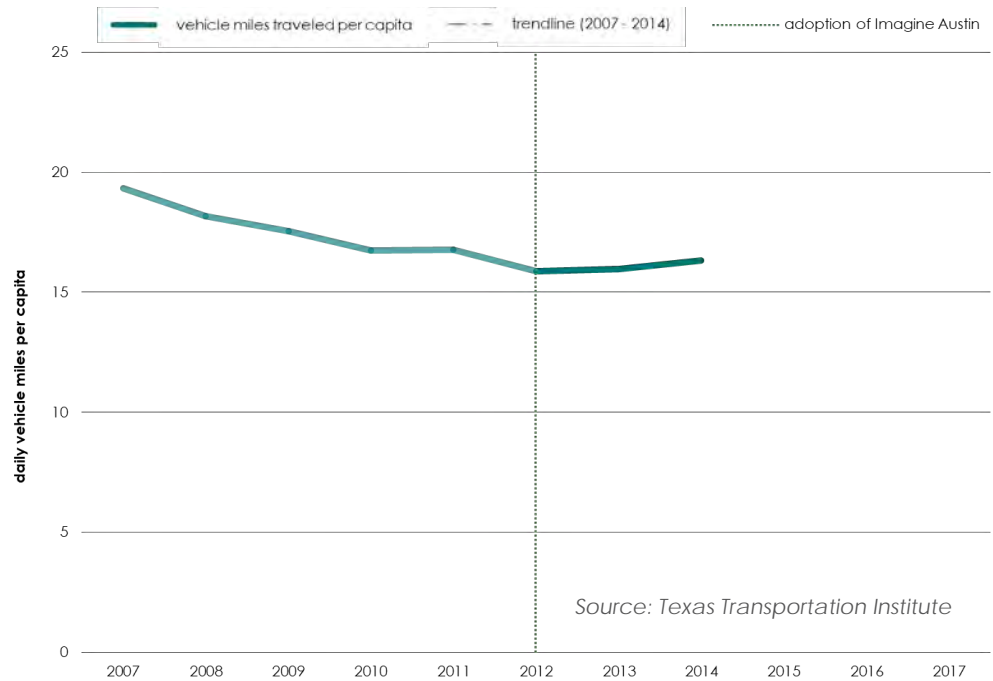
Note: VMT is measured based on the overall amount of travel on roadways and may include the movement of frieght as well as the movement of people through the area. VMT typically tracks closely with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and in some cases, when VMT is an area drops, it is due to a negative fluctuation in the economy, and not always because of a modal shift or a decrease in the distance between origins and destinations.

percentage of street frontage with sidewalks **#70**

This indicator measures the percent of street frontage with sidewalks by dividing the actual linear miles of sidewalks by the potential linear miles of sidewalks within the city limits of Austin.

Sidewalks increase access and connectivity to jobs and services, and provide a number of benefits by improving walkability, which contributes to health, reduces emissions, and can add to the quality of life in a community.

Source: City of Austin
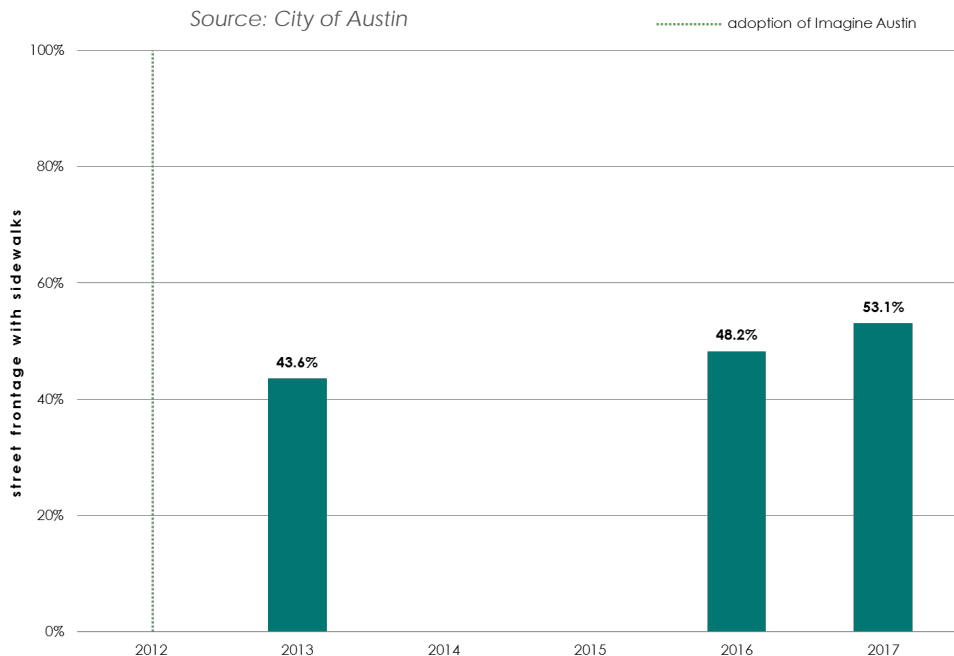
Sidewalk coverage has improved from 2013 to 2017, increasing from 43.6% to 53.1%. This improvement is likely due to a combination of factors, including implementation of new sidewalks through the Public Works Sidewalk Program, implementation of the Complete Streets Policy, and construction of new required sidewalks concurrent with development projects.

COMPACT & CONNECTED

#71 bicycle lane miles and percent of streets

Legend: percent of arterials — bike lane miles — ⋯⋯ adoption of Imagine Austin

Bar values: 34.4% (2014), 35.4% (2015), 37.6% (2016)

Left axis: linear miles of bike lanes (0, 75, 150, 225, 300)
Right axis: percent of arterials with bike lanes (0%, 25%, 50%, 75%, 100%)

Source: City of Austin
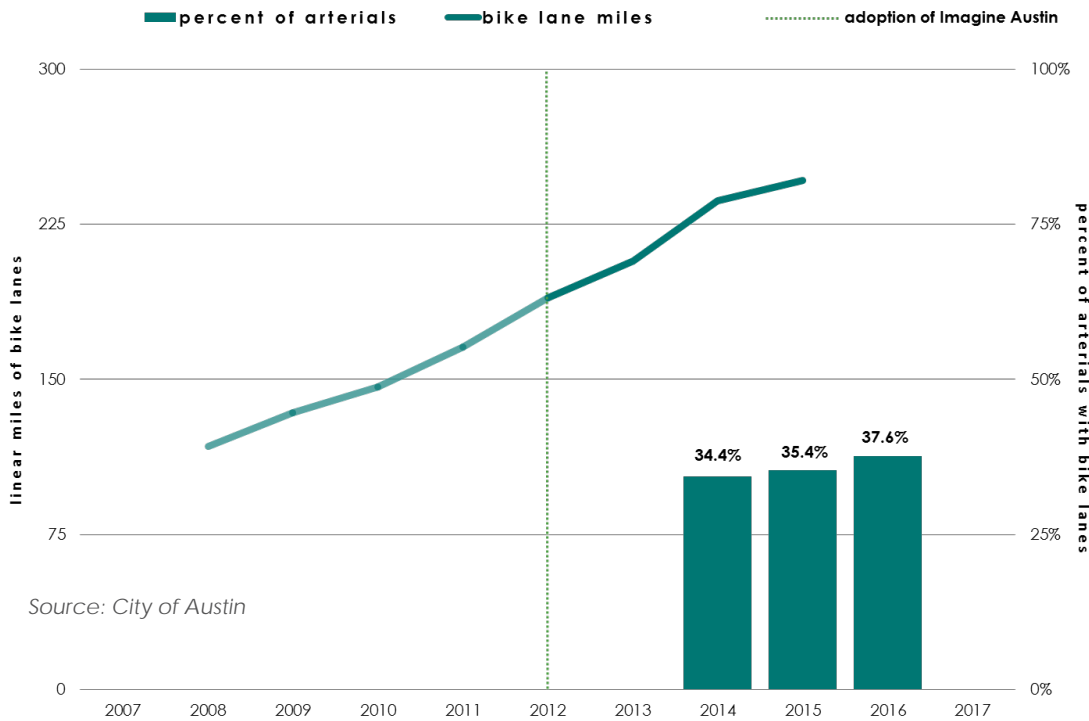
This indicator measures the total linear miles of bicycle lanes within the city limits as well as the percent of arterial street miles with bicycle lanes.

Bicycle lanes increase access and connectivity to jobs and services, and can contributed to improved health, reduced emissions, and improved quality of life in a community.

The City of Austin has continued to increase linear milage of bicycle lanes from year to year since 2012.

These results show that the City continues to expand its bicycle network. While the majority of streets do no serve all modes, we are consistently increasing the percentage of our streets with multimodal qualities.

#77 percentage of trips by biking and walking

Legend: trips by biking — trips by walking — ⋯⋯ adoption of Imagine Austin

Left axis: percent of commute trips (0%, 1%, 2%, 3%, 4%, 5%)

Source: American Community Survey
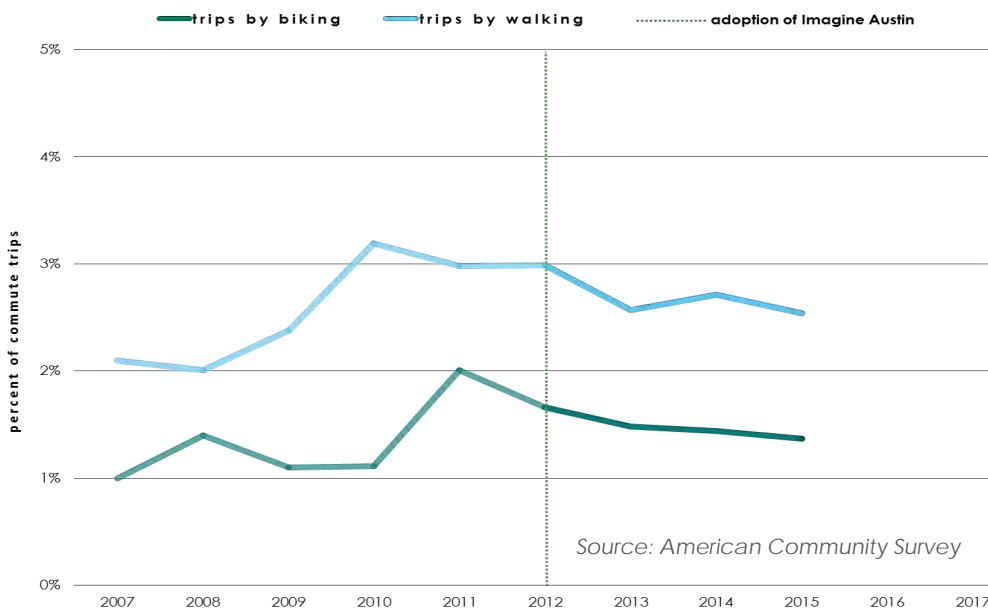
This indicator measures the percent of commuting trips made using a bicycle or walking out of all means of transportation for workers ages 16 and older.

Imagine Austin calls for investment in compact and connected development, including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and greater use of the infrastructure through alternative forms of transportation.

Although there was an overall increase from 2008 to 2011, the percentage of citywide bicycle commuting trips has decreased from year to year since 2012. This decrease is potentially correlated with an increase in the number of annual vehicle trips, which is influenced by population growth, annexations, and lower gas prices. The percentage of citywide walked commuting trips has fluctuated since 2008, with an overall drop since 2012.

Central city bicycle and walking mode shares have both shown more consistent increases since 2009 with central city bicycle commuting trips reaching 5.5% and walking trips reaching nearly 8%.

COMPACT & CONNECTED

intersection density #83

This indicator measures the number of street intersections per square mile. For this calculation, all intersections are weighted evenly, regardless of the number of connecting streets.

Imagine Austin calls for new development that is more walkable and less dependent upon automobile travel. Intersection density has a significant influence on walkability and VMT.

There has been a slow but steady increase in the citywide average intersection density from 34.3 intersections per square mile to the current 35.5. Some of the increase is due to developments that are more walkable, such as Mueller, but many new developments are still designed for reliance on automobiles to get to work, shopping, and recreation.

Intersection density is a function of neighborhood design, jurisdictional changes, and the proportion of the city that is developed. The overall intersection density figure for the city does not reflect the variation in intersection densities throughout the city. Many of the oldest parts of Austin have around 200 intersections per square mile, among the highest in town.

Legend:
- 0
- > 0 to 75 intersections/sq. mile
- > 75 to 90
- > 90 to 140
- > 140 to 200
- > 200
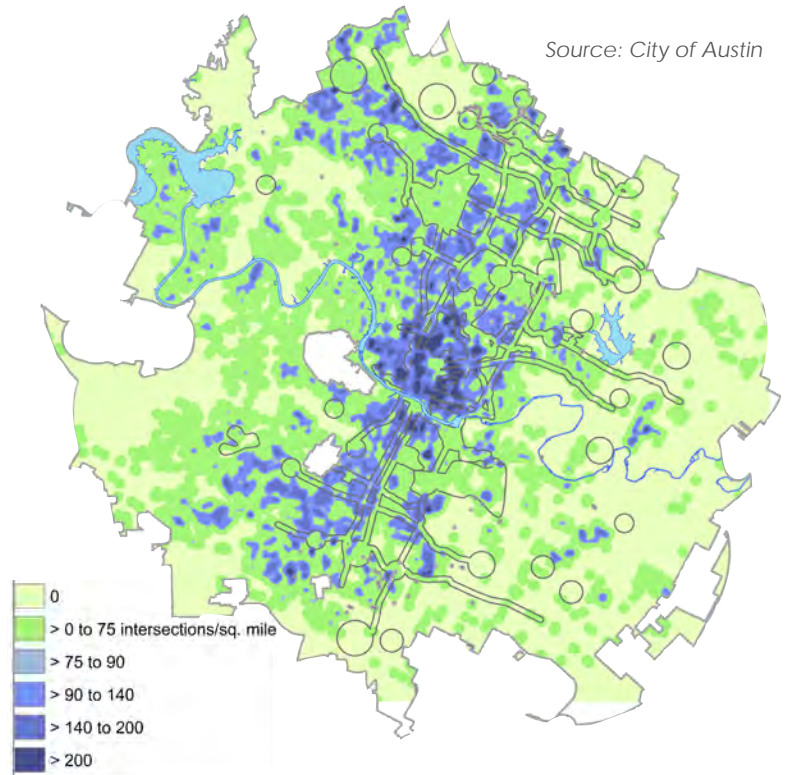
transportation system total annual delay #117

This indicator measures the cumulative travel time above that needed to complete a trip at free-flow speeds.

Transportation system delay represents the overall size of the congestion problem in Austin. High system delay is related to our auto-reliance and the sprawling distances between where people live, work, and relax.

From 2009 to 2014, there has been a distinct upward trend in the total transportation system delay annually. This trend is reflective of the continued population growth the city and metropolitan region have seen over the same time period.

Legend: cumulative delay — adoption of Imagine Austin

The ranking of total delay usually follows the population ranking in that larger regions usually have more delay.

For context, the annual delay per peak hours auto commuter was 52 hours in 2014, which is up six hours from the delay per commuter in 2009 (46 hours).
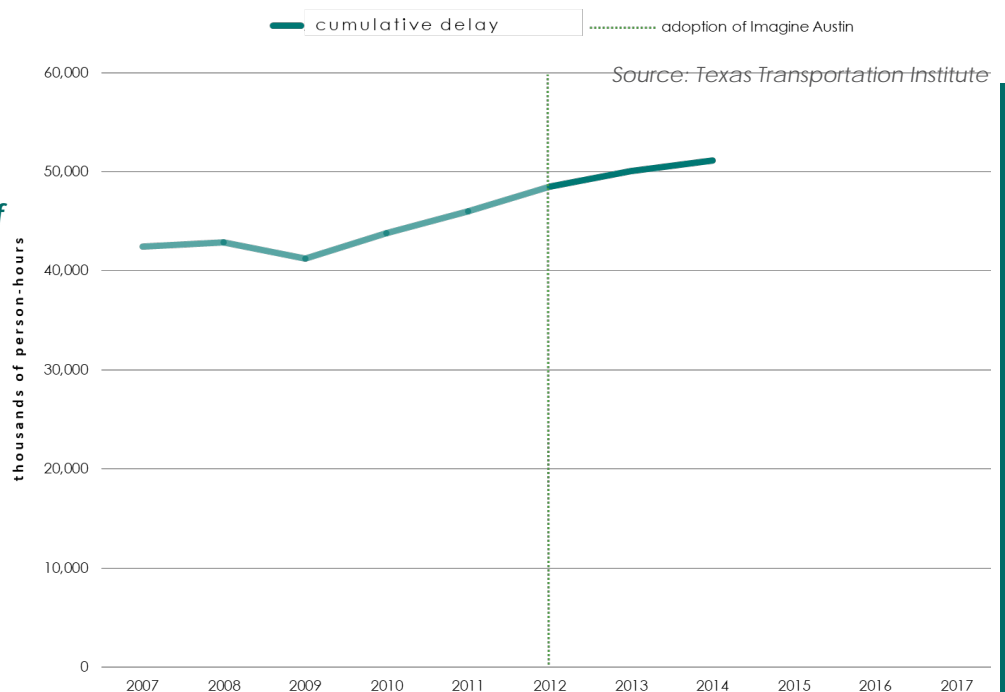
COMPACT & CONNECTED

■ new units within growth areas   ■ new units outside of growth areas   ▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪ adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: City of Austin

percent of new housing units

Year	new units outside	new units within
2007	42.4%	57.61%
2008	51.8%	48.19%
2009	69.0%	31.02%
2010	64.7%	35.35%
2011	58.2%	41.82%
2012	29.7%	70.35%
2013	35.0%	65.05%
2014	40.2%	59.84%
2015	43.0%	57.04%
2016	43.7%	56.35%
2017		
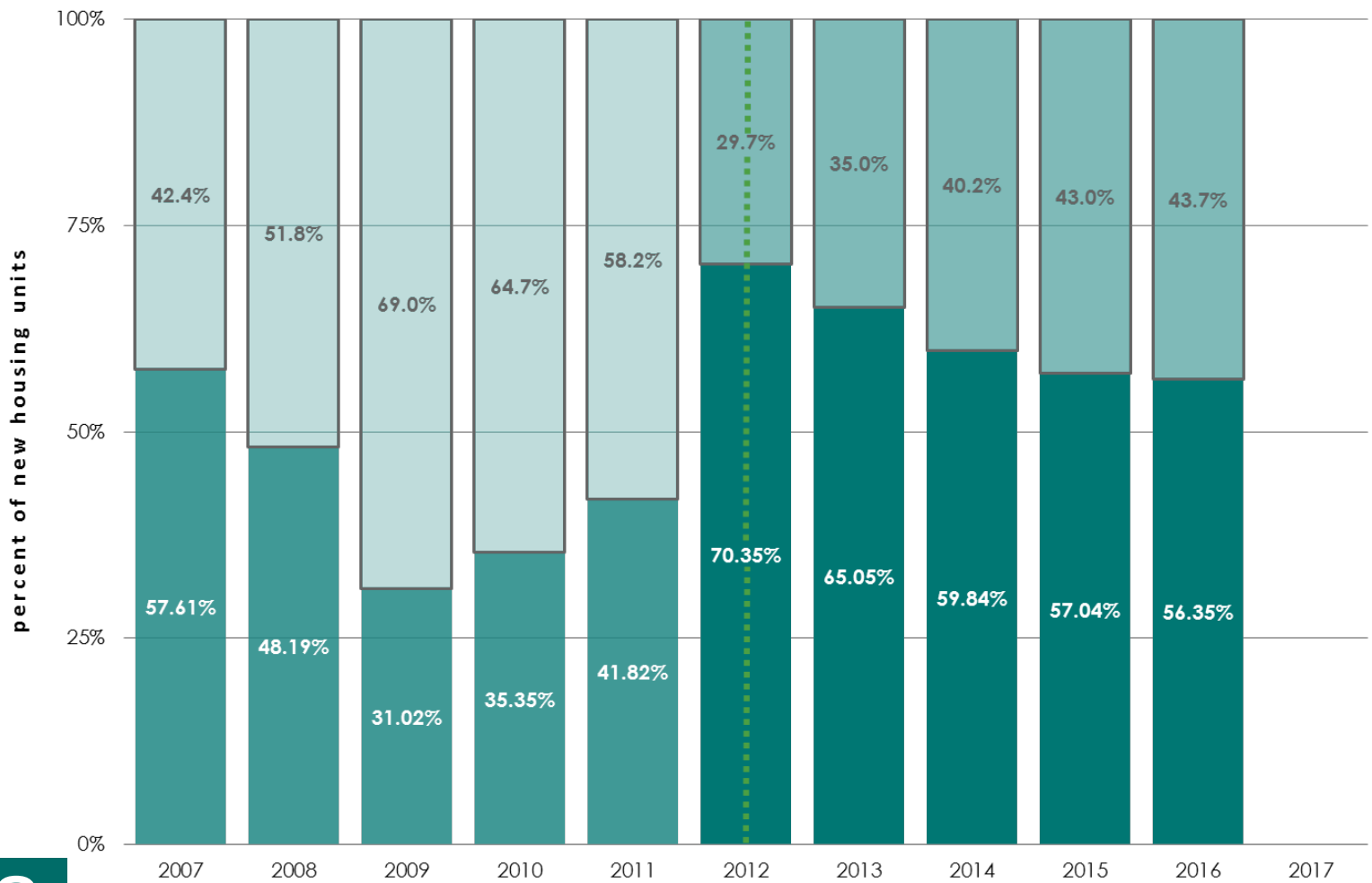
This indicator measures the percentage of all new residential units issued permits in the Imagine Austin activity centers and corridors as compared to the rest of Austin in a given year.

Imagine Austin calls for a majority of growth to occur in centers and corridors.

On average, since the plan's adoption in 2012, about 68% of new residential growth has occurred in the Imagine Austin activity centers and corridors.

Another way to gauge residential development activity in the centers and corridors is to compare density of new residential units. In total, the Imagine Austin activity centers and corridors make up about 71 square miles while Austin's total land area is about 325 square miles. The density of new residential units issued permits in the Imagine Austin centers and corridors in 2016 was 655 new units per square mile or a little more than 1 new unit per acre. In comparison, the rest of Austin added 252 new units per square mile or 0.39 new units per acre in the same time period.

Despite a lack of policy or incentivization of development in the Imagine Austin growth concept areas, most new housing units in the past five years have been built within the centers and corridors.

COMPACT & CONNECTED

percent of new non-residential development within the growth centers and corridors

■ development within growth areas ■ development outside of growth areas ••••••• adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: City of Austin

percent of new development square footage

Year	Within	Outside
2007	64.80%	35.2%
2008	68.30%	31.7%
2009	54.20%	45.8%
2010	62.80%	37.2%
2011	62.30%	37.7%
2012	80.40%	19.6%
2013	67.80%	32.2%
2014	70.10%	29.9%
2015	74.90%	25.1%
2016	67.30%	32.7%
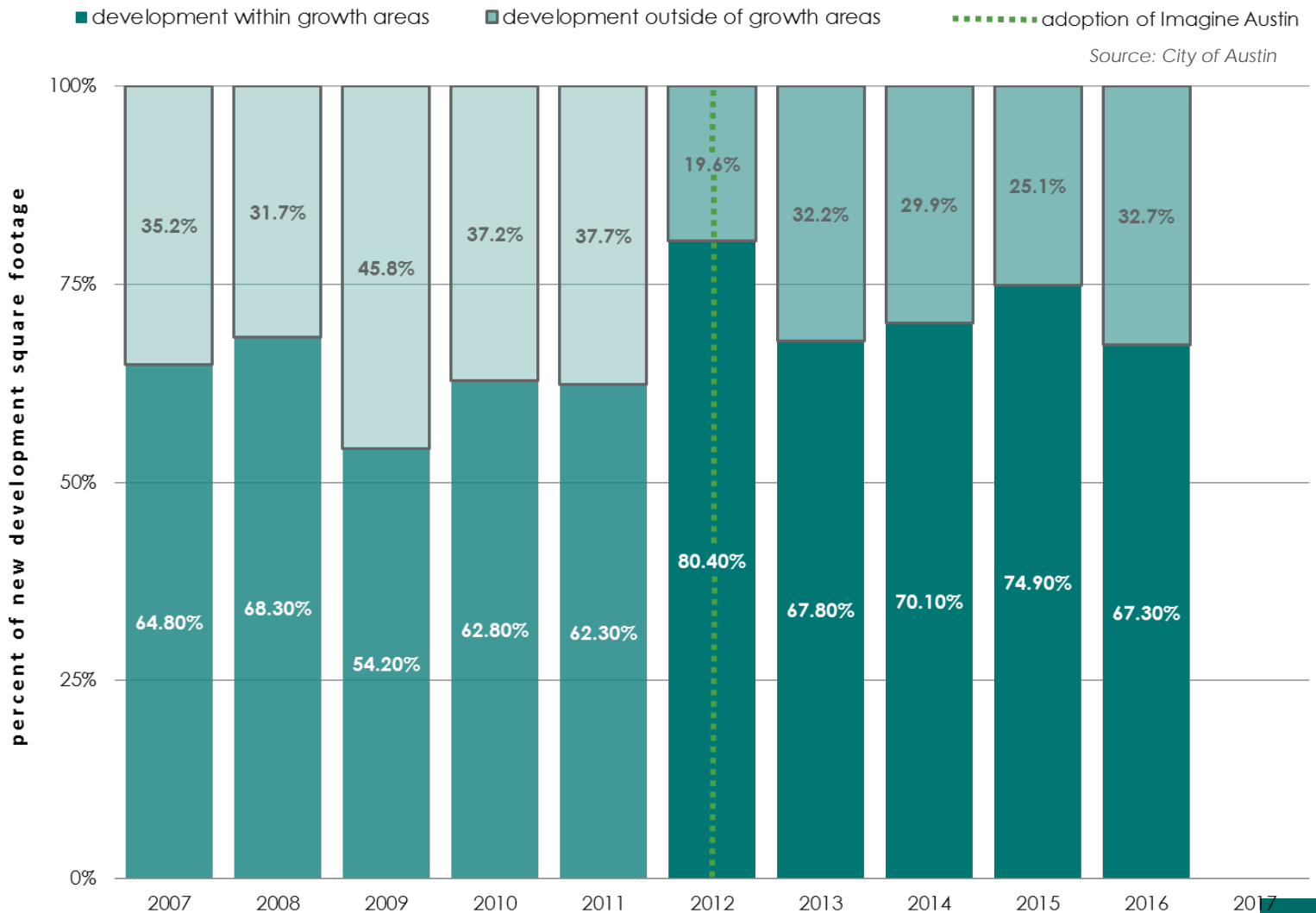
This indicator measures the percentage of new non-residential development square footage issued permits within the Imagine Austin activity centers and corridors as compared to the rest of Austin in a given year.

Imagine Austin calls for a majority of growth to occur in centers and corridors.

On average, since the plan's adoption in 2012, about 72% of new non-residential development (by square footage) has occurred in the centers and corridors.

Another way to gauge non-residential development activity in the centers and corridors is to compare density of new residential units. In total, the Imagine Austin growth centers and corridors make up about 71 square miles while Austin's total land area is about 325 square miles. The density of new non-residential development issued permits in the Imagine Austin centers and corridors in 2016 was 250,836 square feet per square mile or about 2.75% of one acre. In comparison, the rest of Austin had a density of 250,836 square feet of non-residential development per square mile or less than 1% of one acre in the same time period.

Despite a lack of policy or incentivization of development in the Imagine Austin growth concept areas, most new non-residential development in the past five years has been built within the centers and corridors.

COMPACT & CONNECTED

#34 development within the edwards aquifer zones

Source: City of Austin
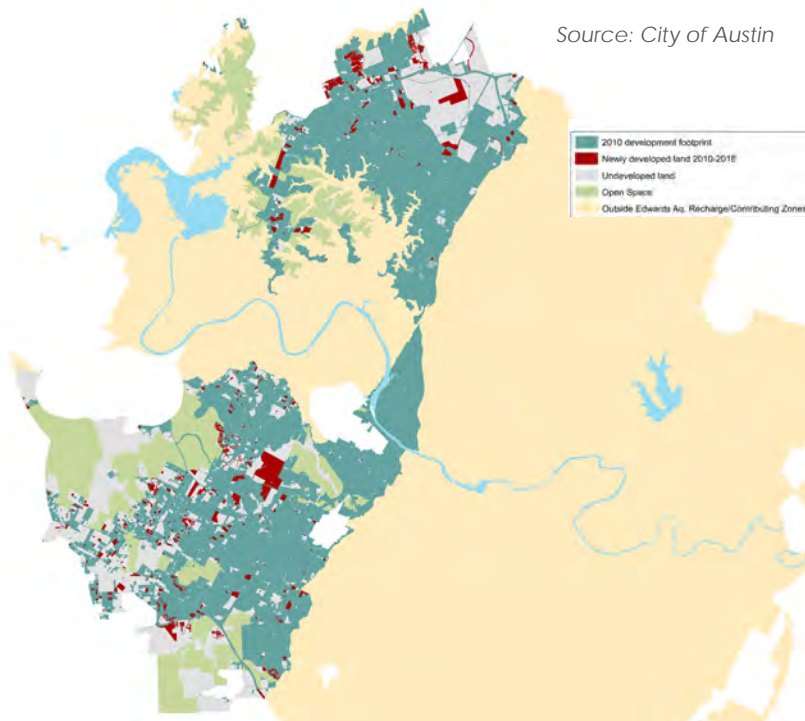
This indicator measures the total developed land area inside the City of Austin and ETJ portion of the Edwards Aquifer Recharge and Contributing Zones. The Edwards Aquifer is an important and environmentally sensitive asset that feeds numerous springs in Austin, including Barton Springs. It also supplies water to the Colorado River and supports several endangered species.

Imagine Austin calls for directing growth away from the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zones and other water-supply watersheds.

Approximately 14 square miles of land has been developed since 2008 in the City of Austin jurisdiction (full, limited, and extra-territorial) portion of the Edwards Aquifer. This is approximately a quarter of the development that has occurred over this period in the entire Austin jurisdiction.

Over 50% of the Edwards Aquifer Zone within the city is now developed.

#35 development within the 100-year floodplain

Source: City of Austin
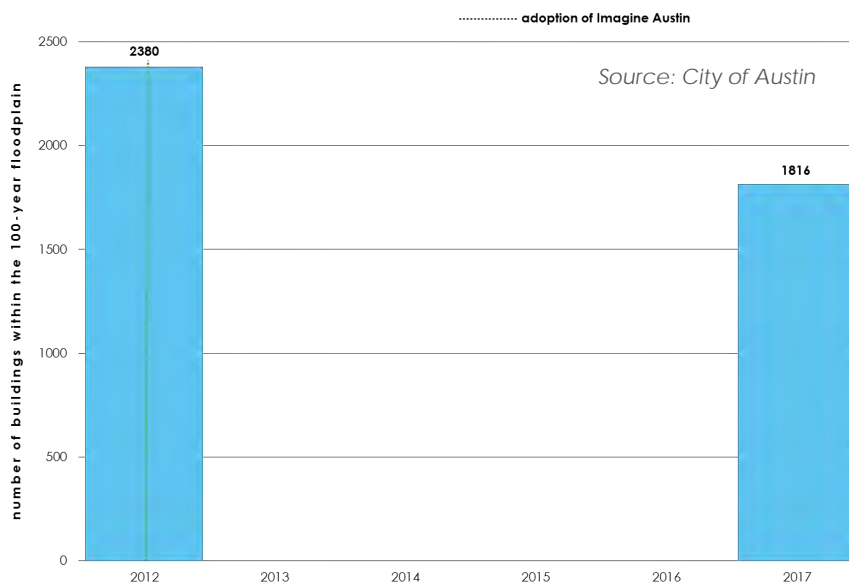
This indicator measures the number of habitable buildings located in the 100-year floodplain. Floodplains are the areas likely to flood when our creeks rise and flow over their banks; the 100-year floodplain is only suited for very limited development due to the flooding and public safety risk.

Imagine Austin calls for actions that reduce the threats flooding poses to public safety and private property.

Since 2012, the City has removed more than 564 structures from the 100-year floodplain with property buyouts and structural engineering solutions, reducing the number of structures from 2,380 to 1,816 - a reduction of 24%.

SUSTAINABLE WATER

total water pumpage in gallons per capita per day #37

This indicator measures the total water pumped from Austin Water treatment plants in Gallons Per Capita Per Day (GPCD).

This indicator is a central focus for water resource management, water conservation, water reuse, and integrated water resource planning while balancing available resources, evolving technologies, growth trends, and environmental impacts.

With our community's resounding response to Austin's focus on water conservation and drought response, total gallons per capita per day (gpcd) water use has been reduced dramatically over the past 10 years. In 2006, the total use figure was 190 gpcd and in 2016, that same figure was 122 gpcd. This represents a 36% reduction in per capita water use.

In 2010, Austin City Council set a goal of reducing water use in Austin to 140 gpcd or lower by 2020 (based on a five-year rolling average). This goal has been met and exceeded early by our community - the most recent 5 year average amount is 129 gpcd.
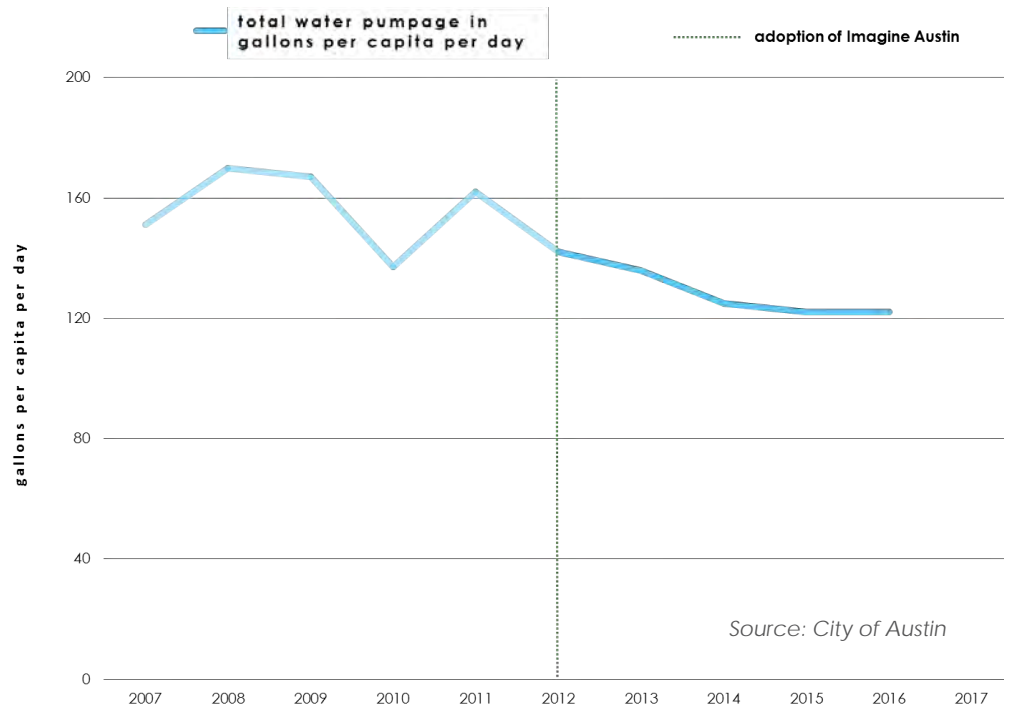
Source: City of Austin

residential water consumption in gallons per capita per day #38

This indicator measures water consumption based on metered water volumes used by customers in the residential sector for single-family and multifamily water consumption only, indicating our community's water use and efficiency on the household level, independent of growth in the business or industrial sectors.

This indicator is a central focus for water resource management, water conservation, water reuse, and integrated water resource planning while balancing available resources, evolving technologies, growth trends, and environmental impacts.

Due to our community's resounding response to Austin's focus on water conservation and drought response, retail residential gallons per capita per day (gpcd) water use has been reduced dramatically over the past 10-years. In 2006, the total use figure was 103 gpcd and in 2016, that same figure was 71 gpcd. This represents a 32% reduction in residential per capita water use (retail).
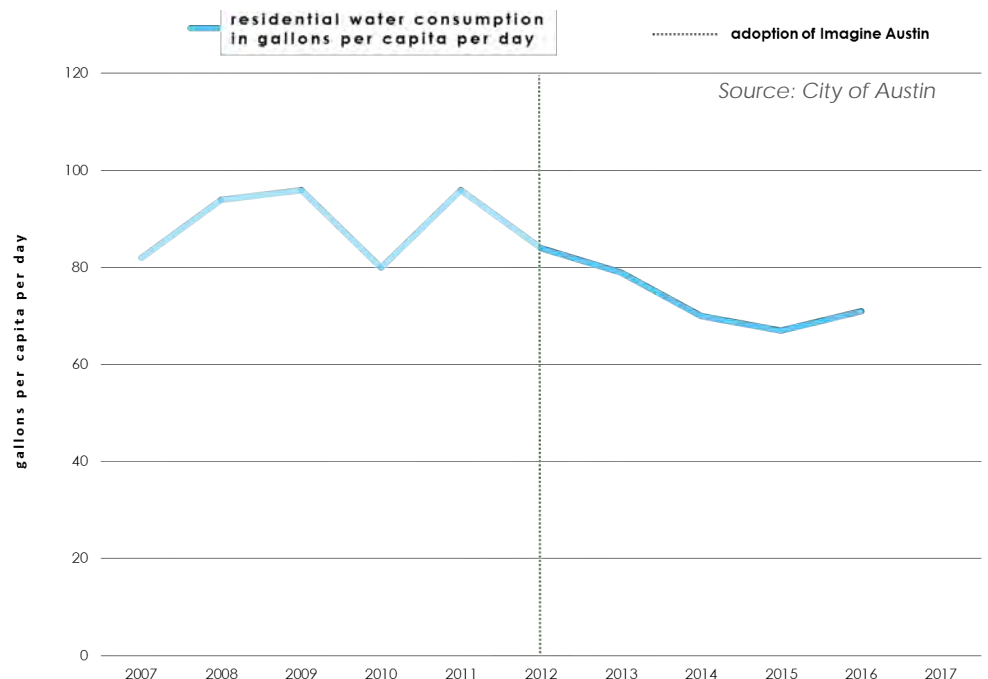
Source: City of Austin

SUSTAINABLE WATER

#39 environmental integrity index scores

Legend:
- EII Score good or better
- EII Score less than good
- adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: City of Austin

Y-axis: percent of watersheds

Data points:
- 2008: 40% (good or better), 60% (less than good)
- 2010: 58% (good or better), 42% (less than good)
- 2012: 49% (good or better), 51% (less than good)
- 2014: 55% (good or better), 45% (less than good)
- 2016: 75% (good or better), 25% (less than good)

This indicator measures the percentage of watersheds having good or better Environmental Integrity Index (EII) scores. The EII is a comprehensive set of water quality measurements which collectively assess watershed health. The overall EII score is a comprehensive reflection of the health and resilience of Austin's creeks and streams.

Imagine Austin calls for actions that strengthen flood control, erosion, and water quality programs, incentives, regulations, and enforcement to incorporate best practices and meet or exceed national standards.

Based on the most recent (2015-16) Environmental Integrity Index (EII) watershed assessment by the Austin Watershed Protection Department and Travis County Department of Transportation and Natural Resources, 52 watersheds were assessed and 39 (75%) yielded "Good" or better scores.

Scores reported during the 2012 period were heavily impacted by the extreme prolonged drought. Recent EII scores improved as conditions have changed in response to sustained baseflow in Austin creeks. Relative to baseline levels of the EII from 1996-99, more than 89% of Austin watersheds sampled in 2015/2016 had the same or better score indicating that overall water quality in Austin creeks has remained the same or even improved despite continued increasing disturbance from urbanization.

SUSTAINABLE WATER

ratio of jobs to households **#88**

This indicator measures the jobs to households balance. It is a ratio between the total job count in a jurisdiction and the total household count, i.e., occupied housing in the same area.

Imagine Austin notes a regional mismatch between the location of residences and jobs partly as a result of lifestyle preferences, but also rising housing costs throughout the region. Prospective homeowners must "drive until they qualify" to find affordable housing that meets their needs, and many of these affordable units are found in distant subdivisions with limited transportation options.

■ **households**   ■ **total jobs**

Source: US Census Bureau + Texas Workforce Commission
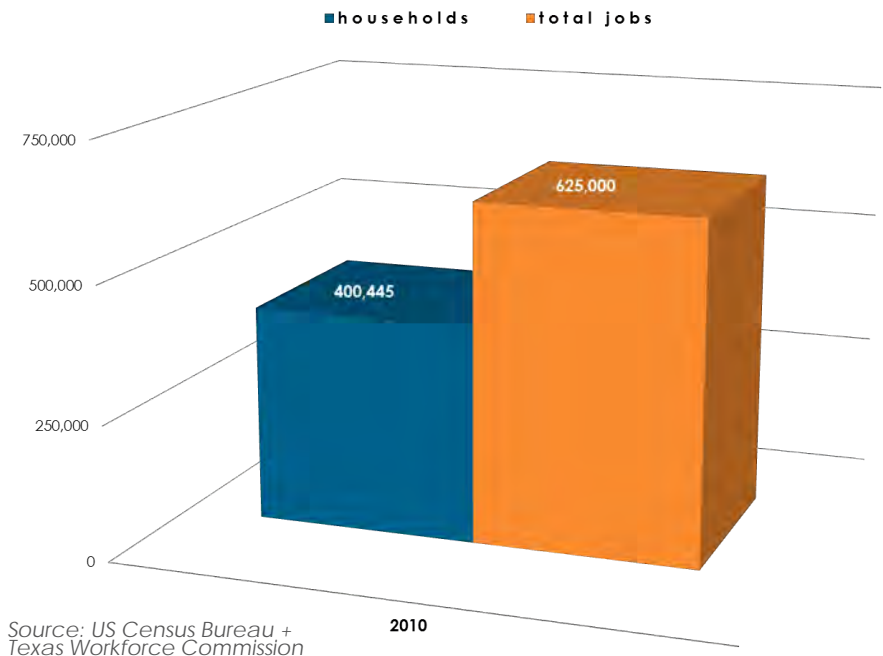
One telling descriptive characteristic of an area's urban form is the ratio between the total number of jobs in the area and the number of households within that same area, or more simply, the Jobs to Households Ratio (JHR). This ratio, often referred to as a measure of balance, basically communicates the spatial complexity and directionality of an area's commuting flows.

The Imagine Austin study area had a JHR figure of **1.56** as of 2010, with 400,445 households and 625,000 total jobs. In other words, the Imagine Austin study area is "jobs rich." The New York City borough of Manhattan possibly has the highest JHR figure in the nation at a whopping 2.75, while a place like San Jose exhibits what some practitioners might call an "inverted" JHR of .84, strongly reflective of just how suburban San Jose truly is. A simple but rough spatial surrogate for the Imagine Austin study area is Travis County and its communing flows. There are three distinctly different types of commuters who are operational on any given morning in the county: commuters who live and work in Travis County (43% - the largest share); commuters who live outside the county but work within it (38% - here's where the big congestion problems come from); and finally, commuters who live in Travis County but work outside it (19% - this is the smallest share of commuters).

The question then is this: in what direction will the JHR for the Imagine Austin study area move? Because the Imagine Austin study area is an increasingly smaller piece of the much larger functional economic region, there is a sense that the JHR ratio will actually increase over time—trending toward a Manhattan scenario.

Although the policy directive from the Imagine Austin comprehensive plan envisions a more balanced jobs to households environment within the study area, it is difficult to see how this would happen, especially from a 2017 vantage point where population growth is now heavily suburban whilst job creation—though beginning to decentralize somewhat –is still largely concentrated within the greater urban core.

WORKFORCE & ECONOMY

#93 unemployment rate
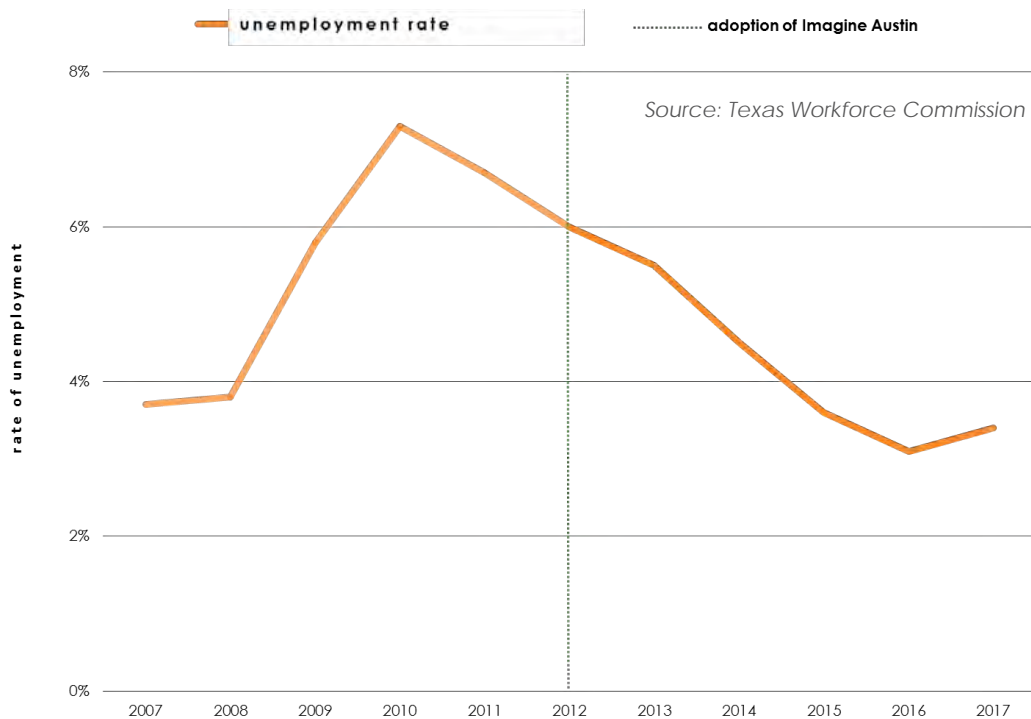
This indicator measures in part the prosperity of a community. The unemployment rate is the percentage of individuals ages 16 and older seeking work who are in the civilian labor force.

Austin's typically low unemployment rate attracts investment and provides opportunity to residents. However, certain sectors of the population experience higher unemployment levels. Imagine Austin calls for continued investment in our workforce, education systems, entrepreneurs, and local businesses in order to sustain and grow Austin's economy.

Unemployment has steadily decreased since the city's most recent high in 2010. Consistent with other economic indicators for the local area, the degree of year over year gains show signs of slowing or slight reversal in the most recent years.

#96 small business growth
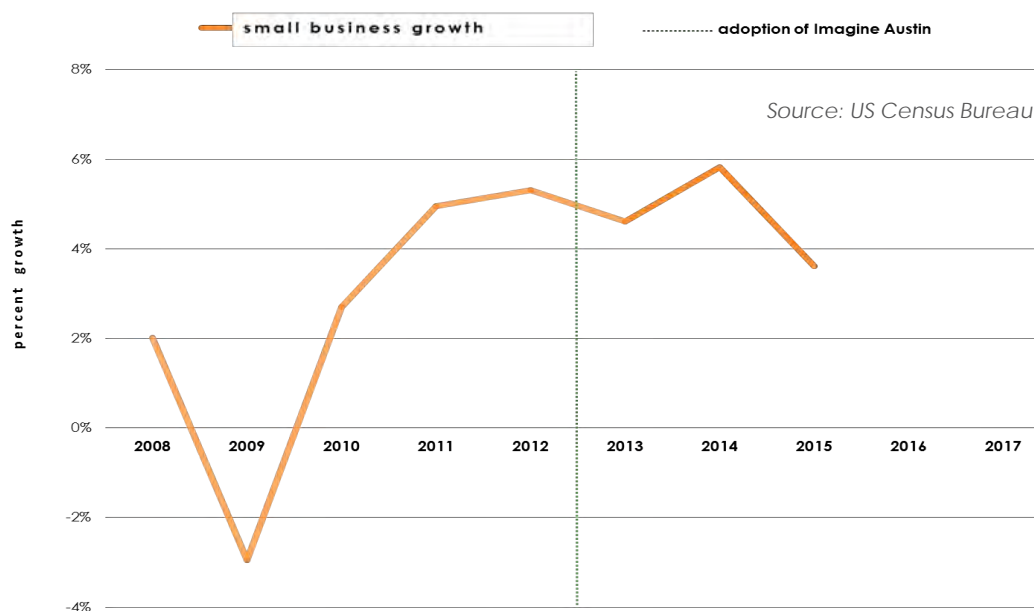
This indicator measures the yearly percentage change in the total number of employees working for businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Increasing small businesses and entrepreneurship is a major goal of Imagine Austin. Small businesses are a key component of Austin's economic vitality and resiliency.

Consistent with other economic indicators for the local area, year over year growth in small business employment has continued in the years following the recession with the most recent data for 2015 showing growth at a slower rate than the previous four years.

Note: The geography used for this indciator is the Austin-Round Rock MSA

WORKFORCE & ECONOMY

community and school gardens per 1,000 people **#8**

This indicator measures the acreage of community and school gardens as a function of population.

Community gardens integrate nature into the city and allow for a space where people can gather to learn about local food production, healthy diets, and the natural sciences.

There has been a sizable increase in the acres of community and school gardens maintained by the City of Austin since 2012. Total acres increased from 18 acres in 2012 to 47 total acres of community and school gardens within the City limits in 2016.

Source: City of Austin

The Parks and Recreation Department has continued to add from 1 to 4 acres of new community gardens annually. The continuing improvement can be attributed to a new permitting process that makes garden establishment easier, identification of city lands available for garden permitting, and increased staff to assist with community garden establishment.
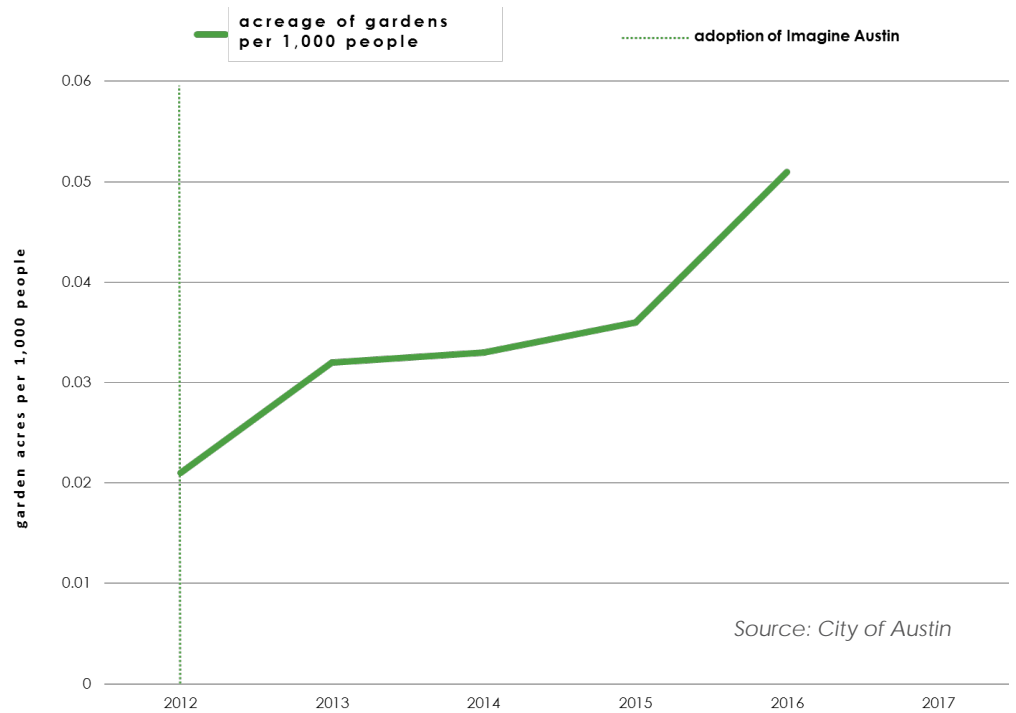
residents living within walking distance to parks **#36**

This indicator measures the percent of residents living within ¼ mile walking distance of a park or accessible open space if inside the urban core or 1/2 mile walking distance of a park or accessible open space if outside of the urban core.

Imagine Austin calls for expanded and equitable access for active and passive parks throughout the city. This indicator closely relates to the Imagine Austin vision of becoming a city of complete communities in which all Austinites have access to their daily needs within a short trip.

Source: City of Austin
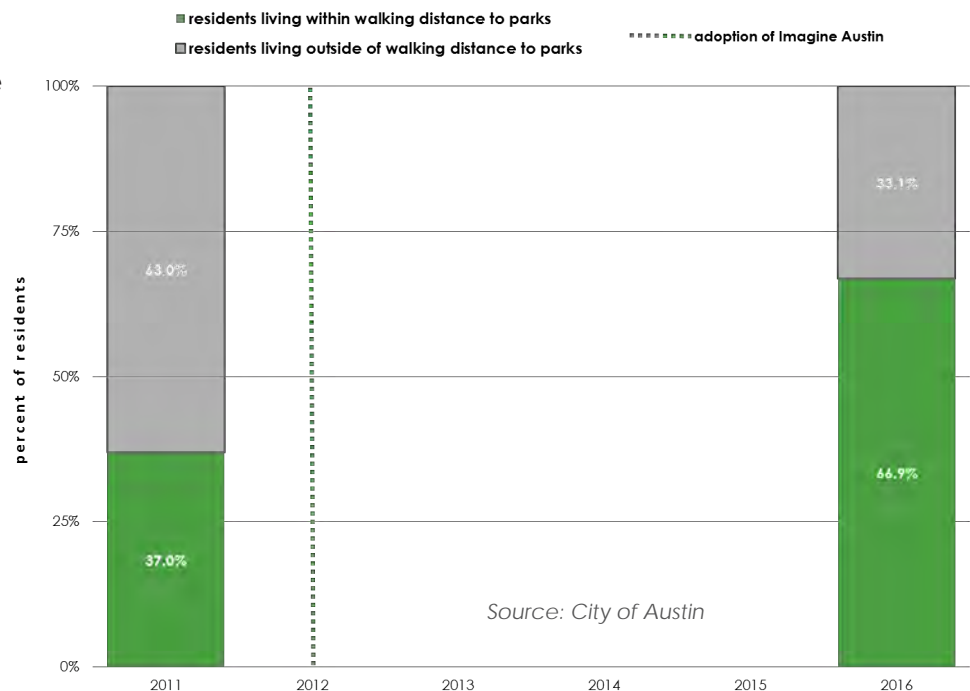
The rise in percent of residents living within walking distance to parks from 37% in 2011 to 66.9% in 2016 reflects the City's efforts to acquire more parkland through parkland dedication, the dedication of land through Planned Unit Development (PUD) negotiations, and the heightened requirements of the 2016 Parkland Dedication Ordinance.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

#40 tree canopy coverage

Source: City of Austin
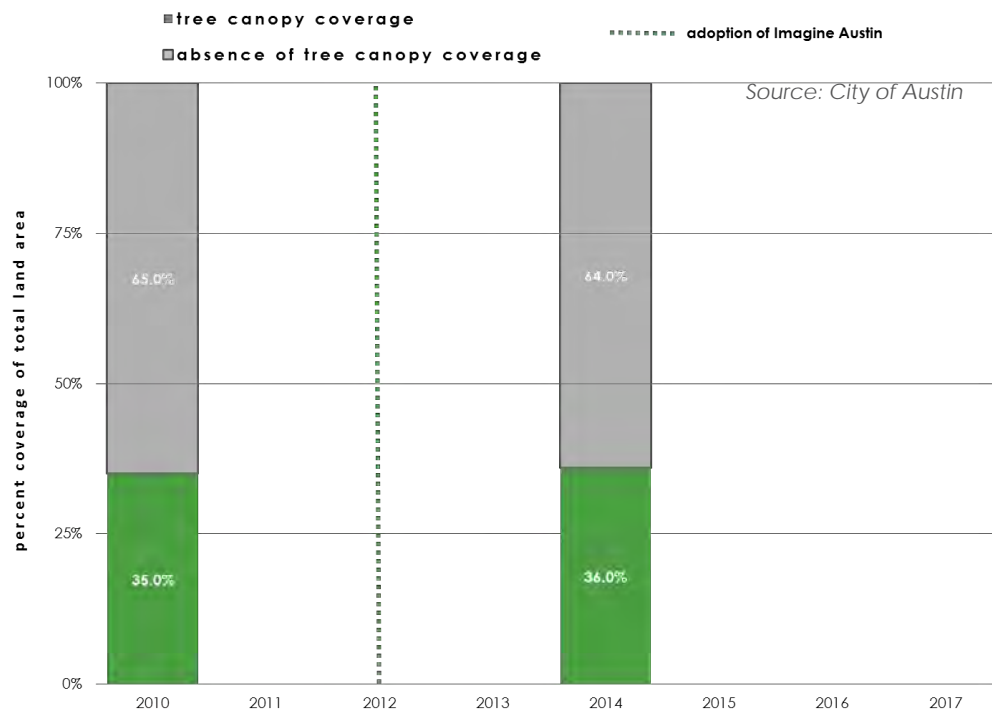
This indicator measures the tree canopy coverage of Austin's full, limited, and extraterritorial jurisdictions. This is represented as the percentage of the total land area that is covered by tree foliage and is strongly correlated with the overall health of the urban environment.

Imagine Austin calls for actions that maintain and increase Austin's urban forest as a key component of the green infrastructure network. Austin's urban forest provides social, ecological and economic benefits to the community and enhances the quality of life for Austin residents.

In 2010, Austin's tree canopy coverage was estimated at 35 percent of the total Imagine Austin study area. In 2014, the measured canopy was 36 percent of the total land area. The area with the highest coverage is the Live Oak-Juniper Woodland, which dominates in the western portions of the city, and the lowest coverage exists in the Blackland Prairie areas along the eastern periphery of the city.

#41 amount of permanently preserved land

Source: City of Austin
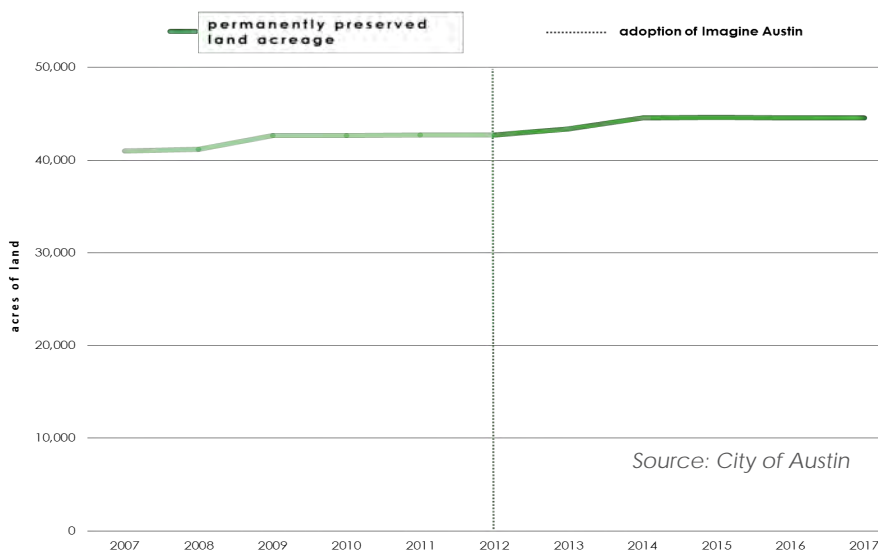
This indicator measures the combined acreage of the City of Austin owned or managed lands that are permanently protected from development. This includes the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP), the Water Quality Protection Lands (WQPL), and nature reserves managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Imagine Austin calls for actions that direct development away from sensitive environmental resources, protect existing open space and natural resources, and improve air and water quality.

Total acres of permanently preserved lands have gradually increased as the City of Austin has been able to identify funding sources or partnership opportunities to permanently protect land via fee simple purchase and/or conservation easements.
The WQPL currently protects about 25% of the recharge zone and only 7% of the contributing zone. To meet the WQPL mission of supplying the optimal amount of clean groundwater flowing to Barton Springs, as well as many wells, requires the acquisition of more conservation land. Preservation of additional lands balances the growth of urban infrastructure and protects existing green infrastructure. The future of this indicator is uncertain due to the fact that no bond funds remain to support the purchase of additional lands in the near future, and land values are rising dramatically.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

number of annual cultural contracts applications #118

This indicator measures the number of cultural contract applications received through the various cultural funding programs. The City of Austin provides cultural arts programs for the Austin community by contracting with arts organizations for specific services.

This indicator relates to the level of community cultural activity taking place in Austin, supported by the City. Imagine Austin states that arts, culture, and creativity are essential keys to our city's unique and distinctive identity and should be values as vital contributions to our community's character, quality of life, and economy.

adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: City of Austin
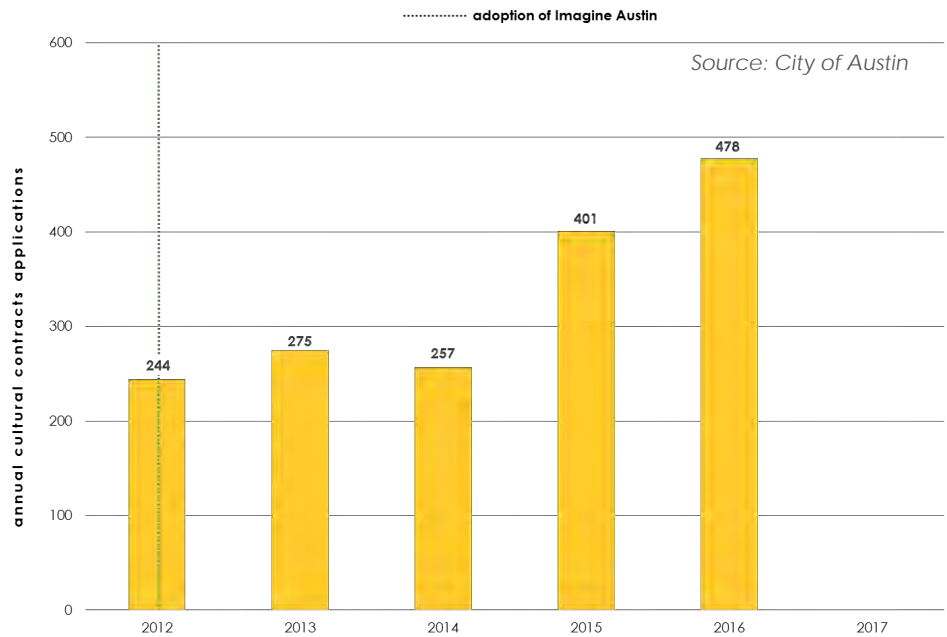
The number of applications received has increased dramatically in the past two years from the levels seen in 2012-2014 due to increased community interest and participation, increased City outreach, and refinement of Cultural Arts program offerings by the City of Austin.

participation in arts, culture, and small business workshops hosted by the city of austin #119

This indicator measures the number of participants who attended workshops offered by the Economic Development Cultural Arts Division's Small Business Program as well as the Parks and Recreation Department.

This indicator relates to the level of participation by the community to engage with and learn from City workshops geared toward professional development, education, and community networking designed to support the capacity, sustainability, and growth of the creative sector in Austin. Imagine Austin calls for increased participation in arts and culture activities by residents and visitors alike.

adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: City of Austin
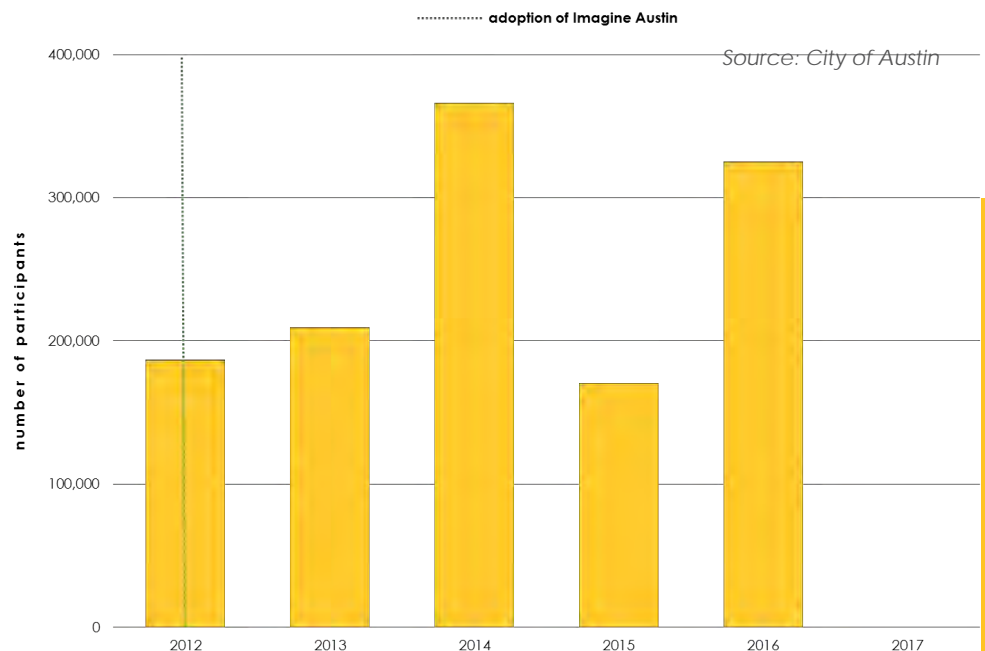
The number of participants has varied over the past 5 years due to adjustments to workshop programming and fluctuations in available associated workshop resources.

CREATIVE ECONOMY

#120 overall investment in the arts by the city of austin

City of Austin investment in the arts .... **adoption of Imagine Austin**

Source: City of Austin
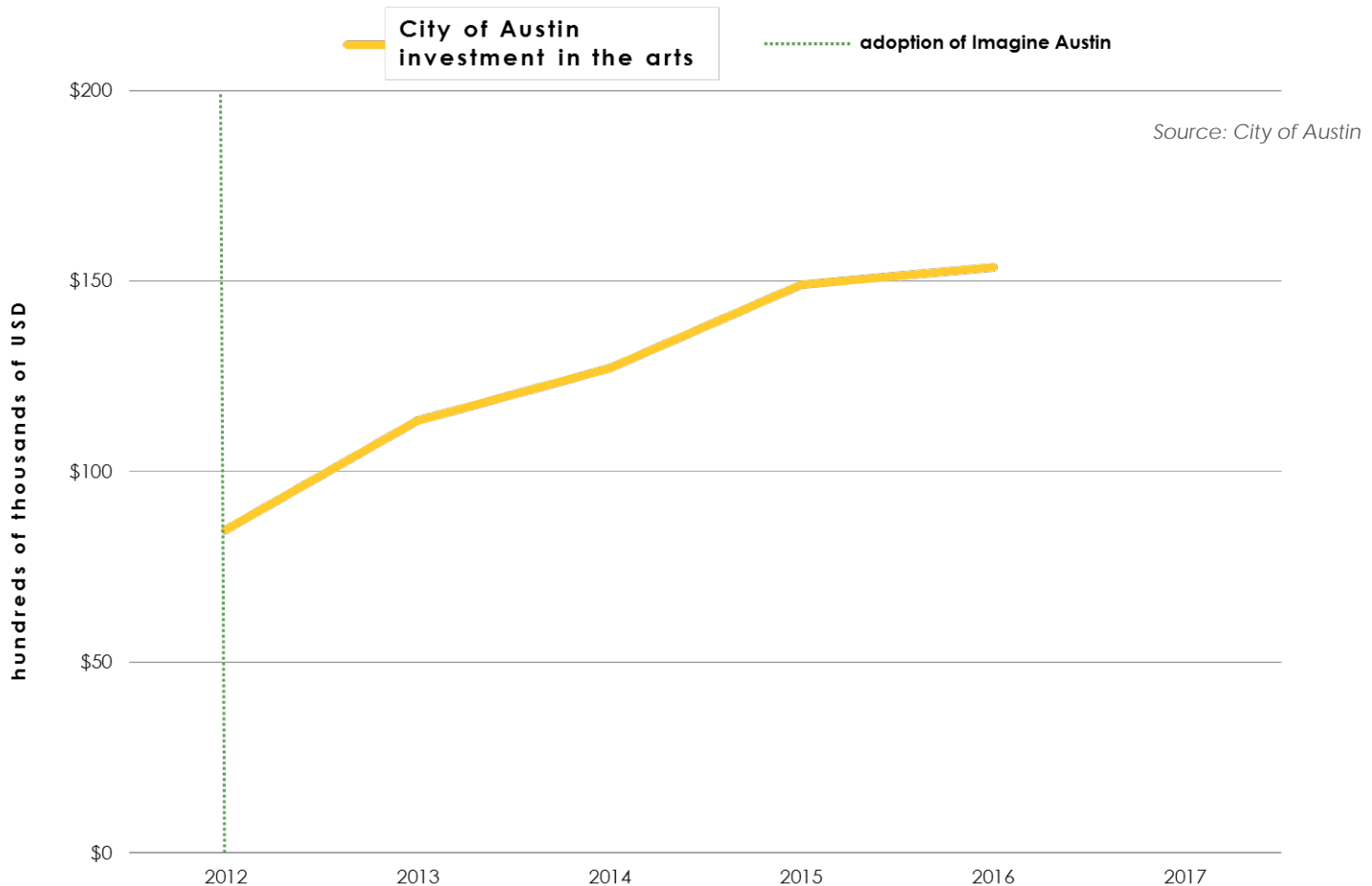
This indicator measures the amount of funding from the City of Austin invest to provide support to arts activities and contracted arts services in Austin. This includes funding for the Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Development Department, Parks and Recreation Department's Arts and Culture Facilities, and the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport's Changing Exhibits Program.

This indicator relates to the financial investment in the arts made by the City of Austin. Imagine Austin calls for the creation of places that reflect the inspirational and creative spirit of Austinites through design, public art, and beautiful public spaces.

The amount of Hotel Occupancy Tax funding overall (and the percentage available for cultural funding) has increased steadily over the past several years, due to increased tourism in Austin. In addition, City investment in capital improvement (providing 2% for the Art in Public Places Program) from Bond and Enterprise funds has continued to rise, and program support provided by individual City Departments (e.g., Aviation, Economic Development, and Parks and Recreation) has continued to serve as a source of investment in the creative community.

CREATIVE ECONOMY

This indicator measures the median housing value, which divides the value distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median value of the property and one-half above the median. The data include only units that are owned or on the market and reflect what the property would sell for if it were for sale.

Imagine Austin calls for the creation of more affordable housing by way of partnerships and incentives to bring families back into the urban core.

Median home values have increased over time with a steeper rise starting in 2012. This increase has resulted in Austin becoming less affordable as wages are not increasing as quickly as housing costs.

Rising median home values have displaced many longtime residents and discouraged affordable development in central Austin.

median housing values ⋯⋯ adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: US Census Bureau
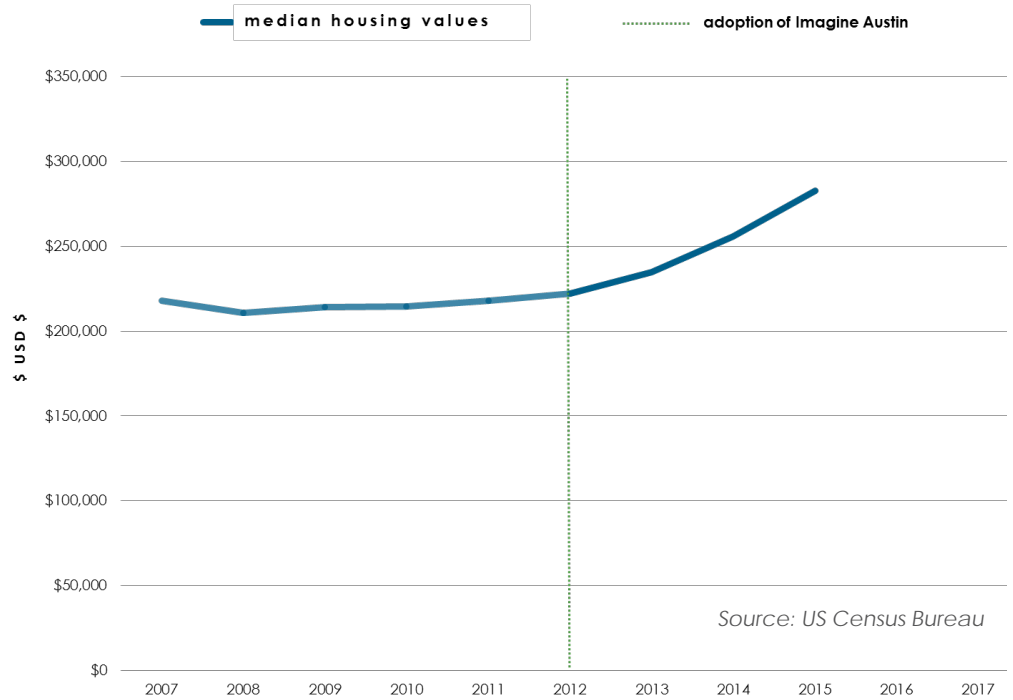
median gross rent #4

This indicator measures the median gross rent, which divides the gross rent distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases falling below the median gross rent and one-half above the median. The data include only renter-occupied housing units paying cash rent.

Imagine Austin calls for the creation of more affordable housing by way of partnerships and incentives to bring families back into the urban core.

Median gross rents have increased over time with a steeper rise starting in 2012. This increase has resulted in Austin becoming less affordable as wages are not increasing as quickly as housing costs.

The majority of Austinites rent and do not own their property. The tighter mortgage market means rental property will continue to play a large part in housing Austin's residents. Rising rents have displaced many longtime residents and discouraged affordable development in central Austin.

median gross rent ⋯⋯ adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: US Census Bureau

HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY

#5 residential vacancy rate

percent of total housing units

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
residential vacancy rate	8.03%	8.36%	8.37%	8.93%	7.97%	8.23%	6.99%	7.95%	8.23%		
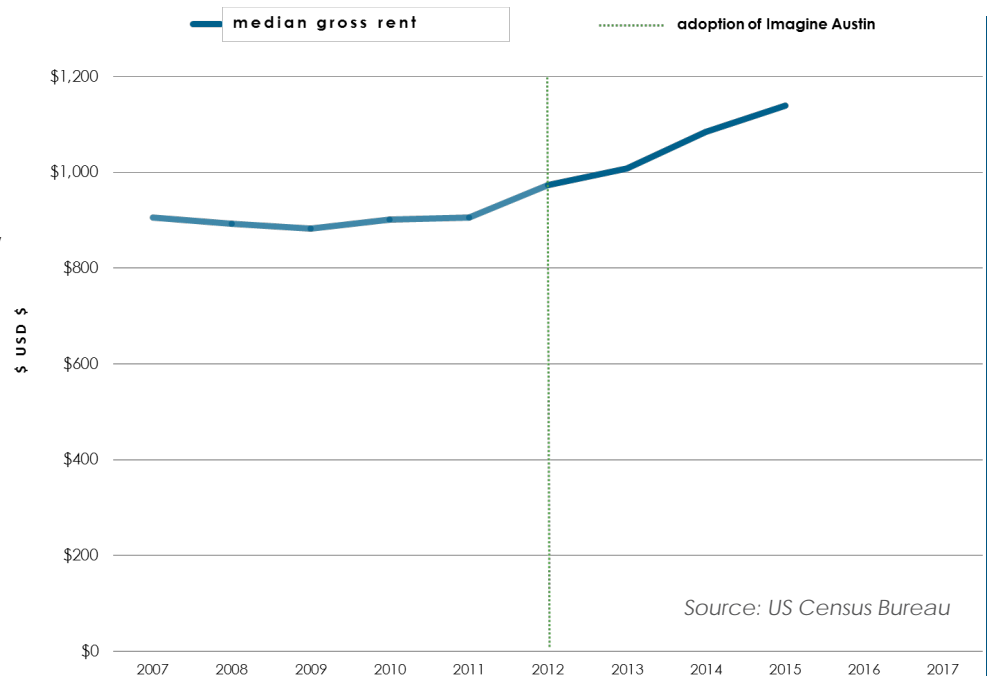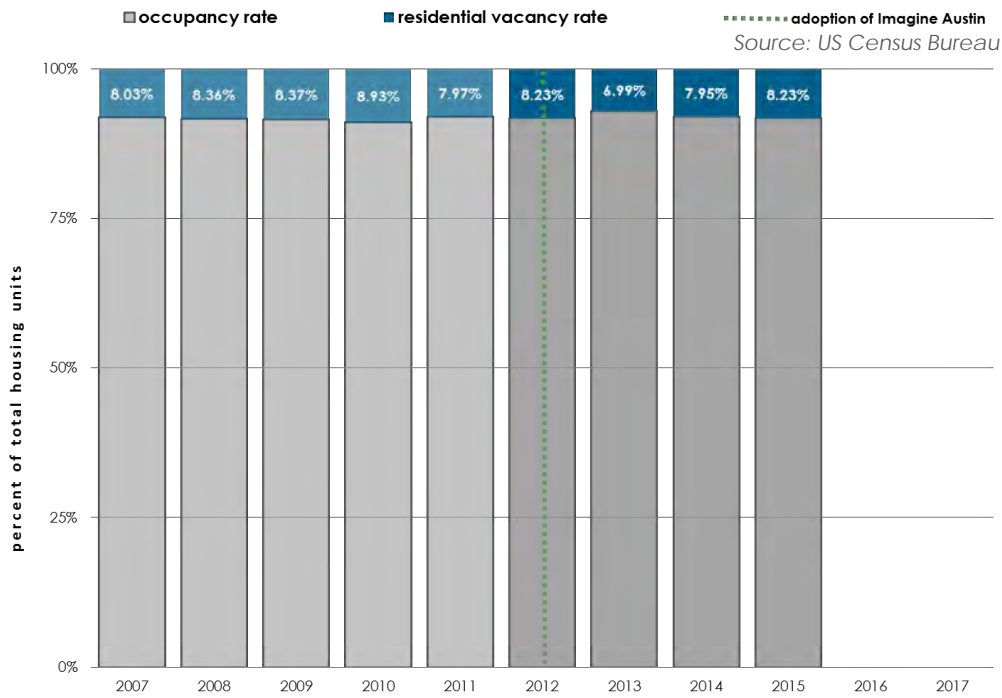
This indicator measures the number of vacant or uninhabited housing units divided by the total number of units.

Vacancy status is used to assess the demand for housing, to identify housing turnover within areas, and to better understand the population within the housing market over time.

Austin's residential vacancy rate has been relatively stable, hovering around 8% over the past 5 years. While there is some residential vacancy, it includes vacancies at all price points, so it does not necessarily mean there are affordable units available for low- and moderate-income households.

Austin's housing supply has grown substantially in recent years, increasing by 64,000 units between 2007 and 2015; however, a stable vacancy rate shows that additional housing units are being occupied as quickly as they are being produced. This is indicative of Austin's rapid population growth during this same time period.

#6 cost-burdened residential units

percent of households

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
cost-burdened residential units	27.2%	26.3%	27.9%	31.1%	29.9%	28.9%	28.8%	28.8%	27.6%		
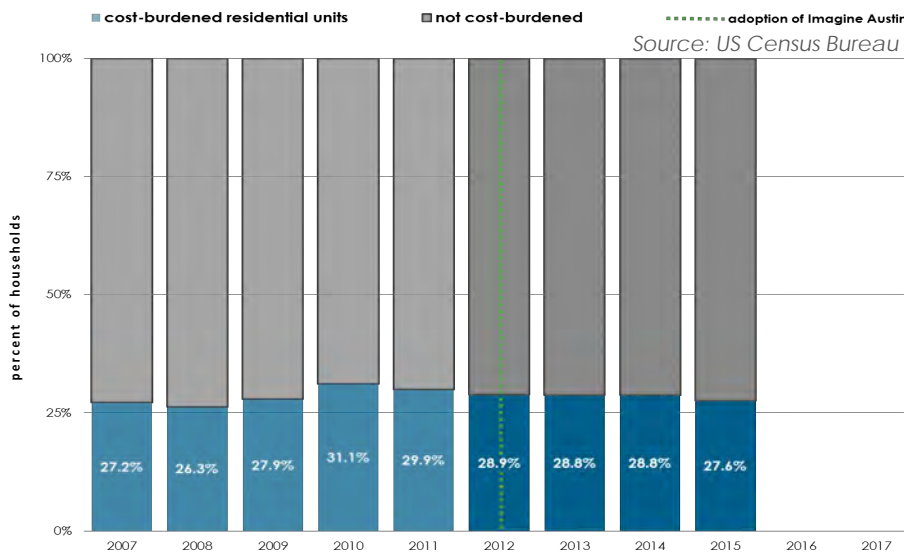
This indicator measures the percent of households where monthly rent (plus utility and/or housing fuel costs) or mortgage payments (or other housing debt costs) equal 30% or more of a household's monthly income. This metric provides a more complete picture of how affordable it is to live in Austin, since housing costs are but one of the components of the cost of living.

Rising costs of living paired with a slower wage growth has contributed to affordability issues in Austin. Imagine Austin calls for the creation of more affordable housing and to address household affordability with a holistic approach that address all of the various components that influence the cost of living.

The percentage of cost-burdened households in Austin has remained relatively stable hovering around 28% over the last 5 years; however, this does not account for households who have left Austin for more affordable housing options outside of the Austin's city limits.

Low-income renters are most impacted by rising housing costs. For renters making less than $35,000, the vast majority are spending more than 30% of their income on rent alone. The majority (53.6%) of households making less than $35,000 who rent are actually severely cost-burdened meaning that they pay more than half of their income on rent.

HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY

homeless count #11

This indicator measures the total number of persons who were identified and counted as homeless in the federally mandated Austin/Travis County annual point-in-time count. By its nature a count only includes persons who are homeless on the day of the count. Point-in-time counts tend to underestimate families and children and do not include individuals living in marginal situations.

Homeless persons are often subjected to the elements, crime, and other maladies, which often results in tragic consequences. Imagine Austin calls for reducing homelessness through supportive housing, mental health services/counseling, and alcohol/drug treatment.

Source: Ending Community Homlessness Colaition (ECHO)

As housing costs rise, more households are vulnerable to experiencing homelessness. Austin's point-in-time homeless counts have hovered around 2,000 people since 2009.
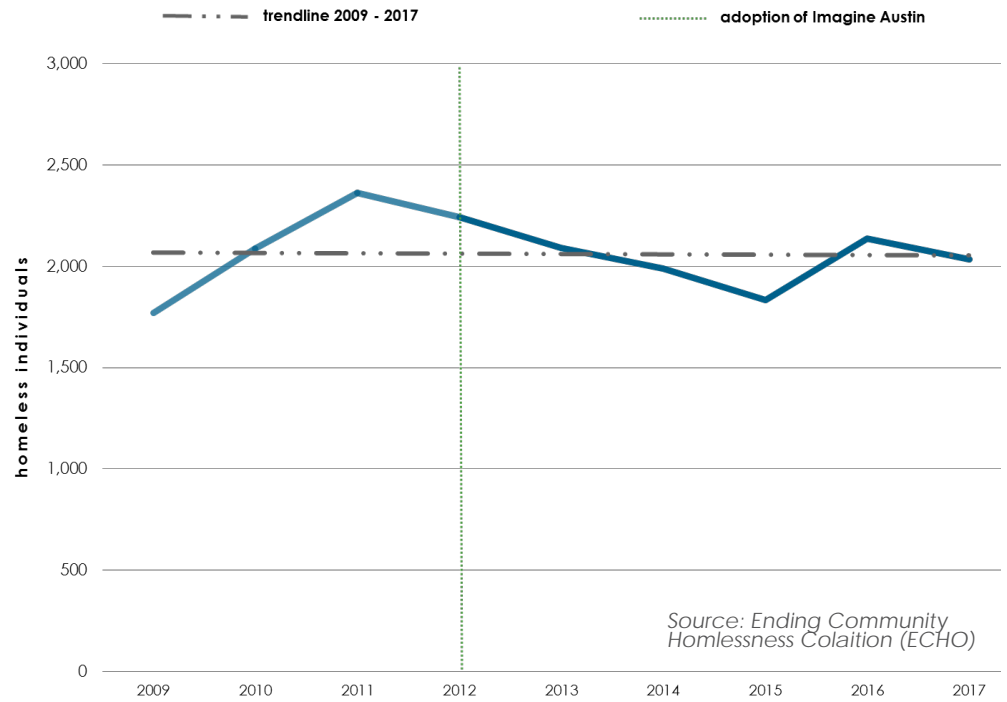
number of affordable residential units funded #17

This indicator measures the number of units created and/or retained through the Rental Housing Development Assistance (RHDA) program. This program works to create affordable rental housing for predominantly low-income working families, seniors, single parent families, individuals with special needs, and individuals transitioning from homelessness.

Rising housing costs have displaced many longtime residents and discouraged affordable development in central Austin. Imagine Austin calls for the creation of more affordable housing throughout the city through partnerships and incentives to bring families back into the urban core.

Source: City of Austin

Variation in affordable rental housing production is largely based on the development cycle. Leveraging local resources, such as 2006 and 2013 Affordable Housing Bonds with Low Income Housing Tax Credits from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), produces the maximum number of affordable rental housing units for the City of Austin and its residents. These bond programs have been instrumental in increasing the City's affordable housing inventory.

HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY

#85   median family income

Legend: **Austin** · **Austin-Round Rock MSA** · ·············· adoption of Imagine Austin

Y-axis: $ USD $ — $100,000 / $80,000 / $60,000 / $40,000 / $20,000 / $0

X-axis: 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

Source:
Austin - US Census Bureau,
MSA - US Department of Housing
and Urban Development (HUD)
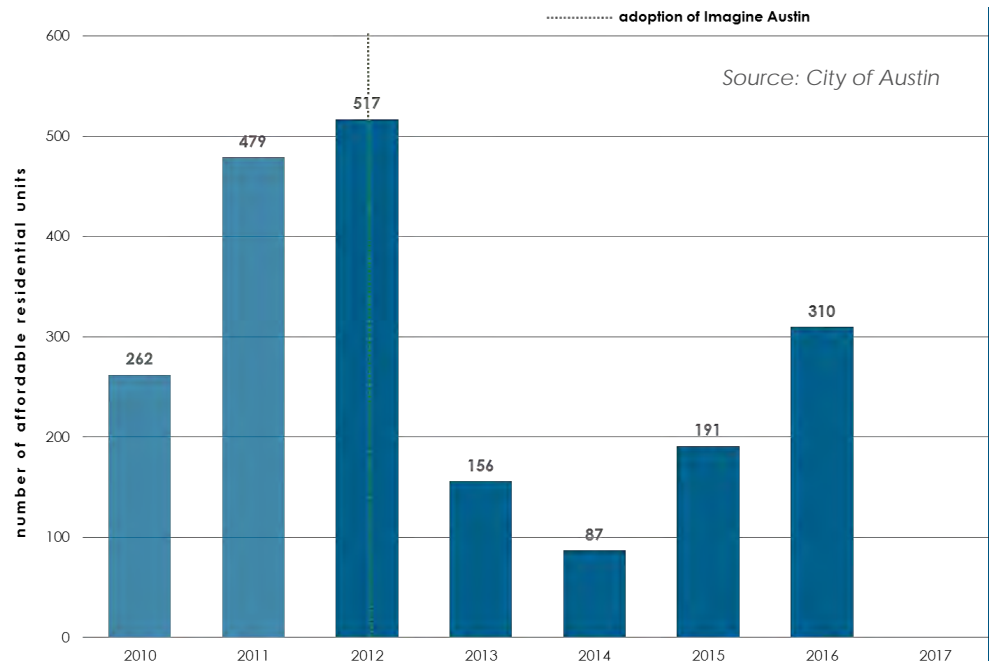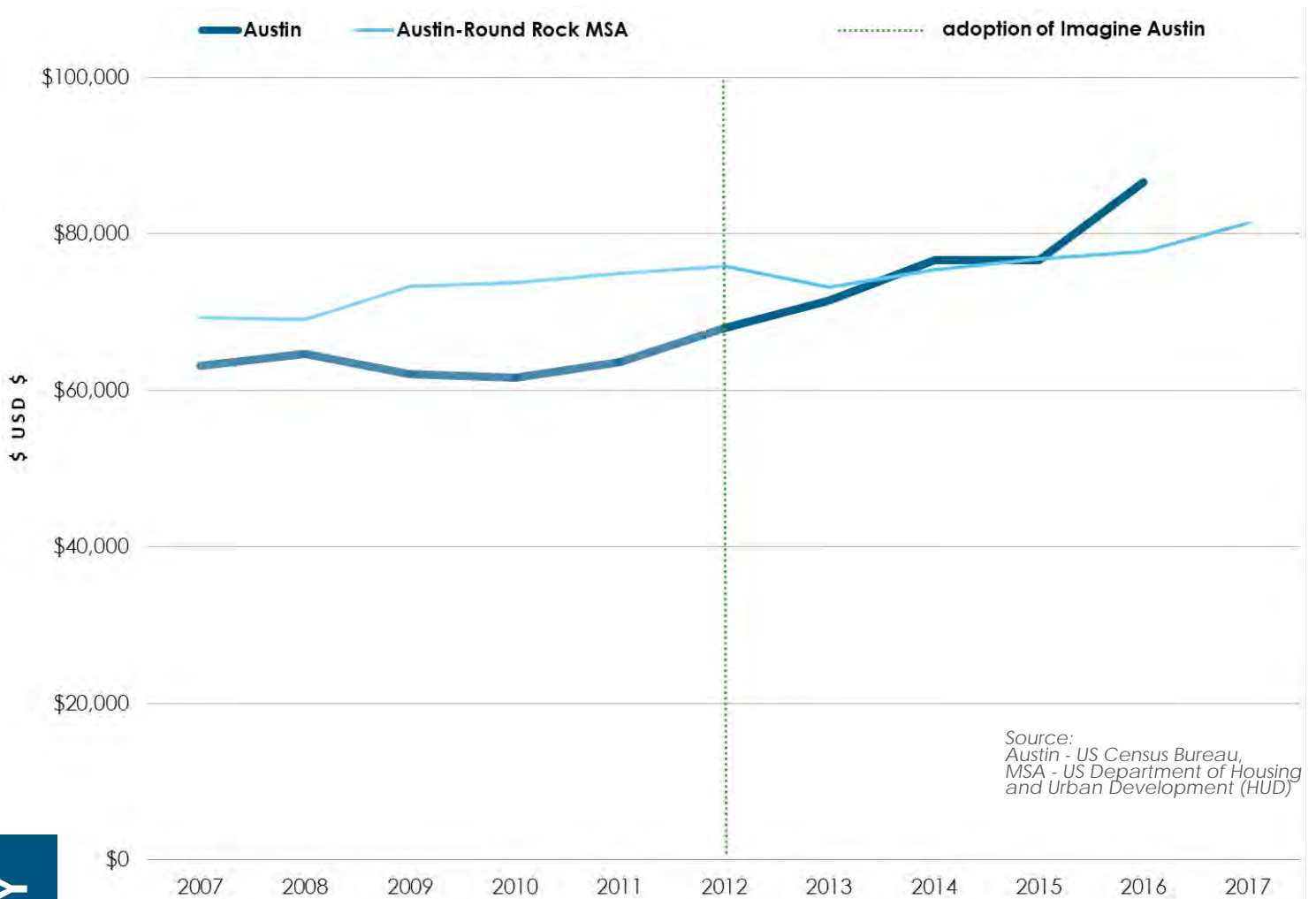
This indicator measures the median family income, which divides the income distribution into two equal parts: one-half of family households falling below the median income and one-half above the median.

Median family incomes have generally been outpaced by median housing prices, and are thus an indication of housing affordability and general prosperity. This indicator may not capture households who have left Austin for more affordable housing options outside of the city limits.

Widely considered an indicator of overall regional prosperity, Median Family Income (MFI) for metropolitan Austin for 2017 reached an all-time high of $81,400—jumping 4.6% from its 2016 level, following three consecutive years of smaller increases. This trajectory confirms a narrative that greater Austin is becoming decidedly more affluent due to the in-migration of higher income households, and yet, demographic analysts are challenged to fully understand all of the dynamics involved. Much has been written about the national phenomenon of the suburbanization of poverty, and Austin speaks to this trend. The durable vibrancy of Austin's economy is beginning to act as a centrifuge as low-income families have been displaced from the central city due to extremely steep increases in the cost of housing.

The question remains: is metropolitan Austin's MFI climbing because of economic vibrancy and a new affluence driven largely by richer incoming households or is it being buoyed by lower income households and families leaving the region? More than likely it's a combination of both forces. Either way, as seen in the map below, the landscape of family incomes across metropolitan Austin is not smooth and deep disparities in family income persist along stubborn geographic lines.

HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY
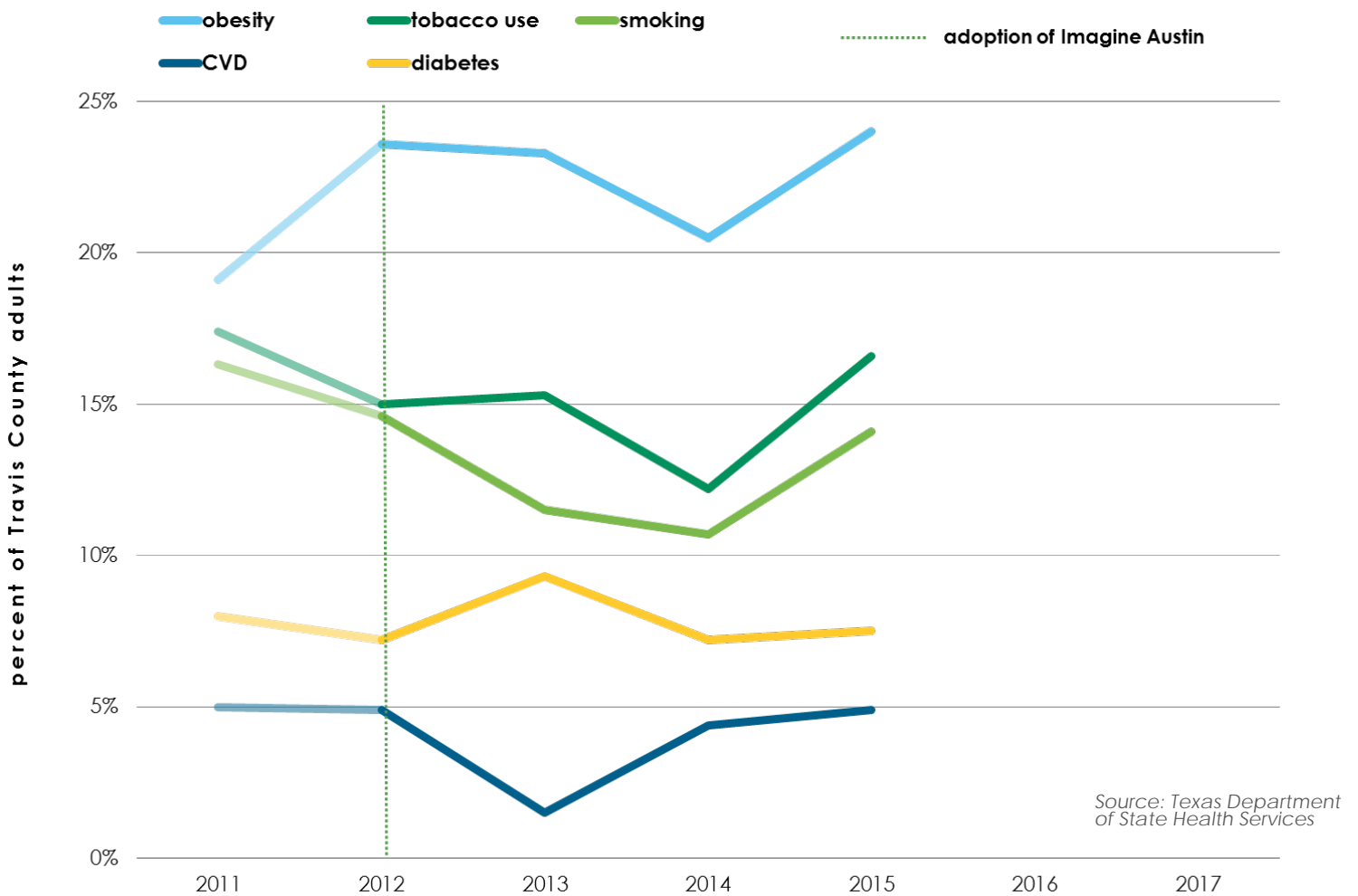
This indicator measures the prevalence of obesity, smoking, tobacco use, cardiovascular disease (CVD), and diabetes among all Travis County adults (18 years and older). Definitions below:

Obsesity - respondents who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or greater, calculated by self-reported height and weight
Tobacco Use - respondents who use smokeless tobacco every day or some days and/or are current smokers
Smoking - respondents who have smoked 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and now smoke every day or some days
CVD - respondents who were told by a health professional that they had a heart attack, agina/coronary heart disease, or stroke
Diabetes - respondents who were told by a health professional that they have diabetes

The chronic diseases associated with the risk factors of tobacco use, poor nutrition, and lack of physical activity (including some cancers, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and asthma) are the underlying causes of most deaths in Travis County.

Reducing obesity, tobacco use (specifically smoking), CVD prevalence, and diabetes are major goals of Imagine Austin.

There are significant and concerning disparities for our black and African-American population as well as our Hispanic population in all of the areas above. See the Imagine Austin indicator dashboard for further detail.

HEALHTY AUSTIN

#102 percent of residents with health care coverage

residents with health care coverage — adoption of Imagine Austin

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services

percent of Travis County adults ages 18-64
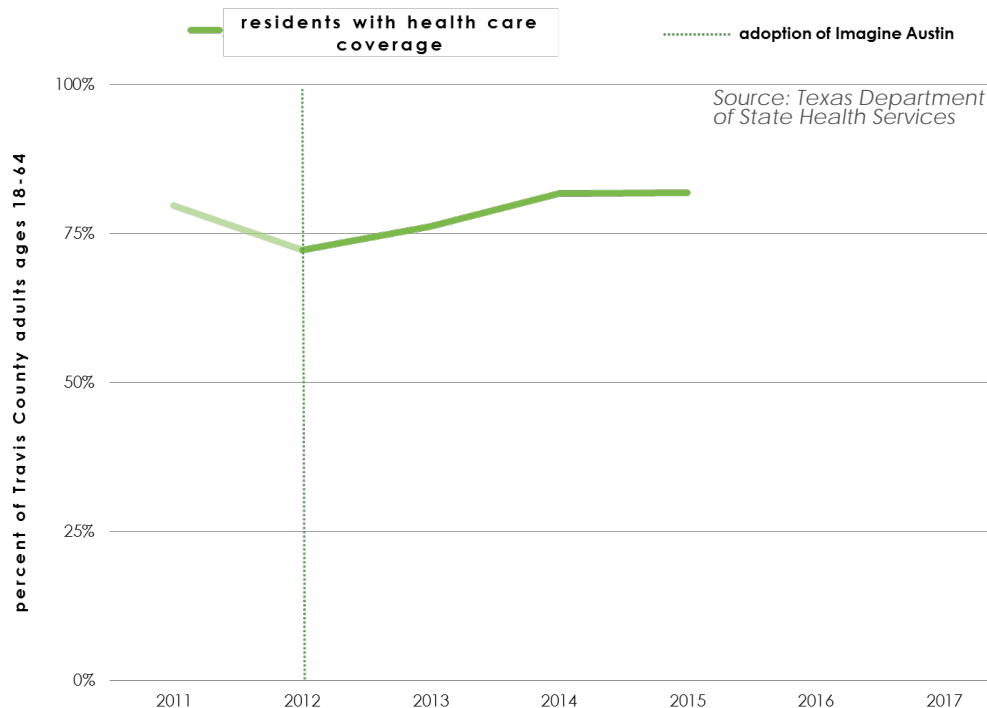
This indicator measures the percent of Travis County residents with health care coverage defined as respondents 18 years to 64 years of age who report having any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, or government plans such as Medicaid or MAP. Adults over 64 years of age are automatically covered by Medicare and are not included.

Increasing access to health care is a major goal of Imagine Austin. Having health care is associated with improved management of chronic conditions and improved health outcomes.

Overall the percentage of Travis County residents with health insurance is increasing; however, lower income families are less likely to be covered. Additionally, the lowest percentage of health insurance coverage occurs among Hispanics compared to whites, blacks/African-Americans, and other race/multiracial adults.

#114 percent of population that performs the recommended amount of physical activity

population that performs the recommended amount of physical activity

percent of Travis County adults

Source: Texas Department of State Health Services
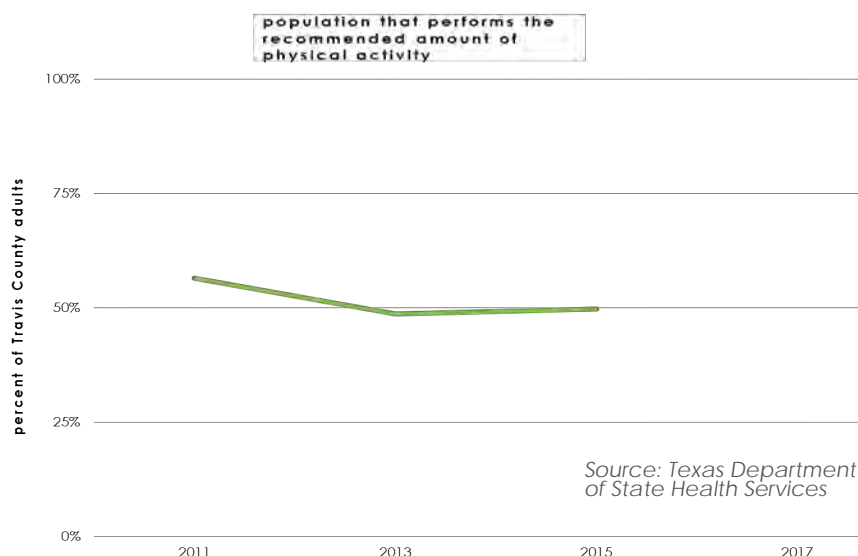
This indicator measures the percent of Travis County adults that participate in at least 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per week.

Increasing the percentage of Travis County adults who perform the recommended physical activity each week is a major goal of Imagine Austin and is linked to other chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and CVD. Investing in accessible walking and biking networks and open space will provide residents increased opportunities for outdoor exercise as part of their daily routines.

There is no statistically significant trend in the results of this indicator from 2011 to 2015.

For combined years 2011-2015 the lowest percentage of adults performing the recommended physical activity each week occurs in African-Americans (36.3%), followed by Hispanics (39.7%), and Whites (50.1%).

HEALTHY AUSTIN

violent crime rate per 1,000 population #115

This indicator measures the rate of violent crime in the community, including murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The crime rate is expressed as total offenses divided by Austin population/1,000.

Reducing crime is one of the goals of the comprehensive plan. The plan calls for improved collaboration between public safety providers and city planners to employ best development practices to reduce crime through urban design, density, mixed use development, and improved lighting, and others strategies.

Source: City of Austin

The violent crime rate in the 2015-16 fiscal year was up 11% compared to the previous fiscal year. In calendar year 2015, Austin's violent crime rate was 3.73 per 1,000 population, which was 52% below the rate of 7.75 for large US cities. Overall, the rate of violent crime has remained relatively stable over the past five years, though the actual number of crimes has increased from 3353 in 2012 to 3774 in 2016, the corresponding growth of Austin's total population from 819,866 in 2012 to 913,917 in 2016 has kept the rate fairly constant.

property crime rate per 1,000 population #116

This indicator measures the rate of property crime in the community, including burglary, theft, and auto theft. Crime rate is expressed as total offenses divided by Austin population/1,000.

Reducing crime is one of the goals of the comprehensive plan. Property crime in Austin has been higher than other major cities. The plan calls for improved collaboration between public safety providers and city planners to employ best development practices to reduce crime through urban design, density, mixed use development, and improved lighting, among others.

Source: City of Austin

Overall, the rate of property crime has decreased over the past five years. The actual number of property crimes dropped from 42,788 in 2012 to 34,143 in 2016 while Austin's total population grew by 11% from 2012 to 2016. In FY 2015-16, Austin ranked 17th as the safest city in property crime rates out of large US cities (population 500,000 and greater).

HEALHTY AUSTIN
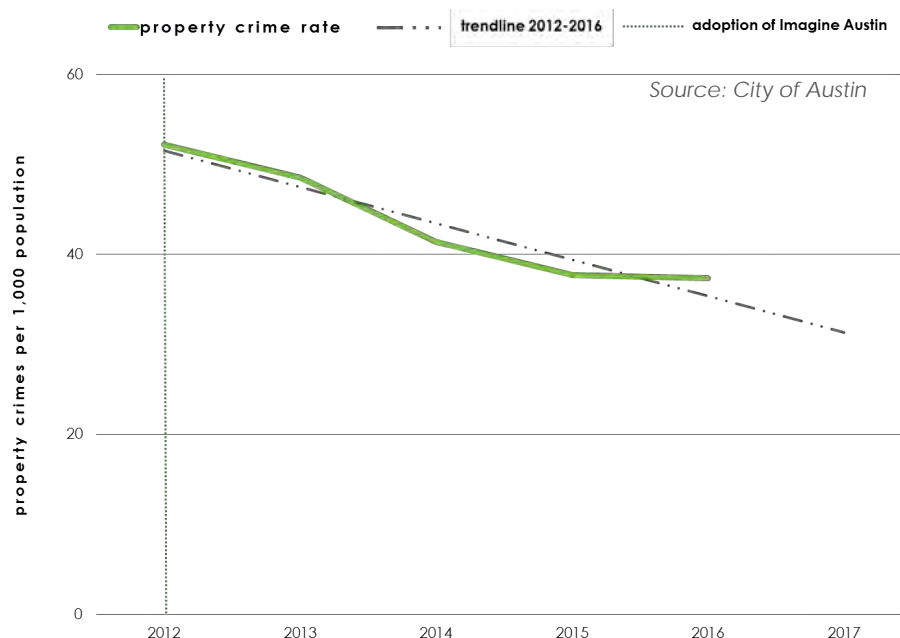
Chapter Four

Appendices

This chapter contains the updated action matrix detailing the implementation status of 200+ actions as well as the latest update on progress made around each action from the Priority Program to which it is assigned.

This chapter also contains a summary of all of the amendments made to the comprehensive plan since its adoption in 2012 and the complete dataset of the 41 indicators from Chapter 3 as well as a summary of all changes made to the indicators.

Action Matrix

The City Charter of Austin requires the annual updating of the matrix indicating the implementation status of benchmarks of each priority program. The annotated Action Matrix lists the status of Imagine Austin actions that fall under each of the priority programs' topics. For a full list of the actions for achieving the plan's vision and goals, see Imagine Austin page 228-266.

Since 2012, the Priority Program teams as a whole have completed six key actions from the action matrix including creating an ongoing Vision Zero Task Force and developing a Vision Zero Action Plan (LUT A47); adopting a strong Watershed Protection Ordinance to strengthen protections for Austin's creeks and floodplains (CE A23 and A43); developing an Urban Trails Master Plan to increase connectivity throughout the city and region and improve consistency across multimodal transportation goals (CFS A9); strengthening tree protection regulations (CE A21); and adopting a Parkland Dedication Ordinance to help address gaps in access to parks and green space (CE A10)

The nature of many of the actions outlined in the comprehensive plan result in them remaining "in progress" for long periods of time either due to their ongoing nature and their continual need for efforts and resources or because they are so broad and expansive that even significant progress towards one component of the action does not necessary result in total completion of the action for reporting purposes. For that reason, many of the 237 actions listed will remain "in progress" for long periods of time and may never truly have an end date.

BY THE NUMBERS:

6
completed actions

237
total number
of actions

APPENDIX: ACTION MATRIX

Acronyms & Legend

AE	Austin Energy	CPO	Capital Planning Office	OoS	Office of Sustainability	TARA	Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs
AFD	Austin Fire Department	CTM	Communications & Technology Department	PARD	Parks and Recreation Department	WPD	Watershed Protection Department
APD	Austin Police Department	EDD	Economic Development Department	PIO	Public Information Office		
APL	Austin Public Library	EMS	Emergency Medical Services	PAZ	Planning & Zoning Department		
ARR	Austin Resource Recovery	GIPPIT	Green Infrastructure Priority Program Implementation Team	PWD	Public Works Department		
ATD	Austin Transportation Department	HHSD	Health & Human Services Department	ORES	Office of Real Estate Services		
AW	Austin Water	HRD	Human Resources Department	SBDP	Small Business Development Program		
CAD	Cultural Arts Division of ED	NHCD	Neighborhood Housing & Community Development	SMBP	Small & Minority Business Resources		

Not available · Complete · Not started · In progress

PRIORITY ACTIONS — Priority actions are highlighted in blue

Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 1: INVEST IN A COMPACT AND CONNECTED AUSTIN.			
LUT A1 Give priority to City of Austin investments to support mixed use, transit, and the creation of compact walkable and bikeable places.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, CPO	*(in progress)*	• Consider during annual update of Long Range CIP Strategic Plan, development of future bond packages, and 5-year Capital Improvement Program process. • Consider during the development of Austin Strategic Mobility Plan.
LUT A5 Create a regulatory environment to promote the redevelopment of brownfields and greyfields into compact, walkable places by: - Increasing development rights through changes in regulations, density bonuses, and other incentives; - Revising parking requirements that result in more permeable areas and promote walking, biking, and transit; - Providing assistance in securing funding for redevelopment; - Ensuring appropriate transitions to less intensive residential areas; - Expediting the permitting and approval process; - Utilizing Low Impact Development practices to mitigate impacts associated with increases in impervious cover or constrained stormwater infrastructure that may impede redevelopment.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, EDD, DSD	*(in progress)*	• Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT. • Continue to expand the economic development resources available to support redevelopment of brownfields and greyfields. Continue to improve development review and permitting processes.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A13	Create a system of high-capacity transit, including elements such as urban rail and bus rapid transit corresponding to land use mix and intensity.	ATD (+Capital Metro, TxDOT, CTRMA)	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Transit Vision. Make improvements to rapid bus routes and other transit lineas as called for by Connections 2025 Transit Plan. Make improvements to transit corridors funded by the 2016 Mobility Bond. • Continue to implement Bicycle Master Plan, Sidewalk Master Plan, and Urban Trails Master Plan. • Develop a new Strategic Mobility Plan that serves as the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan and establishes an integrated framework for transportation decisions.
LUT A14	Increase public transit ridership. - Expand service to compact centers and activity corridors - Increase the number of people who use transit by choice - Create inviting public spaces at stops and transfer centers - Provide real-time schedule information - Add more covered bus shelters - Make stops more convenient - Add park and ride facilities - Make routes more convenient and the system more intuitive - Create street design standards (bus turnouts, sidewalk width, benches, shelter) - Give transit priority (queue jumpers, signal priority, managed lanes, and dedicated lanes) - Launch an informative and enticing public relations campaign - Implement first and last mile solutions such as carpooling, vanpools, and bicycle and car sharing - Add more bicycle carrying capacity to buses and trains	ATD, PAZ, PWD, EDD, CPO, (+Capital Metro, TxDOT, CTRMA)	🏃	• Expand the Smart Trips program to more neighborhoods across the City to encourage active transportation and transit ridership. • Revise and enhance Project Connect Transit Vision. • Implement operational improvements identified in Capital Metro Connections 2025. • Continue to implement Bicycle Master Plan, Sidewalk Master Plan, and Urban Trails Master Plan. Develop Austin Strategic Mobility Plan. • Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT to support transit-supportive development along transit corridors. • Continue to coordinate with Capital Metro on transit operations.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A15	Ensure that the construction, operation, and management of rail, bus rapid transit, local bus systems, and future public transportation are integrated and coordinated across City Departments and with our partners such as other local governments, agencies, and districts.	PWD, ATD, (+Capital Metro, CTRMA, TXDOT, CAMPO)	🏃	• Continue to coordinate with Capital Metro on transit operations. • Continue to Coordinate with Capital Metro through Project Connect and the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan. • Develop and implement a plan for Shared, Electric, and Autonomous Mobility Services. • Continue to participate in regional transportation coordination as a member jurisdiction of CAMPO. • Update the City's utilities' rules of practice to coordinate with updated standards in the Land Development Code and current and future transit investments.
LUT A 16	Enhance crosstown transit options to better connect people to the places where they live, work, play, shop, and access services.	ATD, PWD	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Transit Vision. Develop and implement a plan for Shared, Electric, and Autonomous Mobility Services. • Implement operational improvements identified in Capital Metro Connections 2025 Plan. • Improve connections to transit stops through continued implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan, Sidewalk Master Plan, and Urban Trails Master Plan.
LUT A17	Create an efficient and connected transportation system that allows people with disabilities and special needs to easily access their daily needs from where they live and work.	PAZ, PWD, ATD	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Transit Vision. • Implement operational improvements identified in Capital Metro Connections 2025 Plan. • Implement Sidewalk Master Plan. Develop and implement a plan for Shared, Electric, and Autonomous Mobility Services.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A18	Develop a program and funding source to retrofit existing, incomplete roadways into complete streets.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, CPO		• Continue to implement Complete Streets Policy. • Use 2012 Bond and 2016 Mobility Bond corridor funding to implement recommendations from Corridor Improvement Program Studies citywide. Continue to implement Great Streets Master Plan in Downtown. Use 2016 Mobility Bond corridor funding to develop additional Corridor Improvement Programs. • Develop a new Strategic Mobility Plan that serves as the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan and establishes an integrated framework for transportation decisions. • Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT to require developers to improve adjacent streetscapes as part of development projects on certain streets. • Continue to Implement Sidewalk Master Plan and identify additional funding strategies. Continue to implement the Bicycle and Urban Trails Master Plans. • Consider during annual Capital Improvement Program Strategic Planning Process. Utilize Rolling Needs Assessment as a way to capture future funding and program needs for retrofit of existing roadways into complete streets.
LUT A21	Create a network of on- and off-street physically separated bicycle and walking routes or trails linking all parts of Austin and the region.	PWD, ATD		• Use 2016 Mobility Bond funding to continue to implement Urban Trails, Bicycle and Sidewalk master plans. • Implement Sidewalk and Bicycle Master Plans, including development of separated cycle-tracks along roadways. • Revise Transportation Criteria Manual to reflect best practices in multimodal street design.
LUT A22	Expand the Safe Routes to School programs.	PWD, ATD		• Continue to support safe routes to school program within Public Works, and continue to develop innovative active-transportation partnerships with schools.
LUT A23	Develop standards to connect all new neighborhoods to adjacent neighborhoods and commercial areas by streets, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes and/or paths.	PAZ, PWD, ATD		• Revise Land Development Code to support pedestrian oriented development within neighborhoods. • Continue to implement Sidewalk and Bicycle Master Plans.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A24	Encourage the relocation of the Union-Pacific Railroad freight line from its current alignment through the middle of Austin.	ATD, EDD (TxDOT)	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Regional Transit Vision. • Continue to coordinate with TxDOT and others to support relocation of freight traffic in the region.
LUT A25	Create a transportation and congestion management plan and program to improve the flow of traffic in and out of the Central Business District during the morning and evening rush hours through coordination with the Downtown public and private sector stakeholders.	ATD	🏃	• Continue to implement the Traffic Congestion Action Plan (TCAP) including implementation of Smart Commute to encourage city employees to take sustainable commutes to and from work. . • Deploy advanced transportation management system (ATMS) to improve traffic flow and traveler information. • Implement way-finding system in downtown which will make it easier to navigate by foot or by bike and will help people find public parking. • Continue the City's Travel Demand Management (TDM) program that is coordinating with downtown stakeholders through Movability Austin and expanding programming for City employees.
LUT A27	Promote increased bicycling and walking through traffic enforcement, program evaluation, and developing and integrating web-based tools, mobile applications and other educational materials.	PWD, ATD	🏃	• Implement Vision Zero Action Plan. • Continue work on numerous ATD Active Transportation Programs focused on education and enforcement. Continue the City's TDM program that is focused on implementing these solutions, such as the Smart Trips Program.
LUT A31	Improve streetscapes and infrastructure along activity corridors and at activity centers through the use of financing mechanisms such as Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts and Public Improvement Districts (PID).	PAZ, PWD, ATD, FSD, EDD	🏃	• Enhance DSD process for identifying, funding, and building partnerships. • Explore and expand use of statutorily allowable economic development tools. • Consider during annual Capital Improvement Program Planning Process. Analyze and implement TIF and/or PID as appropriate in emerging urban areas including Waller Creek and South Central Waterfront.
LUT A47	Create an ongoing Vision Zero Task Force to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan and subsequent updates to that Action Plan.	PAZ, ATD, APD, AFD, APH, EMS	🏃	
HN A5	Incentivize and subsidize the construction of infrastructure for projects providing affordable housing.	PAZ, NHCD, PWD, ATD, CPO	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Coordinate with NHCD and other City Departments through Housing+Transit+Jobs Work Group and other venues.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A5	Improve Austin's transportation and economic connections between other major cities in Texas by supporting the construction of a high speed rail network.	ATD	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Regional Transit Vision. • Continue to participate in regional transportation coordination as a member jurisdiction of CAMPO.
CFS A25	Cluster and, where appropriate, co-locate public facilities and programs to reduce costs.	FSD, NHCD, PWD, PAZ, Real Estate, Facilities	🏃	• Coordinate with Strategic Facilities Governance Team to implement innovative facility investments that support a compact and connected city. • Support development of joint-use projects, including development of affordable housing on city-owned land.
CFS A34	Align policies, incentives, regulations, service area extensions, and infrastructure to coordinate with the Growth Concept Map, maintain Austin's livability and affordability, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and sustainably manage Austin's water resources. Include consideration of diverse water sources and conservation and efficiency measures when planning for future demand for potable water.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, AW, WPD	🏃	• Develop and implement Street Impact Fee Program. • Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • Consider during annual Capital Improvement Program Strategic Planning Process. • Coordinate with Austin Water and other departments to ensure that infrastructure upgrades and service extensions support the Imagine Austin Growth Concept to the greatest extent practical. Continue to acquire water-quality lands in environmentally sensitive areas outside of Imagine Austin Centers and Corridors. Extend use of reclaimed (purple pipe) water systems to additional Centers and Corridors.
C A14	Develop programs and incentives to provide flexible, affordable work space and housing throughout Austin, with an emphasis placed on locations well-served by transit, Downtown, and activity centers and corridors for entrepreneurs, small and local businesses, artists, and creative professionals. Programs and incentives should address live-work space, home-based businesses, and temporary lease agreements in multi-use venues such as schools, vacant buildings, and warehouses.	EDD, NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT. • Implement programs that subsidize the development of affordable workspace and housing, with an emphasis placed on locations well served by transit, consistent with Imagine Austin Growth Concept. • Expand redevelopment services into additional Imagine Austin identified Centers and Corridors.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 2: SUSTAINABLY MANAGE OUR WATER RESOURCES.				
LUT A7	Implement a transfer of development rights program to transfer development rights from environmentally sensitive areas to areas identified on the Growth Concept Map for new development or redevelopment.	WPD, DSD, PAZ, PARD, AW	🏃	• Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission.
CE A3	Preserve and protect environmentally sensitive areas using a variety of tools, including transferable development rights as well as policies and regulations that incentivize greyfield/redevelopment/infill.	WPD, DSD, PAZ, PARD, AW	🏃	• Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission. • Continue implementation of the Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). • Support CodeNEXT process.
LUT A10	Locate new industrial development; logistics, warehousing, and distribution; and other comparable businesses in areas with adequate utility and transportation infrastructure and in areas that reduce the harmful effects on neighborhoods and the environment.	EDD	🏃	• Support CodeNEXT process
LUT A19	Develop complete streets design guidelines for all new road construction and reconstruction: - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities - Green street techniques - Green Street Techniques/Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices - Interconnected, navigable, grid-like streets and blocks - Flexibility in design and regulations - Create pedestrian-activated crosswalks at mid block intersections on arterials to improve pedestrian safety - Traffic calming measures - Transit accommodations - Use of native landscaping	ATD, PAZ, PWD, WPD, OoS	🏃	• Implementation of Complete Streets Policy is ongoing. • Street Design Guide has been completed and includes guidance re: Green Streets (i.e., landscaping and stormwater control measures in the public right-of-way • Revision of the Transportation Criteria Manual scheduled for completion in 2018. • Coordinate with CodeNEXT.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A37	Develop a regulatory framework to incentivize the use of Low Impact Development (LID) features such as rainwater harvesting, increased permeable surfaces, rain gardens, green roofs, green streets, and naturalized water quality features such as bioswales to manage stormwater.	WPD, AW, DSD	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options.
HN A15	Develop a regulatory framework to incentivize the use of sustainable and cost effective design features such as rainwater harvesting, xeriscape features, rain gardens, green roofs, greywater irrigation, solar power, and energy efficient utilities.	WPD, AE, DSD	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options. • Landscape transformation options focusing on functional landscapes, which has potential to reduce on-going maintenance costs, are being evaluated in the Integrated Water Resource Plan process.
CFS A36	Incentivize and promote low-impact development designs and techniques on private land that preserve key environmental features, reduce runoff and the use of potable water for plantings, and increase stormwater infiltration. Examples include rainwater harvesting, porous pavement, rain gardens, and green roofs.	WPD, AW, DSD	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options. • Recommendations included in CodeNEXT draft. • Beneficial onsite use of stormwater is being considered as a strategy in the Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Planning Process. • WPD implementing a pilot program (Waller Creek - Small-Scale Green Stormwater Infrastructure) to assess the degree to which installation of distributed stormwater control measures such as rainwater harvesting and onsite beneficial use can improve stream baseflow.
CFS A38	Develop incentives and coordinate regulations to promote innovative water and greywater re-use options for building and site design, landscape maintenance, and agricultural irrigation.	WPD, AW	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A1	Implement the City of Austin Climate Protection Plan.	All depts.	🏃	• AW & WPD staff contributing to OoS Climate Resiliency plan. • Exploring opportunities with Austin Energy for expanding renewable energy options at Austin Water. • AW staff is working collaboratively with EPA Region 6 on climate adaptation strategies and decision support analysis. • AW has recently joined the Water Utility Climate Alliance (WUCA).
CE A2	Create a system for identifying, defining, and mapping environmentally sensitive areas for their protection.	WPD, DSD, PARD, AW	🏃	• Extensive GIS exists & available to the public (e.g., critical environmental features, steep slopes, stream buffers).
CE A4	Improve policies and incentives for restoration of damaged natural resources areas.	WPD, DSD, PARD	🏃	• Continue implementation of riparian restoration projects in City parks and other city-owned lands. • Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance restoring creeks, riparian zones, and floodplains. • Coordinate with Green Infrastructure priority program. • Support CodeNEXT beneficial use and flood mitigation elements.
CE A5	Collaborate regionally to align conservation and sustainable development regulations and policies to protect environmentally sensitive areas that cross political boundaries.	WPD, AW, DSD, OoS, AFD	🏃	• AW continuing regional collaboration toward conservation and environmental protection. • Implement the countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (adopted Fall 2014) via the Austin Travis County Wildfire Coalition. • Continue implementation of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. • Continue regional collaboration regarding protection of water resources the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer.
CE A6	Encourage designs and building practices that reduce the environmental impact of development and that result in accessible green space.	DSD, WPD, AEGB	🏃	• Coordinate with Green Infrastructure priority program. • Staff recommendations in CodeNEXT draft, including required open space.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A7	Establish a comprehensive, predictable, consistent, and efficient process to evaluate the environmental effects of new development.	DSD, WPD	🏃	• Current code and criteria require assessment of environmental resources potentially affected by new development. Environmental review of land development applications ongoing by DSD with support from WPD. • Continue annual State of the Environment Report with updates on environmental conditions in Austin, including new development.
CE A8	Develop an educational and awards program to showcase best practices in sustainable and low-impact development and achievements or innovations in waste reduction, recycling, and sustainable food practices.	OoS, AE, WPD, ARR, PARD	🏃	• Continue to implement ongoing education programs relating to watershed protection, environmental protection, zero waste, sustainability, and locally sourced food education programs.
CE A15	Expand the City of Austin's acquisition of environmentally significant land, conservation easements, and/or development rights for the protection of sensitive areas, including: - floodplains - riparian areas - wetlands - prairies - land that supports recharge of the Edwards Aquifer - wildlife habitat and corridors - bottomland forests and priority woodlands - critical environmental features - agricultural land	AW, WPD, ORES, PARD	🏃	• 2012 $30M open space bond money spent. Additional open space funds to be considered for 2018 bonds. • Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance relating to creek and riparian zone protection. • Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission.
CE A16	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.	AW, DSD, PARD, WPD, AFD	🏃	• Standards of care for vegetation on public lands adopted; Urban Forest Management Plan adopted. • Continue AW Wildlands management of ~28,000 acres of water quality protection lands and ~14,000 acres of Balcones Canyonland Conservation Preserve endangered species habitat lands . • Continue Green Infrastructure priority program land management coordination, e.g., development of land classification system and support for the Urban Forest Plan, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and the Invasive Species Management Plan.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A17	Continue to develop and strengthen partnerships with universities and local schools to integrate educational programs with conservation and sustainability policies and projects.	AW, WPD	(running figure)	• Continue work with Colorado River Foundation and in-house elementary education programs. • Explore potential demonstration projects and test sites at educational campuses as well as research partnerships. • Continue work with AISD to construct rain gardens through community participation.
CE A9	Create print and online educational materials to expand public awareness of the benefits of environmental protection, simple steps to improve protection, and common threats to avoid.	OoS, WPD, AW, PARD, ARR, AE	(running figure)	• Continue to promote Austin's extensive online library of materials and curricula. • Continue ongoing education and outreach programs relating to watershed protection, environmental protection, zero waste, sustainability, and locally sourced food education programs.
CE A18	Create a regional task force to address inter-jurisdictional environmental sustainability issues.	AFD, PARD, OoS, CAMPO	(running figure)	• Continue efforts towards regional sustainability with Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, Air Central Texas, CAMPO, Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Austin Integrated Resource Planning Community Task Force
CE A23	Strengthen regulations that protect creeks and floodplains from development by increasing buffer zones and reducing the amount and type of development allowed in these areas.	WPD, DSD	(figure crossing finish line)	• Continue to implement the Watershed Protection Ordinance adopted by Council in 2013.
CE A24	Reduce pollution hot-spots and prohibit high-emission uses (e.g. scrap yards, automotive repair, etc.) in floodplains and critical water quality zones.	DSD, WPD	(running figure)	• Existing regulations prohibit these uses in the Critical Water Quality Zone (CWQZ), but not for redevelopment. • Continue work of Stormwater Discharge Permitting Program to inspect, educate, and promote best management practices for specific commercial and industrial operations in Austin.
CFS A8	Restore trees and vegetation along degraded waterways, especially in eastern watersheds.	WPD, PARD, DSD	(running figure)	• Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance protecting and restoring creeks, riparian zones, and floodplains. • PARD and WPD to continue implementation of the Grow Zone Program and other riparian restoration projects, such as tree planting in riparian areas. • Continue PARD and WPD's work and coordination with area nonprofits and the public to plant trees in parks along waterways.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A11	Develop multi-disciplinary, cross-jurisdictional planning teams for projects that involve major natural features, such as the Colorado River or Onion Creek Greenway.	WPD, PARD	🏃	• Work with Travis County to implement the Colorado River Corridor Plan. • Continue implementation of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. • Develop a park and restoration plan for the Onion Creek flood property buyout area.
CFS A28	Seek opportunities to align water, energy, and waste conservation/reduction funding, education, and incentives.	AW	🏃	• Continue to develop partnership opportunities with Austin Energy, Austin Resource Recovery, and Office of Sustainability • Continue to explore low-interest third-party loans for water conservation and energy efficiency
CFS A29	Provide tools, education, and assistance for utility users to better understand the environmental impacts of their water and energy use, and waste generation.	AW	🏃	• Austin Water continuing evaluation of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) piloting underway, which includes customer interface application to provide feedback on water use and comparisons to similar customers • Continue assisting PARD with gaging water use • Continue working with Office of Sustainability on key performance indicators relating to environmental footprint applications
CFS A34	Align policies, incentives, regulations, service area extensions, and infrastructure to coordinate with the Growth Concept Map, maintain Austin's livability and affordability, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and sustainably manage Austin's water resources. Include consideration of diverse water sources and conservation and efficiency measures when planning for future demand for potable water.	AW, PDR, AE, PWD	🏃	• Continue ongoing work: wholesale customers currently eligible for most AW conservation incentive programs. • Continue work to develop a 100-year Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) to help identify and facilitate opportunities for regional partnerships, technology cost sharing, balanced regional water reliability, and improved drought preparedness. • Continue environmental evaluation of land development permit applications for of service extension requests in the Drinking Water Protection Zone. • Conservation regulations required as wholesale contracts renewed. • Ongoing regional water planning efforts and coordination with Lower Colorado River Authority.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A35	Create a green infrastructure plan for public land or in public rights-of-way to preserve Austin's ecosystem, improve the water cycle, reduce the urban heat island effect, improve air quality, enrich public space, and provide for traffic calming. Examples include open space, trails, wetlands, community gardens, green streets, infiltration facilities, and the urban forest.	WPD, PARD, PWD, DSD, PAZ, AFD, AW, AE, OoS	🏃	• Many elements of an integrated green infrastructure plan are in place including an inventory of green infrastructure assets and City programs relating to green infrastructure. • Multiple City plans address elements of green infrastructure: e.g., PARD long-range plan, individual park master plans, Watershed Protection Master Plan, Urban Trails Plan, Urban Forest Plan, and Community Wildfire Protection Plan. June 2017 Council resolution calls for initiation of an Integrated Green Infrastructure Plan in 2018. • Continue Green Infrastructure priority program's coordination of this task.
CFS A37	Strengthen water conservation programs to lower water use using new tools, incentives, and regulations.	AW	🏃	• Continue to implement new permanent watering restrictions (e.g., no more than one day per week watering for automatic irrigation systems and two days per week for hose end sprinklers). • Continue to review program offerings for cost effectiveness; research new technologies.
CFS A39	Establish regulations, programs, and funding sources to allow off-site, including regional, stormwater detention and water quality controls to be used in concert with green infrastructure and low-impact development techniques in areas identified for compact, walkable development or redevelopment, and identify opportunities for recreational uses and habitat creation or restoration.	WPD, DSD, PAZ	🏃	• WPD & PARD developing process to better align CIP projects for multi-department benefits. • Continue work of Regional Stormwater Management Program (RSMP) to identify and fund regional flood solutions. • Support LID and flood mitigation elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater, landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure, and flood mitigation for redevelopment.
CFS A41	Participate in national, state, and local efforts to identify, assess, and reduce emerging contaminants in water, such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products.	AW, WPD	🏃	• Continue AW's ongoing work with large industrial customers on more stringent pretreatment practices to reduce contaminants in wastewater.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A42	Strengthen flood control, erosion, and water quality programs, incentives, regulations, and enforcement to incorporate best practices and meet or exceed national standards.	WPD		• Major regulatory improvements with 2013 Watershed Protection Ordinance. • Additional CodeNEXT regulatory improvements under consideration: beneficial use of stormwater, flood mitigation for redevelopment, and landscape improvements.
CFS A43	Expand and strengthen water quality regulations to achieve non-degradation and protect recharge zones, floodplains, creeks and their headwaters, and other environmentally sensitive areas: - Increased buffers and setbacks - Restricted land uses with significant spill risks in sensitive environmental areas - Changes in allowed impervious cover.	WPD		• Major regulatory improvements with 2013 Watershed Protection Ordinance. • Additional CodeNEXT regulatory improvements under consideration: beneficial use of stormwater, flood mitigation for redevelopment, and landscape improvements.
CFS A44	Collaborate with regional water providers to identify and reduce service overlaps and coordinate access to main water sources, including groundwater.	AW		• Continue ongoing coordination with area water providers.
CFS A9	Create a trails master plan to ensure connectivity and provide consistency with regional, city, and neighborhood-level trail and transportation goals to provide pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighborhoods and destinations; incorporate trails throughout the city and region; encourage developers to connect to or complete the trail system; and use protected land along creeks and floodplains in an environmentally sustainable way.	PWD, ATD, DSD, WPD, PARD		• Urban Trails Master Plan adopted 2014. • Continue coordination by Green Infrastructure priority program. • Use allocated funding to build out the Trails Master Plan.
HN A23	Coordinate with public and private sector organizations in Austin, such as school districts, non-profit organizations, and other agencies to address efforts related to health and human services, housing, economic development, sustainable development, and planning.	All depts		• Continue education programs, e.g., Grow Green program, Water Conservation education, Earth Camp, Keep Austin Beautiful, Waller Creek Conservancy, Shoal Creek Conservancy, flood education programs with area schools, and rain garden programs with schools.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
**PRIORITY PROGRAM 3: CONTINUE TO GROW AUSTIN'S ECONOMY BY INVESTING IN OUR WORKFORCE, EDUCATION SYSTEMS, ENTREPRENEURS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES.**
E A1	Maintain partnerships between local chambers of commerce, business associations, and regional and state economic agencies to develop and improve programs to recruit and retain businesses to Austin.	EDD	🏃	• Continue to review existing tax increment finance, special assessment district and Local Government Code Chapter 380 policies to put in place a robust evaluation, negotiation and management structure to appropriately structure public-private partnerships that deliver long-term public return on investment. Review and present for approval, the establishment of other tax incentive tools (development fee waivers, expedited permitting, property tax abatement) that can provide public financing assistance for the construction of public infrastructure through private-led development that supports multi-modal transportation modes and public communal space. • Develop public infrastructure financing plans for TODs, activity centers and corridors that provides "gap" financing to catalytic private-sector led projects that construct multimodal transit supportive infrastructure. The utilization of public tax incentives, such as sales and property tax rebates, property tax abatement, fee waivers, federal tax credits and other sources, are policy tools that can provide important sources of "gap" financing. • Implement the TOD/Center Plan as catalytic private sector-led TOD projects and/or area-wide value capture district opportunities manifest. The financing plan would ensure that the appropriate combination of public financing tools are synergistically employed.
E A2	Establish strategic incentives and investments tailored to targeted industries and business districts throughout Austin, such as downtown, industrial areas, roadway corridors, neighborhood-oriented and -scaled districts, transit-oriented districts (TOD), etc.	EDD	🏃	• Review and present for approval, new incentive and loan programs such as the Creative Content Incentive Program and Family Business Loan Program.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A3	Create a regulatory framework to foster a business-friendly environment by: - Identifying regulatory impacts on investment, business development, and retention (zoning, permitting and licensing requirements, tax requirements, etc.) - Assigning city staff devoted to helping businesses navigate the system and troubleshoot - Creating development incentives (including tax incentives), density and floor-to-area ratio (FAR) bonuses, reduced and alternative parking requirements, expedited review, etc. - Simplifying and clarifying the development review process, including one-stop shop review, enforced time lines, and set targets for responsiveness and accountability - Allowing more by-right development - Making development regulations more flexible, while defining the extent of flexibility and maintaining safety and code integrity - Creating a program to assist businesses that are affected by road construction or infrastructure improvements - Creating a rehabilitation building code to make adaptive reuse efficient	DSD, PAZ, SBDP	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • Coordinate with other departments. • Communicate with and seek the feedback of the business community regarding the land development code. • New Development Services Dept. will be implementing some changes and recommendations from Zucker Report.
E A4	Establish and continually monitor a set of measures to gauge the effectiveness of economic development initiatives.	All EDD divisions	🏃	• Continue to monitor Economic Development Department performance measures.
E A6	Increase international air service to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to improve business and tourism opportunities.	EDD	🏃	• Continue working with Austin Chamber and Air Services Task Force to support new London and Mexico City flights and attract new international flights.
E A7	Facilitate international trade that benefits diverse sectors of the Austin economy.	EDD	🏃	• Coordinate with departments. • Continue updates and implementation of EDD's international economic development strategy.
E A8	Expand the online availability of business development resources, such as best practices, for small businesses.	SBDP, EDD	🏃	• Help promote SBDP's programs and resources, create new programs. • Deliver initial online offering and expand upon online education resources

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A9	Establish and expand policies, programs, and partnerships to support the development of creative industries, including film, music, gaming, etc., in Austin. These could include: - Incubator programs - Business accelerators - Promotional programs - Live-work opportunities - Financial assistance - Implementation of the Create Austin Cultural Master Plan - Technical assistance and professional development opportunities - Workshops	CAD, EDD, HRD	🏃	• Continue Artist INC program (entrepreneurial training for individual creatives). • Continue community conversations and report on findings about artists' space needs. • Track community efforts to create new art spaces, and continue collaboration with thinkEAST, ArtSpace. • Launch needs assessment of creative sector. • Promote Creative Content Incentive Program to attract film, tv, and gaming productions to Austin.
E A10	Partner with the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau to develop a marketing strategy to promote tourism that builds upon Austin and Central Texas' unique natural environment, outdoor lifestyles, live music, performing arts, culture, diversity, and history.	EDD, CAD, APL	❓🏃	
E A11	Partner with business, property, and arts organizations to enhance downtown Austin's position as a nationally and internationally renowned business, entertainment center, and regional destination.	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Develop final Cultural Tourism Plan and identify outreach strategies related to cultural tourism. • Continue partnership with Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau. • Continue Great Streets Development Program. • Continue implementation of the 2012 Downtown Austin Plan: support the newly formed Red River Cultural District Merchants Association; support the provision of mechanisms that maintain public amenities and infrastructure throughout the Downtown, including Sixth Street, the Seaholm EcoDistrict, and Downtown's central core.
E A12	Preserve and promote iconic and unique Austin facilities and events that attract tourists, convention business, corporate relocations, and the recruitment of skilled workers.	CAD, EDD, HRD	🏃	• Develop final Cultural Tourism Plan and identify outreach strategies related to cultural tourism.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A13	Work with local school districts, the University of Texas, Austin Community College, other area institutions of higher learning, major employers, and elected officials to: - Identify gaps in educational programs; - Identify the skills needed for current, emerging, and targeted job sectors; - Educate students at all levels about the skills needed to compete in a 21st Century economy.	Creative Learning Initiative (PARD/ CAD/HRD), EDD	🏃	• Continue partnership with educational non-profits and support for Opportunity Austin's talent and education efforts. • Identify new partnership opportunities. • Identify gaps in grades 9-12 for Creative Learning Initiative.
E A14	Work with local colleges and universities to expand their medical education offerings and increase the availability of medical residency programs.	EDD	🏃	• Support implementation of Innovation Zone and Dell Medical Center where possible.
E A15	Develop economic development programs and incentives to promote the employment of historically under-employed segments of the population.	EDD	🏃	• Implement new economic development incentives policy and encourage use of bonus criteria, which rewards employment of economically disadvantaged individuals. • Continue to recruit companies which employ this segment of the population and identify new tools to do so.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A16	Create a regional economic development task force, led by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, that includes the City of Austin, nearby municipalities and surrounding counties; the University of Texas, Austin Community College, and other area institutions of higher learning; area transportation providers such the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Agency, Texas Department of Transportation, Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, and Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority; major employers and representatives from major industries; and other regional partners to develop a strategic direction for the Austin region by: - Developing a shared direction for the region; - Sharing information between the public and private sectors; - Establishing collaborative communication links among regional planning efforts; - Analyzing the impacts of publicly owned land; - Collaborating and co-locating institutional uses; - Attracting and supporting target industries; - Coordinating transportation planning.	EDD	🏃	• Continue participation in Opportunity Austin.
E A17	Establish more formal relationships between the cities in the Texas Triangle (Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio) to address issues regarding the larger region, including intraregional trade policies, the development of an inland port, and the employment of the region's diverse population.	EDD	🏃	• Continue participation in NASCO and other regional collaboration initiatives.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A18	Partner with the Austin business community to develop policies, regulations, and programs to foster the development and success of local businesses by: - Creating an inventory of locally-owned businesses, including creative industries; - Developing a mentor program for locally-owned businesses; - Promoting the formation of worker-owned and community-owned businesses (co-ops) that sell local products; - Creating an Austin Craftsmen's Guild to showcase products created by Austin residents; - Providing tax incentives for locally-owned businesses; - Creating a directory of locally-produced products; - Simplifying the process to have local businesses provide additional services (e.g. host bands for SXSW); - Supporting businesses at each stage of the business life cycle; - Enhancing and expanding small business development services to grow market share of small, local businesses; - Expanding economic opportunities and measurable results for Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE / WBE) firms.	EDD, SMBR	🏃	• Continue to promote LocallyAustin.org. • Review Small Business Needs Assessment Report and identify strategies for implementing recommendations.
E A19	Create a public-private task force between the State of Texas, the City of Austin, Travis County, local universities, the Chamber of Commerce, and local industries to invest in research and development and green tech, biotech, high tech, and other emerging technologies.	EDD	🏃	• Finalize plans for clean tech incubator at COTA. • Continue participation in Clean Energy Council. • Identify gaps.
E A21	Establish strategies, incentives, or investments in healthful outdoor activities and venues that generate economic benefits to local businesses while promoting wellness.	APH	❓	

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A27	Create a world-class library system by expanding collections and public computer access and by upgrading and expanding library facilities by completing the new Central Library, building four regional Resource Branches in the four quadrants of Austin, and retrofitting the Faulk Library as an expansion of the History Center.	APL	🏃	• Expand AHC into Faulk after new Central Library opens. Ongoing renovation schedule for branch libraries.
S A31	Expand mentoring and tutoring programs to help school-age children improve their academic performance and develop essential life skills.	AE, APL	🏃	• Continuing program with focus on recruiting additional mentors and tutors.
S A32	Work with educational and business partners to expand the availability of early childhood education and daycare services and programs for all residents, especially for middle and low income households and for those with children with disabilities, and fund through a modest fee or sliding-fee structure.	APL, HRD	🏃	• Austin Public Library training for childcare providers on reading readiness.
S A33	Collaborate with school districts to allow public and private sector use of underutilized schools and other public facilities for child care, educational programs, healthy living programs, and neighborhood activities.	Creative Learning Initiative (PARD/ HRD/CAD) - Lead, APL - Coordinate	🏃	• Continue to collaborate with school districts. Continue Summer Reading Program partnership with school districts to avoid summer learning loss.
S A34	Work with child care providers, school districts, local businesses, and non-profits to make affordable and accessible child care, early education, preschool, afterschool, and summer programs widely available throughout Austin and its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).	HRD, APL	🏃	• Austin Public Library to promote existing programs.
S A35	Partner with businesses to offer incentives to childcare, early education, and preschool programs that locate in underserved areas and near employment centers.	APH, HRD	🏃	• Continue to partner with businesses.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A36	Explore funding opportunities to offer financial assistance or scholarships to low and moderate income families for early childhood education and childcare.	APH, HRD, APL	🏃	• Continue Early Childhood program for low income families through Workforce Solutions and continue offering the City/County Subsidized Childcare Program.
S A37	Create opportunities for public-private partnerships to increase direct involvement by city departments, such as Parks and Recreation, in childcare and afterschool programming.	APL, PARD, HRD, HHSD	🏃	• Continue after-school programs. • Continue work with Creative Learning Initiative's Arts Classes Mapping project.
S A38	Partner with local school districts, colleges, universities, and vocational schools to expand the availability of evening and weekend continuing education and higher education classes.	HRD	🏃	• Define the City's role.
S A39	Develop a youth student leadership program that involves students in community planning and implementation.	HRD, PIO	🏃	• Continue to work with Youth Council. • Continue to implement AustinCorps.
S A40	Collaborate with educational and business partners in developing a comprehensive education program for all ages that focuses on the range of skills (i.e., literacy, interpersonal skills, and vocational skills) needed for gainful employment.	APL, PARD, HRD	🏃	• Continue existing services.
S A43	Collaborate with educational and business partners in expanding educational opportunities to meet the needs of current and emerging industries, the safety needs of the public sector, as well as those of the skilled trades.	HRD, PARD,EDD	🏃	• Continue funding of workforce development service providers.
S A44	Partner with the colleges and universities when designing community-based education programs.	EDD, APL, PARD	🏃	• Identify partnership opportunities.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A45	Explore leasing and cost-sharing agreements between the Austin Independent School District and the City of Austin to facilitate under-capacity schools and under-funded programs to remain open and in operation.	City Managers Office		
S A46	Create the capacity within the City of Austin to partner with school districts, community organizations, and the private sector to increase collaboration at school campuses.	PARD, HRD, CMO		• Continue initiatives and collaborations.
S A47	Develop seamless, coordinated relationships between school districts, community colleges, and other higher education institutions to integrate and minimize lack of funding for better educational community opportunities.	PARD, HRD, APL		
S A48	Support better integration of education from pre-kindergarten through higher education.	PARD, HRD		• Continue partnership with E3 Alliance and identify opportunities for productive City involvement.
S A49	Develop educational and public information programs focusing on promoting nutrition, healthy food, and local food sources.	APL, APH, PARD		• Austin Public Library to continue storytimes, brochures, programs, and materials. • New Central Library to include a cooking demo area.
C A16	Support programs to engage the business development community to assist creative economy start-ups and to develop business and management skills.	EDD		• Continue ArtistInc program (entrepreneurial training for individual creatives).
C A18	Coordinate with the different creative industry job sectors and area school districts, trade and vocational schools, colleges, and universities to develop and expand educational curricula to support the creative industries.	CAD, Creative Learning Initiative		• Launch needs assessment of creative sector. • Continue work with Creative Learning Initiative.
C A19	Facilitate partnerships to connect artists with artist residency opportunities to provide workforce support for the creative community.	CAD, PARD		• Launch needs assessment of creative sector.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 4: USE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS AND INTEGRATE NATURE INTO THE CITY.				
LUT A7	Implement a transfer of development rights program to transfer development rights from environmentally sensitive areas to areas identified on the Growth Concept Map for new development or redevelopment.	WPD, DSD, PAZ, PARD, AW	🏃	• Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission.
LUT A19	Develop complete streets design guidelines for all new road construction and reconstruction: - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities - Green street techniques - Green Street Techniques/Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices - Interconnected, navigable, grid-like streets and blocks - Flexibility in design and regulations - Create pedestrian-activated crosswalks at mid block intersections on arterials to improve pedestrian safety - Traffic calming measures - Transit accommodations - Use of native landscaping	ATD, PAZ, PWD, WPD, OoS	🏃	• Implementation of Complete Streets Policy is ongoing. • Street Design Guide has been completed and includes guidance re: Green Streets (i.e., landscaping and stormwater control measures in the public right-of-way). • Revision of the Transportation Criteria Manual scheduled for completion in 2018. • Coordinate with CodeNEXT.
LUT A20	Develop roadway and rights-of-way design standards that accommodate the needs of street trees and above and below ground utilities and infrastructure.	PWD, DSD, WPD	🏃	• Street Design Guide completed, includes Green Streets guidance (e.g., landscaping and stormwater control measures in the public ROW). • Staff recommendations for street trees included in CodeNEXT. • Specific design, planting, and tree care standards to be addressed in criteria manuals, including: street tree spacing, minimum soil volume, tree diversity, pervious surfaces, and tree care and tree health.
LUT A32	Develop standards for public spaces, such as parks, plazas and streets, to create integrated, tree-covered places.	PAZ, PARD	🏃	• Staff recommendations included in CodeNEXT draft.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A36	Incentivize appropriately-scaled and located green infrastructure and public spaces, such as parks, plazas, greenways, trails, urban agriculture and/ or open space in new development and redevelopment projects.	PAZ, PARD, WPD, EDD	🏃	• Staff recommendations included in CodeNEXT draft.
LUT A37	Develop a regulatory framework to incentivize the use of Low Impact Development (LID) features such as rainwater harvesting, increased permeable surfaces, rain gardens, green roofs, green streets, and naturalized water quality features such as bioswales to manage stormwater.	DSD, WPD, AW	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options.
LUT A39	Create regulations and incentives for developers and builders to use green development techniques for buildings, streets, and open spaces with a focus on conservation, longevity, and sustainability.	ATD, DSD, PAZ, WPD	🏃	• Environmental Criteria Manual sets forth policies and guidelines relating to LID practices for compliance with stormwater quality treatment requirements. • Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure.
LUT A40	Expand the number of parks and amount of open spaces of different sizes and purposes throughout the city.	PARD, PAZ, WPD, ORES	🏃	• Continue parkland acquisition through purchase and dedication with special focus on park deficient areas in order to meet Council-mandated goals. • Enforce 2016 Parkland Dedication Ordinance revised to increase the required land component from 5 acres to 9.4 acres and increase fees for payment-in-lieu of land dedication.
LUT A41	Promote Austin and the surrounding area's green infrastructure by utilizing web-based tools such as maps and other resources.	DSD, PAZ, PARD, WPD	🏃	• Continue developing web-based tools that promote the areas surrounding green infrastructure.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A15	Develop a regulatory framework to incentivize the use of sustainable and cost effective design features such as rainwater harvesting, xeriscape features, rain gardens, green roofs, greywater irrigation, solar power, and energy efficient utilities.	PAZ, DSD, WPD, AW	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options. • Landscape transformation options focusing on functional landscapes, which has potential to reduce on-going maintenance costs, are being evaluated in the Integrated Water Resource Plan process.
CE A1	Implement the City of Austin Climate Protection Plan.	OoS	🏃	• Revised Climate Protection Plan adopted by Council in 2015. • Continue plan implementation.
CE A2	Create a system for identifying, defining, and mapping environmentally sensitive areas for their protection.	WPD, DSD, PARD, AW	🏃	• Extensive GIS exists & available to the public (e.g., critical environmental features, steep slopes, stream buffers).
CE A3	Preserve and protect environmentally sensitive areas using a variety of tools, including transferable development rights as well as policies and regulations that incentivize greyfield/ redevelopment/infill.	WPD, DSD, PAZ, PARD, AW	🏃	• Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission. • Continue implementation of the Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). • Support CodeNEXT process.
CE A4	Improve policies and incentives for restoration of damaged natural resources areas.	WPD, PARD, DSD	🏃	• Continue implementation of riparian restoration projects in City parks and other city-owned lands. • Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance restoring creeks, riparian zones, and floodplains. • Coordinate with Green Infrastructure priority program. • Support CodeNEXT beneficial use and flood mitigation elements.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A5	Collaborate regionally to align conservation and sustainable development regulations and policies to protect environmentally sensitive areas that cross political boundaries.	WPD, DSD, AFD, AW, OoS		• AW continuing regional collaboration toward conservation and environmental protection. • Implement the countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (adopted Fall 2014) via the Austin Travis County Wildfire Coalition. • Continue implementation of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. • Continue regional collaboration regarding protection of water resources the Barton Springs Zone of the Edwards Aquifer.
CE A6	Encourage designs and building practices that reduce the environmental impact of development and that result in accessible green space.	WPD, DSD, AE		• Staff recommendations in CodeNEXT draft, including required open space.
CE A7	Establish a comprehensive, predictable, consistent, and efficient process to evaluate the environmental effects of new development.	DSD, WPD		• Current code and criteria require assessment of environmental resources potentially affected by new development. Environmental review of land development applications ongoing by DSD with support from WPD. • Continue annual State of the Environment Report with updates on environmental conditions in Austin, including new development.
CE A8	Develop an educational and awards program to showcase best practices in sustainable and low-impact development and achievements or innovations in waste reduction, recycling, and sustainable food practices.	OoS, AE, WPD, ARR, PARD		• Continue to implement ongoing education programs relating to watershed protection, environmental protection, zero waste, sustainability, and locally sourced food education programs.
CE A9	Create print and online educational materials to expand public awareness of the benefits of environmental protection, simple steps to improve protection, and common threats to avoid.	WPD, AW, OoS, PARD, ARR, AE		• Continue to promote Austin's extensive online library of materials and curricula. • Continue ongoing education and outreach programs relating to watershed protection, environmental protection, zero waste, sustainability, and locally sourced food education programs.
CE A10	Identify existing areas with limited access to parks, open space, and trails and create mechanisms to address these gaps.	PARD, DSD, WPD		• Parkland Dedication Map showing parkland deficient areas on Development Viewer

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A11	Develop regulations and incentives to protect prime farmland such as transferable development rights, farmland trusts, farmland mitigation, and conservation easements.	OoS	🏃	• The Austin/Travis County Food Policy Board, Farmland Preservation working group meets monthly and is coordinating with American Agland Trust to develop a prioritized map of valuable ag land in central Texas as well as to discuss the tools needed to preserve them.
CE A15	Expand the City of Austin's acquisition of environmentally significant land, conservation easements, and/or development rights for the protection of sensitive areas, including: - floodplains - riparian areas - wetlands - prairies - land that supports recharge of the Edwards Aquifer - wildlife habitat and corridors - bottomland forests and priority woodlands - critical environmental features - agricultural land	AW, WPD, ORES, PARD	🏃	• 2012 $30M open space bond money spent. Additional open space funds to be considered for 2018 bonds. • Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance relating to creek and riparian zone protection. • Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission.
CE A16	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.	AW, DSD, PARD, WPD, AFD	🏃	• Standards of care for vegetation on public lands adopted; Urban Forest Management Plan adopted. • Continue AW Wildlands management of ~28,000 acres of water quality protection lands and ~14,000 acres of Balcones Canyonland Conservation Preserve endangered species habitat lands . • Continue Green Infrastructure priority program land management coordination, e.g., development of land classification system and support for the Urban Forest Plan, the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and the Invasive Species Management Plan.
CE A17	Continue to develop and strengthen partnerships with universities and local schools to integrate educational programs with conservation and sustainability policies and projects.	AW, DSD, PAZ, PARD, WPD	🏃	• Continue work with Colorado River Foundation and in-house elementary education programs. • Explore potential demonstration projects and test sites at educational campuses as well as research partnerships. • Continue work with AISD to construct rain gardens through community participation.
CE A18	Create a regional task force to address inter-jurisdictional environmental sustainability issues.	AFD, PARD,OoS, CAMPO	🏃	• Continue efforts towards regional sustainability with Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, Air Central Texas, CAMPO, Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Austin Integrated Resource Planning Task Force

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A19	Review tree planting regulations to ensure that invasive species are not permitted. Create incentives to remove invasive plant species and replace them with native species.	DSD, WPD		• Environmental Criteria Manual specifies use of non-invasive plants for revegetation of disturbed sites. • WPD Grow Green Program and AW water conservation programs promotes the use of non-invasive, native and adapted plants in residential and commercial landscaping. • Per Environmental Criteria Manual, no mitigation is required for non-native invasive trees.
CE A20	Create a heritage tree inventory and monitoring system to create stronger mechanisms for protecting heritage trees.	DSD		• No further action planned; staff does not recommend a heritage tree inventory.
CE A21	Strengthen tree protection regulations.	DSD		• Heritage tree ordinance passed in 2010. • Support proposed CodeNEXT tree protection improvements. • Urban forest regulations are addressed in proposed CodeNEXT draft.
CE A22	Create an urban forest plan that identifies tree canopy goals, establishes a budget, and presents implementation measures.	DSD		• Urban Forest Plan adopted by City Council in 2014. • Continue to implement plan.
CE A23	Strengthen regulations that protect creeks and floodplains from development by increasing buffer zones and reducing the amount and type of development allowed in these areas.	WPD, DSD		• Continue to implement the Watershed Protection Ordinance adopted by Council in 2013.
CE A24	Reduce pollution hot-spots and prohibit high-emission uses (e.g. scrap yards, automotive repair, etc.) in floodplains and critical water quality zones.	WPD, DSD		• Existing regulations prohibit these uses in the Critical Water Quality Zone (CWQZ), but not for redevelopment. • Continue work of Stormwater Discharge Permitting Program to inspect, educate, and promote best management practices for specific commercial and industrial operations in Austin.
CFS A1	Limit, buffer, or prohibit public access to certain environmentally sensitive areas to maintain their value (i.e. wildlife protection and erosion control).	WPD, AW Wildlands		• Existing regulations prohibit development within 150 feet (or more) of Critical Environmental Features, such as springs, wetlands, and karst features without a variance. • Public access is restricted on Water Quality Protection Lands and Balcones Canyonlands properties.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A2	Expand equitable access for adults, children, and their pets to active and passive parks throughout the city by carefully targeting new parks where most needed and developing public access agreements with non-City-owned parks and open space.	PARD	🏃	• PARD to continue requiring land dedication (PLD) in Park Deficient Areas • PARD and AISD and PARD and other city departments continue to expand joint agreements for public access to facilities throughout Austin.
CFS A3	Establish pocket parks, smaller undeveloped preserves, and passive recreational spaces in areas with little open space.	WPD, PARD	🏃	• PARD to continue to use bond and PLD funds to expand park system. • PARD to pursue opportunities for pocket parks in code revision and area plans/form-based codes.
CFS A4	Explore additional funding sources primarily for the maintenance of parks as well as for the design and construction, including: - user fees - rental fees - additional grant opportunities - additional levy - reinvestment of revenue generated in parks - through partnerships	PARD	🏃	• Through parkland dedication, develop parkland improvement agreements that require developers to maintain parkland they dedicate. • Continue working with APF and other non-profits on maintenance projects. Continue to supplement park maintenance with special events ticket sales.
CFS A5	Ensure adequate funding for the maintenance of parks and trees on City of Austin property through Best Maintenance Practices.	PARD, PWD	🏃	• Parks Urban Forestry is undergoing a strategic planning process to incorporate best management practices into everyday opderations. Actions in the plan include realigning staff and compiling an inventory of trees on parkland so that trees can be managed effectively.
CFS A6	Expand partnerships between local organizations and the City of Austin to maintain and improve local parks and open spaces.	PARD	🏃	• Parks and Recreation partners with Austin Parks Foundation, TreeFolks, Keep Austin Beautiful, and other local non-profit organizations to maintain and improve local parks and open spaces.
CFS A7	Revise tree planting and tree care standards to be more sustainable and reduce tree mortality.	DSD	🏃	• Street Design Guide completed, includes Green Streets guidance (e.g., landscaping and stormwater control measures in the public ROW). • Staff recommendations for street trees included in CodeNEXT. • Specific design, planting, and tree care standards to be addressed in criteria manuals, including: street tree spacing, minimum soil volume, tree diversity, pervious surfaces, and tree care and tree health.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A8	Restore trees and vegetation along degraded waterways, especially in eastern watersheds.	WPD, PARD, DSD	🏃	• Implement provisions of the Watershed Protection Ordinance protecting and restoring creeks, riparian zones, and floodplains. • PARD and WPD to continue implementation of the Grow Zone Program and other riparian restoration projects, such as tree planting in riparian areas. • Continue PARD and WPD's work and coordination with area nonprofits and the public to plant trees in parks along waterways.
CFS A9	Create a trails master plan to ensure connectivity and provide consistency with regional, city, and neighborhood level trail and transportation goals to provide pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighborhoods and destinations; incorporate trails throughout the city and region; encourage developers to connect to or complete the trail system; and use protected land along creeks and floodplains in an environmentally sustainable way.	PWD, ATD, DSD, WPD, PARD	🏃	• Urban Trails Master Plan adopted 2014 • Use allocated funding to build out the Trails Master Plan.
CFS A10	Develop, through a process engaging the general public and professionals, context-sensitive trail, park, and greenway standards to ensure high-quality, environmentally sustainable design.	PWD	🏃	• Development of Trails Criteria Manual underway.
CFS A11	Develop multi-disciplinary, cross-jurisdictional planning teams for projects that involve major natural features, such as the Colorado River or Onion Creek Greenway.	PARD, WPD	🏃	• Work with Travis County to implement the Colorado River Corridor Plan. • Continue implementation of the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan. • Develop a park and restoration plan for the Onion Creek flood property buyout area.
CFS A12	Incorporate public art and interpretive signage into green spaces as an educational tool to demonstrate practices such as water conservation, recycling, and low-impact development.	PARD, WPD	🏃	• Continue to incorporate interpretive and educational signage into green spaces. DSD plans to target the Urban Forest Grant Program to the AIPP audience.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A23	Develop design standards for public buildings and spaces that promote high-quality community focal points in the areas where they are located. These standards should address issues such as: - re-use of existing structures - LEED certification, including water and energy efficiency - low-impact development - resource recovery, such as recycling, composting, and reuse - trees planting, preservation, and protection - green spaces - transit access - carshare/electric vehicle parking spaces - bikesharing and bicycle facilities and accommodations - safe, connected walkways - public spaces inside and outside of buildings - anchoring neighborhood niches - child-friendly play spaces - family-friendliness	AE, PAZ, ATD, PWD, ARR	🏃	• Support compact and connected and green elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater, street tree and landscape requirements for shade and safety, walkable & bikable streets, density supportive of transit, etc.
CFS A34	Align policies, incentives, regulations, service area extensions, and infrastructure to coordinate with the Growth Concept Map, maintain Austin's livability and affordability, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and sustainably manage Austin's water resources. Include consideration of diverse water sources and conservation and efficiency measures when planning for future demand for potable water.	AW, AE, PWD	🏃	• Continue ongoing work: wholesale customers currently eligible for most AW conservation incentive programs. • Continue work to develop a 100-year Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) to help identify and facilitate opportunities for regional partnerships, technology cost sharing, balanced regional water reliability, and improved drought preparedness. • Continue environmental evaluation of land development permit applications for of service extension requests in the Drinking Water Protection Zone. • Conservation regulations required as wholesale contracts renewed. • Ongoing regional water planning efforts and coordination with Lower Colorado River Authority.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A35	Create a green infrastructure plan for public land or in public rights-of-way to preserve Austin's ecosystem, improve the water cycle, reduce the urban heat island effect, improve air quality, enrich public space, and provide for traffic calming. Examples include open space, trails, wetlands, community gardens, green streets, infiltration facilities, and the urban forest.	WPD, PARD, PWD, DSD, PAZ, AFD, AW, AE, OoS	🏃	• Many elements of an integrated green infrastructure plan are in place including an inventory of green infrastructure assets and City programs relating to green infrastructure. • Multiple City plans address elements of green infrastructure: e.g., PARD long-range plan, individual park master plans, Watershed Protection Master Plan, Urban Trails Plan, Urban Forest Plan, and Community Wildfire Protection Plan. June 2017 Council resolution calls for initiation of an Integrated Green Infrastructure Plan in 2018. • Continue Green Infrastructure priority program's coordination of this task.
CFS A36	Incentivize and promote low-impact development designs and techniques on private land that preserve key environmental features, reduce runoff and the use of potable water for plantings, and increase stormwater infiltration. Examples include rainwater harvesting, porous pavement, rain gardens, and green roofs.	WPD, AW, DSD	🏃	• Support LID elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase use of green stormwater infrastructure. • Staff support of Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) process considering multiple distributed rainwater and stormwater harvesting options. • Recommendations included in CodeNEXT draft. • Beneficial onsite use of stormwater is being considered as a strategy in the Water Forward Integrated Water Resource Planning Process. • WPD implementing a pilot program (Waller Creek - Small-Scale Green Stormwater Infrastructure) to assess the degree to which installation of distributed stormwater control measures such as rainwater harvesting and onsite beneficial use can improve stream baseflow.
CFS A43	Expand and strengthen water quality regulations to achieve non-degradation and protect recharge zones, floodplains, creeks and their headwaters, and other environmentally sensitive areas: - Increased buffers and setbacks - Restricted land uses with significant spill risks in sensitive environmental areas - Changes in allowed impervious cover.	WDP	🏃	• Major regulatory improvements with 2013 Watershed Protection Ordinance. • Additional CodeNEXT regulatory improvements under consideration: beneficial use of stormwater, flood mitigation for redevelopment, and landscape improvements.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 5: GROW AND INVEST IN AUSTIN'S CREATIVE ECONOMY.				
LUT A29	Engage the local creative community to create more robust public art for Austin's public gathering places such as plazas, parks, trails, roadways, transit stops, and sidewalks.	EDD	🏃	• Art in Public Places streetscape artwork was added to the City's Complete Streets Guide. • The TEMPO (temporary public art) and 2% (permanent public art) programs of Art in Public Places continue to work collaboratively with all departments and stakeholders to add public art to the built environment.
HN A1	Establish regulations and programs to promote the development of a variety of market rate and affordable housing types within compact activity centers and corridors served by transit.	EDD, PAZ, NHCD	🏃	• Creative Economy Priority Program (CEPP) staff team completed the Community Creativity Center White Paper, providing a model for the development of small cultural facilities with a multi-disciplinary focus. The White Paper was shared with the AISD's team for the the development of community-centered campuses. It was also proposed for the FY18 Bond package by the Cultural Arts Division. • Contributing creative sector supporting language, code language, best practices to CodeNEXT effort; e.g. live/work spaces "by right." • City partnership with the ArtPlace America grant-funded thinkEAST Living Charrette Project has been a place where Affordable Housing is being discussed and prototyped; e.g. HACA and the Cesar Chavez Foundation have both committed to creating affordable housing for artists and neighbors at the 24-acre thinkEAST project. Fusebox, partner in the grant, is working with the developers to create a land trust on 4.5 acres to create affordable working and living space for creatives. • The Music and Creative Ecosystem Resolution calls out a number of strategies to implement to create affordable housing for creatives. • Land Development Code changes in progress through CodeNEXT. • The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint was adopted in early 2017

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A3	Produce regulations and enhance programs to promote affordable housing throughout Austin by: - Utilizing publicly-owned land for the development of affordable housing - Preserving existing affordable housing - Allowing for diverse housing types throughout Austin - Balancing homeownership and rental opportunities - Providing assistance in securing funding for affordable housing - Examining 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 - Land banking - Encouraging the expansion of community development corporations	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Consider Implementing the Music and Creative Ecosystem Resolution stategies that calls out for affordable housing for creatives. • Creative Economy Priority Program (CEPP) staff team working on creative space development White Paper, which will include something about affordable housing for creatives. • Contributing creative sector supporting language, code language, best practices to CodeNEXT effort. • City partnership with the ArtPlace America grant-funded thinkEAST Living Charrette Project has been a place where Affordable Housing has been discussed and prototyped; e.g. HACA and the Cesar Chavez Foundation have both committed to creating affordable housing for artists and neighbors at the 24-acre thinkEAST project. Fusebox, partner in the grant, is working with the developers to create a land trust on 4.5 acres to create affordable working and living space for creatives. Prototype these kinds of development. • Support others in the community that are working on affordable housing ideas. • Land Development Code changes in progress through CodeNEXT • The Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint was adopted in early 2017.
HN A24	Establish a regulatory environment that creates communities across Austin that: - support walking, bicycling, and transit - encourage live/work spaces - are in proximity to daily needs - include a variety of employment opportunities - provide a range of housing (duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, etc.) integrating market-rate and affordable housing for people of all ages, abilities, and means - utilize sustainable building practices - are stable with low crime and safe buildings - provide a range of facilities and services such as schools, parks, community gardens, and other public gathering spaces	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• CEPP staff team contributing code language supportive of the creative sector to codeNEXT • Prototype more of thinkEAST kinds of development as this project is modeling many of the items in this Action item. • Support activities of thinkEAST that are creating "safe walks" to school - partnership with AISD. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A1	Maintain partnerships between local chambers of commerce, business associations, and regional and state economic agencies to develop and improve programs to recruit and retain businesses to Austin.	EDD	🏃	• EDD has been working with the Mayor's Office and local chambers of comerce to plan overseas Mayoral Delegations to recruit new businesses to Austin. • Cultural Arts Division is working with the Asian Chamber of Commerce to bring about new opportunities between creatives and local businesses within Austin.
E A2	Establish strategic incentives and investments tailored to targeted industries and business districts throughout Austin, such as downtown, industrial areas, roadway corridors, neighborhood-oriented and scaled districts, transit-oriented districts (TOD), etc.	EDD, PARD, PAZ	🏃	• Successfully incubated two merchant associations of businesses located on Imagine Austin Corridors, and also initiated six more business district incubators through Soul-y Austin program hosted in various corridors and centers across multiple Council districts. • Supported small business outreach and participation in Burnet Corridor Sustainable Communities Building Blocks program. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. EDD is working on addressing new 380 incentives for Austin's industries after a Council resolution in early 2017.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A3	Create a regulatory framework to foster a business- friendly environment by: - Identifying regulatory impacts on investment, business development, and retention (zoning, permitting and licensing requirements, tax requirements, etc.) - Assigning city staff devoted to helping businesses navigate the system and troubleshoot; - Creating development incentives (including tax incentives), density and floor-to-area ratio (FAR)bonuses, reduced and alternative parking requirements, expedited review, etc. - Simplifying and clarifying the development review process, including one-stop shop review, enforced timelines, and set targets for responsiveness and accountability - Allowing more by-right development - Making development regulations more flexible, while defining the extent of flexibility and maintaining safety and code integrity - Creating a program to assist businesses that are affected by road construction or infrastructure improvements - Creating a rehabilitation building code to make adaptive reuse efficient and affordable	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Provided review and comments of CodeNEXT Prescription papers on the Land Development Code as they relate to small business, cultural and arts organizations, and music venues. • Provided range of incentive and regulatory recommendations to the Mayor's Music and Creative Ecosystem Omnibus; these include recommendations to revise existing density bonuses, develop new incentives, and reduce regulatory barriers for arts and cultural spaces, live music venues, and small businesses, directly or through CodeNEXT.
E A4	Establish and continually monitor a set of measures to gauge the effectiveness of economic development initiatives.	EDD	🏃	• EDD provides measurements.
E A6	Increase international air service to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport to improve business and tourism opportunities.	EDD, PARD, AVIATION DEPT	🏃	• EDD Global Business Recruitment and Expansion Division serves on the Air Service Task Force with key organizations from the community to support efforts for increasing international air service.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A8	Expand the on-line availability of business development resources, such as best practices, for small businesses.	EDD, APL, PARD	(running figure)	• The Council's Omnibus Resolution in March 2016 suggested staff research a variety of ways to increase revenue for inudstry members and the music and creative sectors themselves. The Music & Entertainment Division is putting together a contract for a revenue development platform that will offer online business development training along with additional resources including a music industry directory. • The Music Divsion has also implemented a new online panel series through Facebook Live that brings together industry professionals to speak on topics of interest and give tips of the trade. • Continue to record Exploring Entrepreneurship panel discussions made available for online viewing. • The Small Business Program offers Artist INC curriculum to include competitive participation courses, standard non-competitive participation seminars, and webinars. • Continue to inform small business owners with online access to BizOpen Orientation, covering development and permitting. • Launch online BizAid Business Orientation to educate small business owners on resources and steps to starting or expanding a business. • APL will continue to update the Business & Nonprofits Information Guide to provide up to date and accurate information for local businesses.
E A9	Establish and expand policies, programs, and partnerships to support the development of creative industries, including film, music, gaming, etc., in Austin. These could include: - Incubator programs - Business accelerators - Promotional programs - Live-work opportunities - Financial assistance - Implementation of the Create Austin Cultural Master Plan - Technical assistance and professional development opportunities - Workshops	EDD, PARD, PAZ	(running figure)	• Artist INC curriculum will include competitive participation courses, standard non-competitive participation seminars, and webinars. Offered in partnership (EDD and PDRD) at the Dougherty Arts Center for community artists in FY17. • Offer Exploring Entrepreneurship panel discussions for creatives to feature successful creative entrepreneurs. • Continue to offer development classes and events focusing on skills for successful business management. • Research partnership opportunities with institutions of higher education. • Research viability of providing one-on-one business coaching customized for creatives.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A12	Preserve and promote iconic and unique Austin facilities and events that attract tourists, convention business, corporate relocations, and the recruitment of skilled workers.	EDD, PAZ, APL	🏃	• The Parks Department launched a community engagement process for the development of a venue at the Oakwood Cemetary that would recognize the rich history represented there as Austin's oldest cemetary. Since late 2016, the Music & Entertainment Division has been implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019. Such programs include the Agent of Change policy to protect existing music venues from future development and the updated Outdoor Venue Permit to streamline the existing regulatory code. Created the Red River Extended Hours pilot program to give venues additional time to earn revenue. • APL through the Austin History Center is gathering oral histories of music venues that are closing and working on an exhibition to highlight these venues. • EDD CAD has launched the Cultural Asset Mapping Project and is also working with the East Austin Historical Study.
E A13	Work with local school districts, the University of Texas, Austin Community College, other area institutions of higher learning, major employers, and elected officials to: - Identify gaps in educational programs; - Identify the skills needed for current, emerging, and targeted job sectors; - Educate students at all levels about the skills needed to compete in a 21st Century economy.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• PARD commenced a collaboration with Mindpop to train PARD teachers in Creative Learning Strategies currently being used in 50% of AISD campuses, addressing the skills needed by students to compete in a 21st century economy.
E A15	Develop economic development programs and incentives to promote the employment of historically under-employed segments of the population.	EDD	🏃	• Global Business Recruitment and Expansion Division currently administers funding to support two programs in the community that provide long-term and short-term career and occupational development for individuals with economic disadvantages.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A18	Partner with the Austin business community to develop policies, regulations, and programs to foster the development and success of local businesses by: - Creating an inventory of locally-owned businesses, including creative industries; - Developing a mentor program for locally-owned businesses; - Promoting the formation of worker-owned and community-owned businesses (co-ops) that sell local products; - Creating an Austin Craftsmen's Guild to showcase products created by Austin residents; - Providing tax incentives for locally-owned businesses; - Creating a directory of locally-produced products; - Simplifying the process to have local businesses provide additional services (e.g. host bands for SXSW); - Supporting businesses at each stage of the business life cycle; - Enhancing and expanding small business development services to grow market share of small, local businesses; - Expanding economic opportunities and measurable results for Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MBE / WBE) firms.	EDD	🏃	• Global Business Recruitment and Expansion Division currently administers funding to support two programs in the community that provide long-term and short-term career and occupational development for individuals with economic disadvantages.
S A46	Create the capacity within the City of Austin to partner with school districts, community organizations, and the private sector to increase collaboration at school campuses.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• PARD collaborated with Mindpop and AISD in the presentation of "Cultural Connections," a quarterly workshop for artists of color on how to access jobs at AISD as well as at PARD. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A47	Develop seamless, coordinated relationships between school districts, community colleges, other higher education institutions, to integrate and minimize lack of funding for better educational community opportunities.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• The Economic Development Department is in discussions with Austin Community College to implement a Fashion Incubator to open Austin-based opportunities for career and revenue development in the fashion sector. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A1	Create a City of Austin function to oversee all arts, creative, and heritage programs, such as: - identifying funding sources for the arts - promoting the economic impact of arts and creativity - publicizing best practice success stories - developing an advertising program and a website to promote local talent - creating an annual awards program for local artists - developing a branding campaign for arts and creativity in Austin - developing a mapping and wayfinding system for arts, creative, cultural, and historic resources - developing an arts exchange program to market local artists regionally, nationally, and internationally - developing impromptu and non-traditional venues for art exhibits and installations and performances - facilitating the inclusion of public art.	EDD, PAZ, PARD, APL	🏃	• Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Various items are being implemented by EDD Cultural Arts Division, PARD Museums and Cultural Programs, and EDD Music & Entertainment Division.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A2	Incorporate the arts and cultural preservation themes and elements into small area plans, such as neighborhood and corridor plans.	EDD, PAZ	(running figure)	• Developed two commercial area plans and began third one that include Culture, Arts, and Music as major elements for focus on preservation and enhancement, including focuses on live music venues and live theaters; proceeding for Council adoption in Fall 2016 • Worked with Red River Cultural District and other stakeholders to refine existing plans to support live music venue retention. • Contributed review and comments to CodeNEXT related to arts and culture preservation and space development through regulatory code. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development.
C A3	Create incentives and programs to promote the inclusion of public art into new development.	EDD, PAZ	(running figure)	• The Art in Public Places program continues to work with private developers to leverage voluntary funding for public art within new construction. Several projects funded by private monies have been completed in the 2nd Street and Seaholm Districts with several more in progress. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A4	Cultivate cultural and heritage tourism by marketing and promoting Austin's museums, libraries, historic sites and venues and providing education and training to frontline tourism workers.	PARD, EDD, APL	(running figure)	• The Economic Development Department has begun implementing some portions of the Cultural Tourism Plan with other portions receiving additional input from the community and stakeholders to ensure that the recommendations receive full support by all partners. • The Austin History Center continues to develop plans to create and market a 'Heritage Corridor' cultural district for heritage tourism. The district will be a multi-block historic district anchored by the Austin History Center and Wooldridge Square Park. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A5	Promote the use of non-traditional venues (such as parks, schools, streets, and vacant buildings) for impromptu and small scale performances and events, such as jugglers, dancers, mimes, actors, storytellers, poets, and performance artists.	EDD, PARD, APL	🏃	• The Art in Public Places program continues to work in partnership with community members to program activities in tandem with temporary public art projects, such as interpretive dance, neighborhood tree planting, etc. that activate non-traditional venues in new ways.
C A6	Collaborate with sponsoring organizations, sponsors, and transportation companies to develop special event transportation plans to mitigate traffic congestion associated with these events.	EDD, PARD, ATD	🏃	• Special Events Committee is handling this activity.
C A7	Promote the development and expansion of arts space, facilities and programming, including libraries, museums, parks, performing art venues and community centers by identifying existing facilities and conducting a needs assessment.	EDD, PAZ, PARD, APL	🏃	• Economic Development Dept Cultural Arts Division is currently conducting the Cultural Asset Mapping Project for Austin. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development.
C A8	Develop programs to promote Austin's diverse cultural heritage: cultural events and venues, a citywide multi-cultural festival, culture-based tourism, educational materials	PARD	🏃	• PARD's Division of Museums and Cultural Programs (MCP) developed a new City-wide multicultural concert to promote Austin's diverse cultural heritage. MCP also revised a brochure of PARD owned cultural and nature facilities to publish for distribution in Austin's hotels and motels using HotTax funding. MCP produced over 2400 programs promoting cultural diversity in Museums and Cultural Centers.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A9	Develop and invest in intergenerational art education partnerships and programming between schools, artists and arts organizations, libraries, neighborhood associations, and senior programs to provide life-long exposure to the arts.	APL, PARD	🏃	• The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center developed two intergenerational programs in the past year: "Pláticas": Community & Film Talk-back series is a FREE four-part series inviting Latinos of all ages to join for a community-discussion following the view of a documentary related to Latinx culture, arts, and well-being. • Sábados en Familia – is a free 2 hour program at the ESB-MACC that invites families of all ages to come learn about Latinx culture through various mediums and to create an original art project together. • APL continues to include performance artists, especially puppeteers and storytellers, in its programming for adults and youth and will continue to encourage community use of library meeting room facilities for this use.
C A10	Develop regulations to mitigate the sound from live music venues through a collaborative process that includes the City of Austin, musicians, venue operators, property owners, and residents.	EDD, PAZ, DSD	🏃	• At the end of 2017 Music & Entertainment Division staff is proposing the Agent of Change Principle within Austin's code regulation and couple the policy with a streamlined update of the Outdoor Venue Permit. The Music Division will also create a stakeholder process to craft guidelines for the good neighbor policy to creat a better understand between commercial and residential neighbors, and good will. • The Music Venue Loan Assistance Program was established in 2014 by the Music & Entertainment Division to help live music venues mitigate sound issues. The Music Division is looking to expand the uses for this loan to incorporate uses that will garner additional revenue for the venue.
C A11	Create incentives and programs to preserve iconic and established music venues and performance spaces throughout Austin and its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).	EDD, PAZ, DSD	🏃	• At the end of 2017 Music & Entertainment Division staff is proposing the Agent of Change Principle within Austin's code regulation and couple the policy with a streamlined update of the Outdoor Venue Permit. The permit will reduce the associated fees, lengthen renewal periods, and set parameters for music venue designations. • The implementation of the Agent of Change Principle will also preserve iconic and established music venues and performance spaces.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A12	Increase funding sources (grants, private and public funding programs) and non-financial support (business recruitment, business expansion and retention, workforce development) to sustain and expand the creative industry sector.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A13	Establish incentives and regulations to promote the creation of artists' live/ work space in residential areas that allow for limited gallery space.	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Contributing creative sector supporting language, code language, best practices to codeNEXT effort - ongoing. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A14	Develop programs and incentives to provide flexible, affordable work space and housing throughout Austin with an emphasis placed on locations well-served by transit, Downtown, and activity centers and corridors for entrepreneurs, small and local businesses, artists, and creative professionals. Programs and incentives should address live-work space, home-based businesses, and temporary lease agreements in multi-use venues such as schools, vacant buildings, and warehouses.	EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Contributing creative sector supporting language, code language, best practices to codeNEXT effort. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A15	Create programs and incentives and develop partnerships between the City of Austin, artists and members of the creative community, businesses, developers, and arts education institutions to provide more public and private exhibition space for local artists, students' exhibitions, and cultural events at such places as parks, public buildings, plazas, office and commercial buildings, as well as vacant buildings.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• PARD initiated a new training program for staff of recreation centers to encourage the use of recreation sites for community exhibitions. • The Art in Public Places Program continues to encourage participation in the TEMPO (temporary public art) program to expand exhibition opportunities for local artists in a variety of City locations and in partnership with the community. • EDD CAD is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A16	Support programs to engage the business development community to assist creative economy start-ups and to develop business and management skills.	EDD, PAZ, PARD	🏃	• Continue to offer development classes and events focusing on skills for successful business management. • Artist INC curriculum will include competitive participation courses, standard non-competitive participation seminars, and webinars. In partnership (EDD and PAZ) at the Dougherty Arts Center for community artists in FY17. • Research partnership opportunities with institutions of higher education. • Offer a pilot mentorship program in partnership with Creatives Meet Business to connect with creative industry professionals. • Research viability of providing one-on-one business coaching customized for creatives.
C A17	Expand existing programs and identify funding sources to provide affordable physical and mental health care, housing and other support services for artists, musicians, and others in the creative community.	HHSD, EDD	🏃	• Musicians have access to Health Alliance for Austin Musicians (HAAM) for affordable healthcare. The sister organization, The SIMS Foundation, offers mental health and addiction recovery services to musicians and has now expanded to offer those services to industry professionals.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
C A18	Coordinate with the different creative industry job sectors and area school districts, trade and vocational schools, colleges, and universities to develop and expand educational curricula to support the creative industries.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• The Economic Development Department is in discussion with local institutions of higher learning (ACC, St. Edwards University, University of Texas, etc.) to coordinate curricula that will support creative industries. • Present for City Council consideration staff recommendations on implementing the recommendations related to the Music and Creative Ecosystem 0160303-019.
C A19	Facilitate partnerships to connect artists with artist residency opportunities to provide workforce support for the creative community.	EDD, PARD	🏃	• The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Center successfully completed its first round of three year theater residencies at the site, while the Dougherty Arts Center initiated its first residency in 2016. • In 2016, the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Center accepted eight new resident artists and arts companies including the disciplines of theater, music, visual arts, and dance. • The Art in Public Places Program continues to explore opportunities for artist-in-residence that would match local artists with various City departments. The program has currently launched residencies with the Fire and EMS Departments.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 6: DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN HOUSEHOLD AFFORDABILITY THROUGHOUT AUSTIN.				
LUT A2	Promote diverse infill housing such as small-scale apartments, smaller-lot single family houses, town and row houses, and garage apartments that complement and enhance the character of existing neighborhoods.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments have been proposed. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • City Council adopted a resolution in December 2015 to analyze the potential for the CodeNEXT land development code revisions to affirmatively further fair housing, giving low- and moderate-income residents housing choices in high opportunity and gentrifying areas. • PUD amendments to clarify that affordable housing is expected to be on-site.
LUT A3	Establish land use and street design regulations to create sustainable neighborhoods that are child-friendly, support walking and bicycling, are in proximity to daily needs, and provide a range of housing type options such as duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, and houses on smaller lots to meet the needs of people of different means and at different stages of their lives.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments have been proposed. • Revise Subdivision Regulations.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A5	Create a regulatory environment to promote the redevelopment of brownfields and greyfields into compact, walkable places by: - Increasing development rights through changes in regulations, density bonuses, and other incentives; - Revising parking requirements that result in more permeable areas and promote walking, biking, and transit; - Providing assistance in securing funding for redevelopment; - Ensuring appropriate transitions to less intensive residential areas; - Expediting the permitting and approval process; - Utilizing Low Impact Development practices to mitigate impacts associated with increases in impervious cover or constrained stormwater infrastructure that may impede redevelopment.	PAZ	🏃	• Revise through CodeNEXT. • Revise Subdivision Regulations.
LUT A6	Create a regional planning initiative to encourage local governments in Central Texas to promote a mix of housing and land uses for diverse populations and income groups, located near work, shopping, and services.	PAZ	🏃	• Continue regular meetings to promote interorganizational and intergovernmental collaboration. • Housing Jobs Balance Study complete.
HN A1	Establish regulations and programs to promote the development of a variety of market rate and affordable housing types within compact, activity centers and corridors served by transit.	PAZ, NHCD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • Austin City Council has adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, which includes numerical goals, timelines, and strategies to maintain and create affordable housing for a range of incomes throughout the city, as envisioned in Imagine Austin. The Blueprint includes recommendations for aligning resources, ensuring a unified strategic direction, and helping facilitate community partnerships to achieve this shared vision. • Housing/Jobs/Transit Action Team meets regularly and will send memo to Council about strategies to better connect affordable housing, transit and jobs.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A2	Develop incentives and policies to encourage more families with children to live in Austin's established neighborhoods by increasing the supply and variety of housing.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments have been proposed. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • CodeNEXT is now in Phase II which will conclude with a public draft. The Household Affordability Code Prescription paper includes recommendations to encourage diverse housing.
HN A3	Produce regulations and enhance programs to promote affordable housing throughout Austin by: - Utilizing publicly-owned land for the development of affordable housing - Preserving existing affordable housing - Allowing for diverse housing types throughout Austin - Balancing homeownership and rental opportunities - Providing assistance in securing funding for affordable housing - 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 - Land banking - Encouraging the expansion of community development corporations	NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Preservation Study completed establishing a baseline of aging multi-family housing stock, set goals to support preservation and identify opportunities to further preservation initiatives. Council adopted a resolution with a goal of preserving 20,000 affordable units over the next 20 years. • City Council has created one Homestead Preservation District and established a 10% Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) in it. • Community Land Trust (CLT) program established to preserve public investment in affordability in perpetuity. • The City's consultants completed a Housing Market Study to identify the City's affordable housing needs. The information will be utilized by policy makers to determine how best to meet the City's affordable housing needs. • Housing/Jobs/Transit Action Team meets regularly and will send memo to Council about strategies to better connect affordable housing, transit, and jobs. • Austin City Council has adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, which includes numerical goals, timelines, and strategies to maintain and create affordable housing for a range of incomes throughout the city, as envisioned in Imagine Austin. The Blueprint includes recommendations for aligning resources, ensuring a unified strategic direction, and helping facilitate community partnerships to achieve this shared vision.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A4	Provide incentives, educational materials, and develop new funding sources for the rehabilitation and repair of affordable housing, including: - Tax rebates - Flexible development regulations - Fees-in-lieu of providing affordable housing - Bond elections	NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• NHCD will continue researching various dedicated revenue and other local funding sources to explore ways to more sustainably fund all of these programs. • A $65 million G.O. Bond for affordable housing was approved by voters in 2013. • Fee-in-lieu from the Downtown Density Bonus Program will be used for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for the chronically homeless. NHCD issued a request for proposals for at least 50 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in Spring of 2016. The Mayor's Initiative to End Veterans' Homelessness was successful in reaching "functional zero," meaning that, at any point in time, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness will be no greater than the current monthly housing placement rate for veterans experiencing homelessness. • 2014 Housing Market Study and Housing Choice Survey provide data on household affordability in Austin and inform programmatic and policy decisions moving forward. • NHCD has created an Affordable Housing Inventory to track affordable units funded by the city or created through development incentive programs. • City Council approved a resolution in December of 2015 directing 100% of tax revenue (up from 40%) from city-owned properties to the Housing Trust Fund.
HN A5	Incentivize and subsidize the construction of infrastructure for projects providing affordable housing.	NHCD, PAZ, AE, AW	🏃	• Research the infrastructural regulatory barriers and costs to determine appropriate incentives. • Coordinate with Capital Planning Office on Long Range Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to ensure coordinated investment, and to maximize opportunities.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A6	Provide greater consideration for the awarding of incentives to businesses, organizations, and developments that provide housing and employment opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals.	NHCD, EDD, PAZ	🏃	• Strengthen S.M.A.R.T. housing program incentives and other development incentives to achieve greater levels of affordable housing. Analysis of the S.M.A.R.T. housing program is currently underway. • Austin City Council has adopted the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, which includes numerical goals, timelines, and strategies to maintain and create affordable housing for a range of incomes throughout the city, as envisioned in Imagine Austin. The Blueprint includes recommendations for aligning resources, ensuring a unified strategic direction, and helping facilitate community partnerships to achieve this shared vision.
HN A7	Advocate changes to State of Texas legislation to support the development of affordable housing (i.e., repeal of the ban on inclusionary zoning).	NHCD	🏃	• NHCD and the City of Austin Intergovernmental Relations Office have advocated for changes to state laws to support the development of affordable housing.
HN A8	Expand home-buyer assistance programs so that lower income households can purchase houses to increase homeownership levels in Austin.	NHCD	🏃	• Continue home-buyer assistance programs available for income-qualified citizens (as funding allows). • Community Land Trust (CLT) program established to preserve public investment in affordability in perpetuity. • Continue offering Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). • City Council passed a resolution in April of 2016 directing staff to explore additional options for homeownership.
HN A9	Expand existing and develop new programs and coordinate with other organizations to retain long-time residents of neighborhoods experiencing rapidly increasing property values and an influx of wealthier new residents.	NHCD	🏃	• NHCD will continue to refine and enhance several city-administered home repair and architectural barrier removal programs that assist low-income, elderly, and disabled residents to remain in their homes. These programs also work to preserve critical affordable housing stock. • NHCD will continue partnering with local non-profit organizations whose missions support local residents in preserving their housing in their current neighborhoods. • City Council passed a resolution in April of 2016 directing staff to explore additional options for homeownership.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A10	Create incentives and form partnerships with large employers to develop workforce housing.	NHCD, EDD, PAZ	(running figure)	• The City of Austin has submitted proposals to purchase AISD properties for affordable housing.
HN A11	Establish a regulatory framework to promote and assist housing development that involves adaptive re-use of existing buildings.	PAZ	(running figure)	• CodeNext Land Development Code Revision. Code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments are complete. • Revise Subdivision Regulations.
HN A16	Engage the local architect and design community in creating a variety of housing types to meet the housing needs of all types of households (e.g., singles, empty nester, families with children, and people with disabilities).	PAZ	(running figure)	• CodeNext Land Development Code Revision. Code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments are complete.
HN A18	Work with employers to locate their place of business along activity centers and corridors in proximity to residential areas that could provide housing for their employees.	NHCD, EDD, PAZ	(running figure)	• Revise Land Development Code. • Housing/Jobs/Transit Action Team meets regularly and will send memo to Council about strategies to better connect affordable housing, transit, and jobs. • Housing Jobs Balance Study complete.
HN A23	Coordinate with public and private sector organizations in Austin, such as school districts, non-profit organizations, and other agencies to address efforts related to health and human services, housing, economic development, sustainable development, and planning.	NHCD, PAZ	(running figure)	• Continue coordination with public and private sector organizations. Council created a Regional Affordability Committee. • The Austin Independent School District is considering options to create housing for employees.
HN A24	Establish a regulatory environment that creates communities across Austin that: - support walking, bicycling, and transit - encourage live/work spaces - are in proximity to daily needs - include a variety of employment opportunities - provide a range of housing (duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, etc.) integrating market-rate and affordable housing for people of all ages, abilities, and means - utilize sustainable building practices - are stable with low crime and safe buildings - provides a range of facilities and services such as schools, parks, community gardens, and other public gathering spaces	PAZ	(running figure)	• CodeNext Land Development Code Revision. • City Council adopted a resolution in December 2015 to analyze the potential for the CodeNEXT land development code revisions to affirmatively further fair housing, giving low- and moderate-income residents housing choices in high opportunity and gentrifying areas.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A24	Reduce homelessness in the City of Austin by: - Expanding the recuperative care program for the homeless - Incorporating recommendations of the current homeless and mental health task forces - Reducing regulatory barriers to the development of housing for the homeless	NHCD	🏃	• Explore what regulatory and programmatic barriers to affordable housing exist as well as for low-barrier, housing-first permanent supportive housing. • Downtown Density Bonus fees-in-lieu will all be designated for low-barrier, housing-first permanent supportive housing (PSH). • Austin has created a system to ensure that "functional zero" for veteran homelessness can be maintained, meaning that, at any point in time, the number of veterans experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness will be no greater than the current monthly housing placement rate for veterans experiencing homelessness. The community continues to work with the US Interagency Council on Homelessness to finalize the required documentation. This achievement is partially a result of Austin's participation in the national Mayors' Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. The Austin effort involves a coalition from government, non-profit, for-profit, and real estate organizations.
S A25	Coordinate between all the organizations providing services to the homeless community to maximize the efficacy of limited resources.	NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • NHCD issued a request for proposals for at least 50 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in spring of 2016.
S A26	Promote the development of housing opportunities that support persons transitioning from homelessness and other barriers to housing stability.	NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • NHCD issued a request for proposals for at least 50 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in spring of 2016.
S A27	Support social services that provide financial support to families who are losing their homes and encourage public/private partnerships that create and implement solutions to this issue.	NHCD, APH	🏃	• NHCD/APH will continue to target federal funds for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) programs, dependent on funding. • APH will continue to fund "Rapid-Rehousing" strategies though social services contracts to immediately help stabilize families upon their loss of housing.
S A28	Locate supportive housing (i.e., housing with supportive services such as financial counseling, medical facilities, and child care) for families with children in areas of the city with under-enrolled schools.	NHCD, PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development Code Revision.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A29	Investigate the feasibility of creating a program of city-owned housing, including but not limited to, cooperative, affordable and permanent supportive housing.	NHCD, Real Estate, AE, PAZ, EDD, HHSD, APL	🏃	• Recommend improved options for shared housing communities through CodeNext Land Development Code Revision.
S A30	Regulate the geographic distribution and operation of group homes for the disabled, homeless, and other individuals needing supportive housing.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development Code Revision.
C A13	Establish incentives and regulations to promote the creation of artists' live/work space in residential areas that allow for limited gallery space.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments have been proposed. • ArtPlace Grant Awarded to ThinkEast a future 24 acre mixed use district for Austin's creative community. It could offer affordable working, living and flexible studio spaces.
C A14	Develop programs and incentives to provide flexible, affordable work space and housing throughout Austin, with an emphasis placed on locations well-served by transit, Downtown, and activity centers and corridors for entrepreneurs, small and local businesses, artists, and creative professionals. Programs and incentives should address live-work space, home-based businesses, and temporary lease agreements in multi-use venues such as schools, vacant buildings, and warehouses.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext Land Development code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments have been proposed. • Housing/Jobs/Transit Action Team meets regularly and will send memo to Council about strategies to better connect affordable housing, transit and jobs.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 7: CREATE A HEALTHY AUSTIN PROGRAM.				
LUT A1	Give priority to City of Austin investments to support mixed use, transit, and the creation of compact walkable and bikeable places.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, CPO	🏃	• The City will continue to develop the annual Long-Range CIP Strategic Plan with involvement from the Healthy Austin Priority Program team. • Consider during the development of Austin Strategic Mobility Plan.
LUT A3	Establish land use and street design regulations to create sustainable neighborhoods that are child-friendly, support walking and bicycling, are in proximity to daily needs, and provide a range of housing type options such as duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, and houses on smaller lots to meet the needs of people of different means and at different stages of their lives.	PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Coordinate with Pedestrian Advisory Council and Bicycle Advisory Council to recommend changes for design and building types.
LUT A5	Create a regulatory environment to promote the redevelopment of brownfields and greyfields into compact, walkable places by: - Increasing development rights through changes in regulations, density bonuses, and other incentives; - Revising parking requirements that result in more permeable areas and promote walking, biking, and transit; - Providing assistance in securing funding for redevelopment; - Ensuring appropriate transitions to less intensive residential areas; - Expediting the permitting and approval process; - Utilizing Low Impact Development practices to mitigate impacts associated with increases in impervious cover or constrained stormwater infrastructure that may impede redevelopment.	PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code.
LUT A8	Adopt policies and establish a regulatory environment that promotes the development of compact, mixed-use places that provide great public spaces accessible to people of all ages.	PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A11	Develop land use and transportation policies and regulations that promote the development of projects that promote more active and healthy lifestyles, such as community gardens, tree-shaded sidewalks and trails, bicycle parking, showers within office buildings, and having daily needs within proximity to home and work.	PAZ, PARD, APH, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. Coordinate with the Farmland Preservation and Access Working Group to incorporate agricultural preservation within the Conservation Subdivision category of the Subdivision Regulations. • Complete Streets Ordinance No. 20140612-119 adopted June, 2014. • Finalize and implement the Community Health Improvement Plan beginning in July 2013. • Permitting for 4 community gardens on public land, started 2 community gardens on public land, and endorsed 3 on private lands. 4.8 acres of produce grown in FY2015. • PARD continuing to permit community gardens and plant urban orchards on City-owned land
LUT A12	Create an integrated transportation plan that encompasses driving, transit, bicycling, walking, and roadway and rail freight.	ATD, PWD	🏃	• Consider during the development of Austin Strategic Mobility Plan
LUT A14	Increase public transit ridership. - Expand service to compact centers and activity corridors - Increase the number of people who use transit by choice - Create inviting public spaces at stops and transfer centers - Provide real-time schedule information - Add more covered bus shelters - Make stops more convenient - Add park and ride facilities - Make routes more convenient and the system more intuitive - Create street design standards (bus turnouts, sidewalk width, benches, shelter) - Give transit priority (queue jumpers, signal priority, man- aged lanes, and dedicated lanes) - Launch an informative and enticing public relations campaign - Implement first and last mile solutions such as carpooling, vanpools, and bicycle and car sharing - Add more bicycle carrying capacity to buses and trains	ATD, PAZ, PWD, EDD, CPO	🏃	• Consider during the development of Austin Strategic Mobility Plan. Continue to coordinate with Capital Metro through Project Connect, the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan and implemenation of Connections 2025 and the 2016 Mobility Bond

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A17	Create an efficient and connected transportation system that allows people with disabilities and special needs to easily access their daily needs from where they live and work.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, CPO, EDD	🏃	• Revise and enhance Project Connect Transit Vision. • Implement operational improvements identified in Capital Metro Connections 2025 Plan. • Implement Sidewalk Master Plan. Develop and implement a plan for Shared, Electric, and Autonomous Mobility Services.
LUT A18	Develop a program and funding source to retrofit existing, incomplete roadways into complete streets.	PAZ, PWD, ATD, CPO	🏃	• Continue to implement Complete Streets Policy. • Use 2012 Bond and 2016 Mobility Bond corridor funding to implement recommendations from Corridor Improvement Program Studies citywide. Continue to implement Great Streets Master Plan in Downtown. Use 2016 Mobility Bond corridor funding to develop additional Corridor Improvement Programs. • Develop a new Strategic Mobility Plan that serves as the transportation element of the Comprehensive Plan and establishes an integrated framework for transportation decisions. • Revise Land Development Code through CodeNEXT to require developers to improve adjacent streetscapes as part of development projects on certain streets. • Develop and implement a Street Impact Fee Program. • Continue to Implement Sidewalk Master Plan and identify additional funding strategies through update to Sidewalk Master Plan. Continue to implement the Bicycle and Urban Trails Master Plans. • Consider during annual Capital Improvement Program Strategic Planning Process. Utilize the CPO-led Rolling Needs Assessment as a way to capture future funding and program needs for retrofit of existing roadways into complete streets.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A19	Develop complete streets design guidelines for all new road construction and reconstruction: - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities - Green street techniques - Green Street Techniques/Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices - Interconnected, navigable, grid-like streets and blocks - Flexibility in design and regulations - Create pedestrian-activated crosswalks at mid block intersections on arterials to improve pedestrian safety - Traffic calming measures - Transit accommodations - Use of native landscaping	PAZ, PWD, ATD	🏃	• Use 2016 Mobility Bond funding to continue to implement Urban Trails, Bicycle and Sidewalk master plans. • Revise Transportation Criteria Manual to reflect best practices in multimodal street design. Complete Streets Ordinance No. 20140612-119 adopted June, 2014. • Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • Revise Transportation Criteria Manual. • Council adopted the Colony Park Master Plan and Regulating Plan on December 11, 2014. • CHIP Partners outreach to Travis County to share active transportation information.
LUT A21	Create a network of on- and off-street physically separated bicycle and walking routes or trails linking all parts of Austin and the region.	PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Council adopted the Urban Trails Master Plan on September 25, 2014 • Council adopted the Bicycle Master Plan update on November 6, 2014. • Develop prioritization guidelines.
LUT A23	Develop standards to connect all new neighborhoods to adjacent neighborhoods and commercial areas by streets, sidewalks, and bicycle lanes and/or paths.	PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. Continue collaboration with Travis County to update Access Street regulations of Title 30 requiring increased access streets dependent on number of lots served. Incorporate pedestrian easement citing regulations for the Subdivision Regulations. • Revise Transportation Criteria Manual
LUT A27	Promote increased bicycling and walking through traffic enforcement, program evaluation, and developing and integrating web-based tools, mobile applications and other educational materials.	PAZ, PWD, ATD	🏃	• Implement Vision Zero Action Plan. • Continue work on numerous ATD Active Transportation Programs focused on education and enforcement. Continue the City's TDM program that is focused on implementing these solutions, such as the Smart Trips Program.
LUT A32	Develop standards for public spaces, such as parks, plazas and streets, to create integrated, tree-covered places.	PAZ, PARD, PWD	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Identify incorporable elements in Small Area Plans.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A36	Incentivize appropriately-scaled and located green infrastructure and public spaces, such as parks, plazas, greenways, trails, urban agriculture and/or open space in new development and redevelopment projects.	PAZ, PARD, PWD, OoS, EDD		• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. Include opportunities for lots to front on open space within the Subdivision Regulations. Leverage open space and parkland dedication requirements within Conservation Subdivisions. • Identify incorporable elements in Small Area Plans. • Coordinate with other PARD efforts to encourage urban agriculture in open space, such as community gardens. • Food Policy Board developed recommendations for integrating healthy local equitable food systems into Code. • PARD implemented Parkland Dedication Ordinance, which gives more credit for active play areas for parkland dedication.
LUT A40	Expand the number of parks and amount of open spaces of different sizes and purposes throughout the city.	PARD, APH, PWD, PAZ		• Enhance Planning & Zoning's process for identifying funding and building partnerships. • Identify incorporable recreation elements in Small Area Plans. • Continue to acquire parkland of different sizes and types through expenditure of park bond funds and parkland dedication funds. Also, it acquired one new golf course of 292 acres in South Austin.
LUT A47	Create an ongoing Vision Zero Task Force to develop a Vision Zero Action Plan and subsequent updates.	ATD, APH, PAZ		• This action was added to Imagine Austin with CPA-2015-0001. The Vision Zero Task Force prepared an Action Plan, adopted by City Council in May 2016. The Task Force continues to meet quarterly.
HN A23	Coordinate with public and private sector organizations in Austin, such as school districts, non-profit organizations, and other agencies to address efforts related to health and human services, housing, economic development, sustainable development, and planning.	APH		• As of May 2017 APH contracts with dozens of local non-profit agencies providing access to human services for residents of Austin/Travis County. These partnerships include government agencies (AISD, Travis County) and quasi-governmental agencies (Workforce Solutions, ATCIC)

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A24	Establish a regulatory environment that creates communities across Austin that: - support walking, bicycling, and transit - encourage live/work spaces - are in proximity to daily needs - include a variety of employment opportunities - provide a range of housing (duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, etc.) integrating market-rate and affordable housing for people of all ages, abilities, and means - utilize sustainable building practices - are stable with low crime and safe buildings - provides a range of facilities and services such as schools, parks, community gardens, and other public gathering spaces	PAZ, PARD, PWD		• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. Include provisions for Bungalow Courts within the Subdivision Regulations. Identify development scale which triggers need for school district. • Complete Streets Policy adopted by Council.
CE A10	Identify existing areas with limited access to parks, open space, and trails and create mechanisms to address these gaps.	PARD, WPD, PW		• PARD, WPD, and PW created a Parkland Deficient layer to show areas that are park deficient. Parkland dedication ordinance was updated to codify the map as a tool for decision making on land or fee in lieu of land.
CE A12	Support local farmers by creating incentives and removing regulatory barriers, offering tailored small business support, and creating public information campaigns to promote local food.	APH, PARD, EDD, OoS		• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. In response to the recommendations provided to Council after the March 2016 Food Access resolution, ongoing funding to APH from City Council was allocated to support healthy food access programs and initiatives, including funding for a full time staff position to work specifically on food access. City Council also allocated one-time funding to address the gap in SNAP enrollment, which is being used to conduct research, develop a marketing strategy, and increase enrollment assistance. APH renewed its contract with the Sustainable Food Center to maintain the Double Dollar Incentive program aimed to increase the purchasing power of SNAP participants at farmers markets. APH is in the process of implementing a Nutritious Food Incentive Program in partnership with the Fair Food Network.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CE A13	Expand existing and facilitate the establishment of new distribution avenues for local farm products.	APH, PARD, EDD, OoS	🏃	• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. In response to the recommendations provided to Council after the March 2016 Food Access resolution, ongoing funding to APH from City Council was allocated to support healthy food access programs and initiatives, including funding for a full time staff position to work specifically on food access. City Council also allocated one-time funding to to address the gap in SNAP enrollment, which is being used to conduct research, develop a marketing strategy, and increase enrollment assistance. APH renewed its contract with the Sustainable Food Center to maintain the Double Dollar Incentive program aimed to increase the purchasing power of SNAP participants at farmers markets. APH and OoS are working with existing contractors to develop a small-scale food hub to source and supply alternative food markets with local food.
CE A14	Identify and map food deserts and provide incentives for full service grocery stores and farmers markets to locate in these under-served areas.	PAZ, APH, OoS	🏃	• FY 2017 Office of Sustainability is leading a Food Environment Analysis, modeled after a process in Baltimore, in an effort to identify healthy food retail availability at the census tract level. The goal is to survey every food retail location in the area and combined with ACS data on food insecurity indicators as well as public health data, provide maps that illustrate a city-specific analysis of the food environment.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A2	Expand equitable access for adults, children, and their pets to active and passive parks throughout the city by carefully targeting new parks where most needed and developing public access agreements with non-City-owned parks and open space.	PARD, PWD	🏃	• Continue parkland acquisition with special focus on park deficient areas in order to meet Council mandated goals. • Through parkland dedication, require residential developers to build private parks with public access agreements in deficient parkland areas. • Implement Urban Trails Master Plan and Bicycle Master Plan. • Offer scaled user fees from $0 to $100 at 19 recreation centers to increase equitable access. • Inter-local agreement between PARD and Barbara Jordan Elementary will allow Active Play programming. • PARD conducted research will inform joint use agreements.
CFS A3	Establish pocket parks, smaller undeveloped preserves, and passive recreational spaces in areas with little open space.	PARD, PWD	🏃	• PARD, PDRD, WPD, and PWD work with CodeNEXT to write regulations that incentivize park and recreation spaces in infill developments, allowing for recreation in the ROW, rooftops, and the ground floor and combining green infrastructure with recreational uses. • Continue parkland acquisition with special focus on park deficient areas in order to meet Council mandated goals. • Convert public land in infill park deficient areas to park uses.
CFS A4	Explore additional funding sources primarily for the maintenance of parks as well as for the design and construction, including: - user fees - rental fees - additional grant opportunities - additional levy - reinvestment of revenue generated in parks through partnerships	PARD, PWD	🏃	• Through parkland dedication, develop parkland improvement agreements that require developers to maintain parkland they dedicate.
CFS A5	Ensure adequate funding for the maintenance of parks and trees on City of Austin property through Best Maintenance Practices.	PARD, PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Parks Urban Forestry is undergoing a strategic planning process to incorporate best management practices into everyday opderations. Actions in the plan include realigning staff and compiling an inventory of trees on parkland so that trees can be managed effectively.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A6	Expand partnerships between local organizations and the City of Austin to maintain and improve local parks and open spaces.	APH, PARD	🏃	• Enhance process for identifying, funding, and building partnerships.
CFS A7	Revise tree planting and tree care standards to be more sustainable and reduce tree mortality.	PARD, PAZ, PWD	🏃	• Continue to develop department specific plans for Urban Forestry Plan best management practices and use it to base funding decisions for tree maintenance. • PARD has created a Proactive Tree Maintenance Prioritization Map using GIS to beginn to proactively maintain trees in parkland to improve tree health, reduce tree mortality, and improve public safety.
CFS A8	Restore trees and vegetation along degraded waterways, especially in eastern watersheds.	PARD, PAZ, PWD	🏃	• PARD, Urban Forestry, and Watershed Protection continue their Grow Zone program, partnering to plant seedlings along riparian areas. This includes a tree purchasing master agreement to make purchasing seedlings easier and increase the diversity of tree species available for planting.
CFS A9	Create a trails master plan to ensure connectivity and provide consistency with regional, city, and neighborhood level trail and transportation goals to provide pedestrian and bicycle connections between neighborhoods and destinations; incorporate trails throughout the city and region; encourage developers to connect to or complete the trail system; and use protected land along creeks and floodplains in an environmentally sustainable way.	PWD	🏃	• Council adopted the Urban Trails Master Plan on September 25, 2014.
CFS A10	Develop, through a process engaging the general public and professionals, context-sensitive trail, park, and greenway standards to ensure high-quality, environmentally sustainable design.	PWD, PARD	🏃	• Update the Trails and Greenways section of the Parks and Recreation Long Range Plan. The plan will be updated in 2016-2017 with public and expert input.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A13	Coordinate among City of Austin departments and other agencies to market recreational programs and health related awareness campaigns.	APH, PARD	(running figure icon)	• APH's public awareness media campaigns have addressed tobacco prevention and cessation, healthy nutrition (with a focus on sugary beverages), worksite wellness promotion, and diabetes education in FY17. These campaigns utilize radio and social media. • APH is working with Child Inc., a Head start early childhood education provider, to implement the CATCH Early Childhood program. In addition, APH collaborated with Child Inc. to help redesign the menu to increase fresh fruits and vegetables. • In FY17, APH continues to offer free diabetes education classes in community-based locations such as schools, the faith-based community, clinics, and neighborhood centers. • APH has funded 10 community based organizations through the Chronic Disease Prevention mini-grant to implement sustainable projects to improve healthy nutrition, physical activity, and breastfeeding support in zip codes with a higher prevalence of chronic disease and risk factors. • Through the Mayors Health and Fitness Council, APH has helped launch a recognition program to recognize the Mayors Healthiest Schools and Mayors Healthiest Workplaces. These awards are given to schools and workplaces that demonstrate comprehensive wellness programming and environmental supports to promote health and wellness for employees, students, and staff. • In FY 17 APH contracts with University of Texas, through its subgrantee, African American Alliance for Health in Central Texas, providing outreach, information and tools to low-income African American residents struggling with health issues such as diabetes. APH contracts with UT through its subgrantee Mama Sana, providing counseling services and health literacy and navigation to women of color who are wanting to become pregnant or are pregnant to improve their health and that of their children. APH contracts with Latino Healthcare Forum providing access to physical activity classes, health literacy and mental health services to low-income residents of the Rundberg area.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A23	Develop design standards for public buildings and spaces that promote high-quality community focal points in the areas where they are located. These standards should address issues such as: - re-use of existing structures - LEED certification, including water and energy efficiency - low-impact development - resource recovery, such as recycling, composting, and reuse - tree planting, preservation, and protection - green spaces - transit access - carshare/electric vehicle parking spaces - bikesharing and bicycle facilities and accommodations - safe, connected walkways - public spaces inside and outside of buildings - anchoring neighborhood niches - child-friendly play spaces - family-friendliness	PAZ, PWD, OoS	🏃	• Revise Land Development Code. • Revise Subdivision Regulations. • B-Cycle Bike Share System Implemented December 2013-March 2014
S A1	Support wellness and prevention education in schools and the general public to reduce the burden on primary care.	APH	🏃	• In FY16, APH will kick off a media campaign promoting tobacco cessation and prevention and other chronic disease messaging. • APH is working with early childcare and after school programs to increase use of CATCH program and other evidence-based physical activity and nutrition programming. • In FY16, through the diabetes DSRIP project, APH, and partners continue to offer free diabetes education classes in community-based locations. In addition, media and outreach activities continue through the DSRIP tobacco project to promote tobacco cessation and prevention of tobacco use among young adults. • In 2016, APH has funded 9 community based organizations to implement sustainable projects to improve healthy nutrition and physical activity in zip codes with a higher prevalence of chronic disease and risk factors.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A3	Collaborate with counties, the hospital district, and school districts to dedicate funding to mental health & substance abuse programming.	APH	🏃	• During the last half of FY16 and into FY17, through the social services health equity solicitation and the capacity building solication, APH executed grant agreements with several non-profit agencies for behavioral health service provision. New services include mental health counseling for immigrants through Catholic Charities of Central Texas, peer provided support services through Communities in Recovery, and day treatment rehabilitation for adults diagnosed with a mental illness through Austin Clubhouse. In FY17, APH social services agreements received additional funding, including those that provide mental and behavioral health services.
S A4	Partner with healthcare providers to identify areas with limited access to adequate health services and develop regulations and policies to promote the clustering of medical facilities (i.e., clinics, and trauma and specialty care) in these areas.	APH	🏃	• APH is working with early childcare and after school programs to increase use of CATCH program and other evidence-based physical activity and nutrition programming.
S A5	Increase public awareness of social services programs and healthcare options through the use of such devices as dedicated healthcare information lines, non-verbal flashcards, mobile preventative care vans, etc., to increase access to social resources, specifically: - Mental Health - Substance Abuse - HIV care - Homeless/basic needs - Prenatal education - Child development - Adult basic education & literacy	APH	🏃	• APH contracts with Latino Healthcare Forum providing kiosks and mobile applications which provide social services and health services information in English, Spanish and Arabic to residents of the Rundberg community as well as refugees throughout Austin/Travis County.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A6	Partner with healthcare providers such as hospitals and clinics in the region to develop and implement strategies to increase the affordability and access to healthcare, including: - offering incentives to increase the number of providers - building more clinics - offering a path to practice for licensed professionals from other countries - developing educational programs - affordable health coverage programs for small businesses	APH	🏃	• Work with Central Health to implement Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services approved Regional Healthcare Partnership Plan for demonstration projects for Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement. • APH began to implement demonstration projects, Diabetes Education, Tobacco Prevention and Education for 18-24 year olds and Assertive Community Treatment team to Homeless individuals with tri-morbid conditions, and use community health workers to improve postnatal outcomes from birth to 12 months among African Americans. • Additionally, Central Health is working with all the demonstration project implementing agencies to develop a learning collaborative to share best practices and coordinate efforts. • CHIP Partners aim to establish outpatient program in south-southeast Austin for behavioral health. • Bring facilities up-to-code to deliver START model for dual-diagnoses. • CHIP Partners add behavioral health prescribers in four outpatient clinc settings.
S A7	Address the high incidence of teenage pregnancy by creating and expanding partnerships with area school districts, nonprofit organizations, and healthcare providers to develop a comprehensive education and outreach program to reduce the number of teenage mothers, to expand access to social and health care services for teenage mothers and their children, and to increase educational and vocational opportunities for the mothers.	APH	🏃	• During FY 2017, AHA has been working on formalizing community engagement efforts to develop comprehensive education and outreach programs to reduce teen pregnancy and provide health services to young mothers and their children. AHA has partnered with Planned Parenthood to expand peer health educator implementation and increase turnout through PP's social services agreement with APH. Additionally, AHA is finalizing an MOU with People's Community Clinic This partnership will assist in increasing the number of patients served and increasing provider visits as well as decreasing teen pregnancies, decreasing STI/STD rates, and increasing access to medical care for adolescents. AHA has also been working on a Visibility project to strengthen our social media campaign to promote adolescent health education.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A8	Make healthy and local foods accessible, particularly in under-served areas, by removing barriers and providing incentives for the establishment of sustainable community gardens, urban farms, neighborhood grocery stores, farmers markets, and farm stands and mobile vegetable sales carts.	APH, PARD, OoS	🏃	• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. In response to the recommendations provided to Council after the March 2016 Food Access resolution, ongoing funding to APH from City Council was allocated to support healthy food access programs and initiatives, including funding for a full time staff position to work specifically on food access. City Council also allocated one-time funding to to address the gap in SNAP enrollment, which is being used to conduct research, develop a marketing strategy, and increase enrollment assistance. • APH renewed its contract with the Sustainable Food Center to maintain the Double Dollar Incentive program aimed to increase the purchasing power of SNAP participants at farmers markets. APH and OoS are working with existing contractors to develop a small-scale food hub to source and supply alternative food markets with local food. APH is in the process of implementing a Nutritious Food Incentive Program in partnership with the Fair Food Network.
S A9	Facilitate a strong and sustainable local food system by linking farmers, distributors, and markets, and create programs and partnerships to ensure profitable local food enterprises throughout all five food sectors — production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste recovery.	APH, PARD, EDD, OoS	🏃	• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. In response to the recommendations provided to Council after the March 2016 Food Access resolution, ongoing funding to APH from City Council was allocated to support healthy food access programs and initiatives, including funding for a full time staff position to work specifically on food access. City Council also allocated one-time funding to to address the gap in SNAP enrollment, which is being used to conduct research, develop a marketing strategy, and increase enrollment assistance. • OoS began a pilot 'Good Food Purchasing Program' in collaboration with UT, AISD, and COA Departments to aggregate purchasing power of institutions around five values that will increase local food purchasing, nutritional value of food, and transparency of the food chain.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A10	Develop partnerships with public and private stakeholders to promote awareness and educate residents about healthy food choices, sources, and preparation, including keeping up-to-date and accessible data on community garden plot availability, cooking classes, and city and county property for neighborhood gardens and family farms, and the sale of sustainably produced and culturally appropriate food at farmers markets, farm stands, mobile vegetable carts, and neighborhood grocery stores.	PARD, APH, OoS	🏃	• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. In response to the recommendations provided to Council after the March 2016 Food Access resolution, ongoing funding to APH from City Council was allocated to support healthy food access programs and initiatives, including funding for a full time staff position to work specifically on food access. City Council also allocated one-time funding to to address the gap in SNAP enrollment, which is being used to conduct research, develop a marketing strategy, and increase enrollment assistance. APH renewed its contract with the Sustainable Food Center to maintain the Double Dollar Incentive program aimed to increase the purchasing power of SNAP participants at farmers markets. APH is in the process of implementing a Nutritious Food Incentive Program in partnership with the Fair Food Network. • COA developed a web site that houses all information about how to start community garden, school gardens, backyard gardens and urban farms.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A11	Reduce obesity and other diet-related diseases by establishing local fresh food initiatives in institutions such as schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, nursing homes, city and county departments and facilities, and by implementing and encouraging purchasing policies that support local and sustainable foods.	APH, PARD, OoS	🏃	• During FY17, APH renewed contracts with GAVA to continue the implementation of the Healthy Corner Store Initiative, Farmshare Austin to expand the number of mobile markets, and Sustainable Food Center to expand the number of farm stands. • APH is working with Child Inc., a Head start early childhood education provider, to implement the CATCH Early Childhood program. In addition, APH collaborated with Child Inc. to help redesign menus to increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables utilized in meals APH renewed its contract with the Sustainable Food Center to maintain the Double Dollar Incentive program aimed to increase the purchasing power of SNAP participants at farmers markets.
S A12	Remove regulatory barriers and provide incentives to improve and rebuild local food production, processing, and distribution systems appropriate to the local context.	APH, PARD, EDD, OoS	🏃	• In FY17 APH contracted with Farmshare Austin to (in addition run the mobile markets) to conduct research and outreach into the development of a local food hub and engagement with under-represented farmers.
S A18	Support the development of a community-wide electronic health information system.	APH	🏃	• In FY 17 APH contracted with Athena Healthcare and is developing an electronic health record system.
S A33	Collaborate with school districts to allow public and private sector use of underutilized schools and other public facilities for child care, educational programs, healthy living programs, and neighborhood activities.	APH, PARD	🏃	• APH has an agreement with AISD for the Victory Tutorial Program, which uses City libraries to recruit, train, match, and supervise volunteer tutors that serve students through out-of-school time programming. • PARD, through the Cities Connecting Children to Nature program, has presented best practices in use of joint use agreements. A work group is forming to look at the AISD and PARD joint use agreements to recommend improvements.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A49	Develop educational and public information programs focusing on promoting nutrition, healthy food, and local food sources.	PARD, APH	🏃	• APH is working with Child Inc., a Head start early childhood education provider, to implement the CATCH Early Childhood program. In addition, APH collaborated with Child Inc. to help redesign menus to increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables utilized in meals. • APH has funded a total of 10 chronic disease mini-grant projects to address healthy eating, physical activity, and breastfeeding support in zip codes that have a higher prevalence of chronic disease risk factors. • APH continues to provide free diabetes education classes in community-based locations such as schools, neighborhood centers, clinics and the faith-based community. These classes are a 6-week series and address healthy eating as well as other important diabetes management topics.
S A50	Work with local school districts to use locally-grown produce and increase the quality and nutritional value of food served to school-age young people.	APH, PARD, OoS	🏃	• Work with SFC and other private sector partners to expand opportunities for farm-direct programs. • OoS began a pilot 'Good Food Purchasing Program' in collaboration with UT, AISD, and COA Departments to aggregate purchasing power of institutions around five values that will increase local food purchasing, nutritional value of food, and transparency of the food chain
S A51	Work with local health providers to develop educational materials and programs for use in schools and the community about the dangers of tobacco use and promote available cessation resources.	APH, PAZ	🏃	• In FY17, APH staff began working on revision of their tobacco prevention and cessation resources, including updating health information, ensuring materials are culturally and linguistically appropriate, and getting some of the materials translated into additional languages.
S A52	Promote tobacco free multifamily housing that share common walls, such as apartments, duplexes, townhouses, rowhouses, and condominiums.	APH, PAZ	🏃	• In FY17, APH is partnering with Greystar, the largest property management company in Austin, to conduct a Smoke-free Multi-unit Housing Forum to educate property and facility managers to all Greystar managed Central Texas housing properties on smoke-free multi-unit housing.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
S A53	Promote tobacco-free environments and tobacco-free living.	APH, PAZ	🏃	• In FY17, APH launched a media campaign which promoted tobacco cessation and other prevention and health promotion messaging through radio, digital, social media, and print. A street outreach team has also been working to promote the SmokefreeTXT program to low income, young adults in Austin/Travis County.
S A54	Create more opportunities for outdoor play, recreational activities, healthy eating, and other activities and programs that address obesity.	PARD	🏃	• APH contracts with University of Texas, through its subgrantee, African American Alliance for Health in Central Texas, providing outreach, information and tools to low-income African American residents struggling with health issues such as diabetes. Create additional policies around healthy eating and other activities that address obesity. • Continue to acquire parkland and develop parkland to increase locations for outdoor play and recreational activities, particularly in park deficient parts of the City. • Public Health Nurses at Neighborhood Centers continue to offer classes and educational programs on obesity and partner with other programs to offer recreational activities.
C A17	Expand existing programs and identify funding sources to provide affordable physical and mental health care, housing and other support services for artists, musicians, and others in the creative community.	APH	🏃	• Improve access to services and increased public awareness about services.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
PRIORITY PROGRAM 8: REVISE AUSTIN'S DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND PROCESSES TO PROMOTE A COMPACT AND CONNECTED CITY.				
LUT A2	Promote diverse infill housing such as small-scale apartments, smaller-lot single family houses, town and row houses, and garage apartments that complement and enhance the character of existing neighborhoods.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext will promote a variety of housing types (missing middle) in areas that are compact and connected. • A density bonus program should achieve subsidized affordable units in certain zoning districts. • CodeNEXT will allow ADUs and house-form multiplexes in a wider variety of zoning districts.
LUT A3	Establish land use and street design regulations to create sustainable neighborhoods that are child-friendly, support walking and bicycling, are in proximity to daily needs, and provide a range of housing type options such as duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, and houses on smaller lots to meet the needs of people of different means and at different stages of their lives.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext will promote a variety of housing types (missing middle) in areas that are compact and connected. A density bonus program should achieve subsidized affordable units in certain zoning districts. • CodeNEXT will allow ADUs and house-form multiplexes in a wider variety of zoning districts.
LUT A4	Use incentives and regulations to direct growth to areas consistent with the Growth Concept Map that have existing infrastructure capacity including roads, water, wastewater, drainage and schools.	PAZ	🏃	• Re-mapping is based in part on the IA growth concept map.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A5	Create a regulatory environment to promote the redevelopment of brownfields and greyfields into compact, walkable places by: - Increasing development rights through changes in regulations, density bonuses, and other incentives; - Revising parking requirements that result in more permeable areas and promote walking,biking, and transit; - Providing assistance in securing funding for redevelopment; - Ensuring appropriate transitions to less intensive residential areas; - Expediting the permitting and approval process; - Utilizing Low Impact Development practices to mitigate impacts associated with increases in impervious cover constrained stormwater infrastructure that may impede redevelopment.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNEXT is ongoing; a public review draft of the new code has been released.
LUT A6	Create a regional planning initiative to encourage local governments in Central Texas to promote a mix of housing and land uses for diverse populations and income groups, located near work, shopping, and services.	PAZ, NHCD	🏃	• Continue regular meetings to promote interorganizational and intergovernmental collaboration. • Housing Jobs Balance Study complete.
LUT A7	Implement a transfer of development rights program to transfer development rights from environmentally sensitive areas to areas identified on the Growth Concept Map for new development or redevelopment.	PAZ, WPD	🏃	• Barton Springs Zone (BSZ) Redevelopment Exception changes under consideration by Environmental Commission; may be incorporated into draft 3 of the code.
LUT A8	Adopt policies and establish a regulatory environment that promotes the development of compact, mixed-use places that provide great public spaces accessible to people of all ages.	PAZ	🏃	• CodeNext will promote a variety of housing types (missing middle) in areas that are compact and connected. • A density bonus program should achieve subsidized affordable units in certain zoning districts. • CodeNext will allow ADUs and house-form multiplexes in a wider variety of zoning districts.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A10	Locate new industrial development; logistics, warehousing, and distribution; and other comparable businesses in areas with adequate utility and transportation infrastructure and in areas that reduce the harmful effects on neighborhoods and the environment.	PAZ	🏃	• This is being done through mapping; potential negative effects are mitigated with zoning standards that include compatability setbacks and stepbacks.
LUT A11	Develop land use and transportation policies and regulations that promote the development of projects that promote more active and healthy lifestyles, such as community gardens, tree-shaded sidewalks and trails, bicycle parking, showers within office buildings, and having daily needs within proximity to home and work.	PAZ	🏃	• Certain zones allow for mixed use. Civic and open spaces are addressed in the zoning code. Parking reductions are available for bike parking, on-site showers, and other factors.
LUT A19	Develop complete streets design guidelines for all new road construction and reconstruction: - Pedestrian and bicycle facilities and amenities - Green street techniques - Green Street Techniques/Green Infrastructure Best Management Practices - Interconnected, navigable, grid-like streets and blocks - Flexibility in design and regulations - Create pedestrian-activated crosswalks at mid block intersections on arterials to improve pedestrian safety - Traffic calming measures - Transit accommodations - Use of native landscaping	PAZ, ATD	🏃	• ROW requirements are partially covered in CodeNext and will also be in the TCM
LUT A26	Set targets for vehicle miles traveled per capita and incorporate those targets into traffic impact studies for new development.	ATD	🏃	• Transportation demand management will be a part of CodeNEXT and the TCM

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
LUT A28	Create design standards for public spaces such as parks, plazas, sidewalks and trails that respond to the unique setting in which they are located.	PAZ		• These standards are a part of CodeNEXT
LUT A30	Create a regulatory environment to allow flexibility in how buildings are used in compact centers and along commercial corridors—particularly the first floor—by simplifying the process to adapt from one use to another, such as residential to commercial or vice versa.	PAZ		• Many zones, including most commercial zones, will allow mixed use.
LUT A34	Incentivize new and redevelopment to be sensitive to the Central Texas climate, culture, building traditions, and constructions materials.	PAZ, DSD		
LUT A35	Develop standards and expand incentives for green building and increased energy efficiency for new construction and remodels of older houses.	PAZ, DSD		
LUT A38	Review and change building and zoning codes and incorporate best practices to promote green building and sustainable development.	PAZ, DSD		• Elements within the scope of the Land Development Code including landscaping, functional green, and water quality standards have been addressed in the draft code.
HN A1	Establish regulations and programs to promote the development of a variety of market rate and affordable housing types within compact, activity centers and corridors served by transit.	PAZ		• CodeNext will promote a variety of housing types (missing middle) in areas that are compact and connected. • An affordable housing bonus program should achieve subsidized affordable units in certain zoning districts. • CodeNEXT will allow ADUs and house-form multiplexes in a wider variety of zoning districts.
HN A2	Develop incentives and policies to encourage more families with children to live in Austin's established neighborhoods by increasing the supply and variety of housing.	PAZ		• CodeNext will promote a variety of housing types (missing middle) in areas that are compact and connected. • An affordable housing bonus program should achieve subsidized affordable units in certain zoning districts. • CodeNEXT will allow ADUs and house-form multiplexes in a wider variety of zoning districts.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A3	Produce regulations and enhance programs to promote affordable housing throughout Austin by: - Utilizing publicly-owned land for the development of affordable housing - Preserving existing affordable housing - Allowing for diverse housing types throughout Austin - Balancing homeownership and rental opportunities - Providing assistance in securing funding for affordable housing - 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 - Land banking - Encouraging the expansion of community development corporations	PAZ	🏃	• Regulations will exist in CodeNEXT as a part of the Affordable Housing Bonus Program.
HN A4	Provide incentives, educational materials, and develop new funding sources for the rehabilitation and repair of affordable housing, including: - Tax rebates - Flexible development regulations - Fees-in-lieu of providing affordable housing - Bond elections	PAZ, NHCD	🏃	• Fee-in-lieu from the Downtown Density Bonus Program will be used for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for the chronically homeless. NHCD issued a request for proposals for at least 50 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in Spring of 2016.
HN A11	Establish a regulatory framework to promote and assist housing development that involves adaptive re-use of existing buildings.	PAZ	🏃	• Code revisions to change regulations for garage apartments are complete. • Revise Subdivision Regulations.
HN A15	Develop a regulatory framework to incentivize the use of sustainable and cost effective design features such as rainwater harvesting, xeriscape features, rain gardens, green roofs, greywater irrigation, solar power, and energy efficient utilities.	PAZ	🏃	• No incentivizing, but the CodeNEXT draft proposes green infrastructure elements and requirements in the water quality and landscape sections, such as rainwater harvesting, porous pavement, rain gardens, and green roofs.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
HN A17	Develop regulations and standards that promote innovative and diverse residential architecture that is sensitive to the surrounding neighborhood.	PAZ		• Some zones have additional design standards in an attempt to be sensitive to neghborhood character
HN A19	Ensure harmonious and compatible transitions between neighborhoods and adjacent commercial, mixed-use, and denser housing by regulating setbacks, building mass and height, and other design elements and uses.	PAZ		• Setbacks and stepbacks are built into certain zoning districts where adjacency occurs
HN A20	Develop and implement strategies that address spillover parking from commercial districts into adjacent residential areas that include increased public transportation, better pedestrian and bicycling amenities, improved signs, and parking management.	PAZ		• No change to RPP proposed
HN A24	Establish a regulatory environment that creates communities across Austin that: - support walking, bicycling, and transit - encourage live/work spaces - are in proximity to daily needs - include a variety of employment opportunities - provide a range of housing (duplexes, townhouses, row houses, small-scale apartments, etc.) integrating market-rate and affordable housing for people of all ages, abilities, and means - utilize sustainable building practices - are stable with low crime and safe buildings - provides a range of facilities and services such as schools, parks, community gardens, and other public gathering spaces	PAZ		• Live/work is allowed in certain zoning districts. Compact and connected is supported through mapping and parking reductions.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
E A3	Create a regulatory framework to foster a business-friendly environment by: - Identifying regulatory impacts on investment, business development, and retention (zoning, permitting and licensing requirements, tax requirements, etc.) - Assigning city staff devoted to helping businesses navigate the system and troubleshoot; - Creating development incentives (including tax incentives), density and floor-to-area ratio (FAR) bonuses, reduced and alternative parking requirements, expedited review, etc. - Simplifying and clarifying the development review process, including one-stop shop review, enforced timelines, and set targets for responsiveness and accountability - Allowing more by-right development - Making development regulations more flexible, while defining the extent of flexibility and maintaining safety and code integrity - Creating a program to assist businesses that are affected by road construction or infrastructure improvements - Creating a rehabilitation building code to make adaptive reuse efficient and affordable	PAZ, EDD, DSD		• Communicate with and seek feedback from the business community regarding the Land Development Code • EDD provided review and comments of CodeNEXT Prescription papers on the Land Development Code as they relate to small business, cultural and arts organizations, and music venues. • EDD provided a range of incentive and regulatory recommendations to the Mayor's Music and Creative Ecosystem Omnibus; these include recommendations to revise existing density bonuses, develop new incentives, and reduce regulatory barriers for arts and cultural spaces, live music venues, and small businesses, directly or through CodeNEXT.
CE A3	Preserve and protect environmentally sensitive areas using a variety of tools, including transferable development rights as well as policies and regulations that incentivize greyfield/redevelopment/infill.	PAZ		• Environmental regulations are being carried forward and/or strengthened
CE A21	Strengthen tree protection regulations.	GIPPIT Regulatory Policy Sub-Team; PAZ		• Tree protection regulations are being carried forward and improved
CE A23	Strengthen regulations that protect creeks and floodplains from development by increasing buffer zones and reducing the amount and type of development allowed in these areas.	WPD		• Creek and floodplain protections are being carried forward.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A18	Ensure that land development policies, regulations, and design standards take public safety issues like roadway connectivity, ingress/egress, and street design into consideration.	PAZ, ATD	🏃	• Street design is largely covered by the TCM
CFS A23	Develop design standards for public buildings and spaces that promote high-quality community focal points in the areas where they are located. These standards should address issues such as: - re-use of existing structures - LEED certification, including water and energy efficiency - low-impact development - resource recovery, such as recycling, composting, and reuse - trees planting, preservation, and protection - green spaces - transit access - carshare/electric vehicle parking spaces - bikesharing and bicycle facilities and accommodations - safe, connected walkways - public spaces inside and outside of buildings - anchoring neighborhood niches - child-friendly play spaces - family-friendliness	Strategic Facilities Governance Team	🏃	• Support compact and connected and green elements of CodeNEXT: beneficial use of stormwater, street tree and landscape requirements for shade and safety, walkable & bikable streets, density supportive of transit, etc.
CFS A25	Cluster and, where appropriate, co-locate public facilities and programs to reduce costs.	Strategic Facilities Governance Team	🏃	• Coordinate with Strategic Facilities Governance Team to implement innovative facility investments that support a compact and connected city. • Support development of joint-use projects, including development of affordable housing on city-owned land.

	Action	Responsible Department(s)	Status	Next Steps
CFS A34	Align policies, incentives, regulations, service area extensions, and infrastructure to coordinate with the Growth Concept Map, maintain Austin's livability and affordability, protect environmentally sensitive areas, and sustainably manage Austin's water resources. Include consideration of diverse water sources and conservation and efficiency measures when planning for future demand for potable water.	PAZ	🏃	• These themes are covered as a part of CodeNEXT, but implementation will primarily occur at time of build-out, and overlap with the Growth Concept Map is not possible to predict • Environmental Regulations are being carried forward and strengthened
CFS A36	Incentivize and promote low-impact development designs and techniques on private land that preserve key environmental features, reduce runoff and the use of potable water for plantings, and increase stormwater infiltration. Examples include rainwater harvesting, porous pavement, rain gardens, and green roofs.	PAZ	🏃	• The CodeNEXT draft proposes beneficial use of stormwater and landscape requirements to significantly increase the use of green stormwater infrastructure, such as rainwater harvesting, porous pavement, rain gardens, and green roofs.
C A3	Create incentives and programs to promote the inclusion of public art into new development.	PAZ, EDD	🏃	• The Art in Public Places program continues to work with private developers to leverage voluntary funding for public art within new construction.
C A14	Develop programs and incentives to provide flexible, affordable work space and housing throughout Austin, with an emphasis placed on locations well-served by transit, Downtown, and activity centers and corridors for entrepreneurs, small and local businesses, artists, and creative professionals. Programs and incentives should address live-work space, home-based businesses, and temporary lease agreements in multi-use venues such as schools, vacant buildings, and warehouses.	PAZ, EDD	🏃	• EDD Cultural Arts Division is conducting a cultural asset mapping that will help identify industry clusters and locations for creative space development. • Housing/Transit/Jobs Action Team meets regularly and will send memo to Council about strategies to better connect affordable housing, transit and jobs. • Live/work is allowed in certain zoning districts.

Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan Amendment Summary

The City Council unanimously adopted Imagine Austin on June 15, 2012. By City Charter, the Planning Commission reviews the comprehensive plan annually and may recommend amendments to Council. The Council has amended the plan as follows:

September 2013

CPA- 2013-0001 - Minor additions and corrections.

September 2014

CPA-2014-0001 - Added Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan.

CPA-2014-0002 - Amendment to align Imagine Austin with the City endorsed Austin Travis County School Readiness Action Plan.

CPA-2014-0003 - Added Public Safety.

CPA-2014-0004 - Removed "Affordable" from Related Vision Components for Priority Program 8 - Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city. (Typographical correction only. Priority Program 6 - Household Affordability is a separate Priority Program)

CPA-2014-0005 - Amendment to Priority Program #8.

October 2015

CPA-2015-0001 - Added Vision Zero.

CPA-2015-0002 - Added South Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan.

CPA-2015-0003 - Corrected Typographical Errors.

October 2016

CPA-2016-0001 - Added Colony Park Master Plan

CPA-2016-0002 - Added South Central Waterfront Vision Framework Plan

CPA-2016-0003 - Added Activity Corridor on Guadalupe Street from 29th Street to 51st Street

CPA-2016-0004 - Added Vision Zero Action Plan

CPA-2016-0005 - Added Age-Friendly Amendments

April 2017

Ordinance No. 20170413-010 - Added the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint

The following text and graphic were copied directly from the 2013 Imagine Austin Annual Report page 146.

Appendix 3: Complete Community Indicators

Imagine Austin requires a five year Performance Monitoring Report that includes "Complete Community" Indicators to track the progress of the priority programs. City Staff and the Planning Commission have spent the past year review-ing and refining these indicators.

An initial step during this process was to review the metrics and indicators mentioned in chapter 5 of Imagine Austin. Staff found that many indicators were not measurable, or overlapped with others. Therefore, we developed the following criteria and added, removed, or refined indicators if they had:

- relevance to the priority programs

- the staff resources to support data collection

- information that can be used by planners and others when faced with decisions

- measurable information, with achievable results, as opposed to anecdotal information

- a tendency to show change over a relatively short period of time

- reliable, consistent, and relatively free sources of data

The remaining indicators were put in two groups. The first group forms core measures that are important to Imagine Austin and can be reasonably tracked by staff. These were reviewed and approved by the Comprehensive Plan Committee of Planning Commission on February 11, 2013, and are provided on the following page with the latest available data.

The remaining 'additional' indicators that were in Imagine Austin, and met the above criteria, are primarily available in other reports and tracked vigorously by outside partner agencies or departments.

Indicators may be revised, removed, or added as research and analysis continues."

Summary of Changes Made to Indicators since 2013

Creative Economy indicators:
#111 Total Non-Profit Arts Revenue per Capita
#112 Creative Industries Businesses
#113 Overall Participation in Arts and Culture Activites

Explanation of change:
Data source (Americans for the Arts Index) no longer available.

Replacement indicators:
#118 Number of Cultural Contracts Applications
#119 Participants in Arts, Culture, and Small Business Workshops Hosted by the City
#120 City of Austin Overall Investment in the Arts

#78 Annual Trips per Capita

Explanation of Change:
Data source (CAMPO modeling) inconsistent and unavailable at regular intervals.

This indicator requires a consistent model to be used to calculate the year to year changes in trip generation based on updated demographic characteristics. There is not a program that provides this information on a consistent basis for the time period requested and would only be a modeled indicator.

Replacement indicator:
none identified

#109 and #110 Percent of Total Population and Jobs Increase between Centers and Corridors and ETJ

Explanation of Change:
Jobs data are not freely and readily available on an annual basis with the level of granularity that is necessary to accurately track this indicator.

Replacement indicators:
#121 Percent of new housing units within the growth centers and corridors
#122 Percent of new non-residential development within growth centers and corridors

#8 Community gardens per 1,000 population

Explanation of Change:
Addition of school gardens to definition. Staff feels that school gardens serve similar purposes to community gardens by providing training grounds for future community gardeners.

Indicator Data

#	Indicator Name	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	units	Data Source
3	Median Housing Values	222100	234800	255900	282700			USD	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
4	Median Gross Rent	974	1008	1084	1139			USD	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
5	Residential Vacancy Rate	8.23%	6.99%	7.95%	8.23%			percent	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
6	cost-burdened residential units	28.9%	28.8%	28.8%	27.6%			percent	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
8	Community and School Gardens per 1,000 People	0.021	0.032	0.033	0.036	0.051		acres	City of Austin, Community Garden GIS inventory
11	Homeless Count	2244	2090	1987	1832	2138	2036	persons	Austin ECHO Point in Time Counts
17	Number of Affordable Residential Units Funded	517	156	87	191	310		housing units	City of Austin, NHCD Performance Reporting
18.1	Prevalence of Obesity	23.6%	23.3%	20.5%	24.0%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
18.2	Prevalence of Tobacco Use	15.0%	15.3%	12.2%	16.6%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
18.3	Prevalence of Smoking	14.6%	11.5%	10.7%	14.1%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
18.4	Prevalence of Cardiovascular Disease	4.9%	1.5%	4.4%	4.9%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
18.5	Prevalence of Diabetes	7.2%	9.3%	7.2%	7.5%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
26	Developed Land Area	353.0		362.8		372.1		square miles	City of Austin, Land Use Inventory GIS Layer
34	Development Within Edwards Aquifer Zones	102.9		105.9		107.5		square miles	City of Austin, Land Use Inventory GIS Layer
35	Development within the 100 year Floodplain	2380					1816	structures	City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department
36	Residents Living within Walking Distance to Parks					66.90%		percent	City of Austin, Parkland Deficiency Layer
37	Total Water Pumpage in Gallons per Capita per Day	142	136	125	122	122		gallons	City of Austin, Austin Water Utility
38	Residential Water Consumption in Gallons per Capita per Day	84	79	70	67	71		gallons	City of Austin, Austin Water Utility
39	Environmental Integrity Index of Stream Water Quality	49%		55%		75%		percent	City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department

#	Indicator							Units	Source
40	Tree Canopy Coverage	36%						percent	City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department
41	Amount of Permanently Preserved Land	42,698	43,383	44,561	44,587	44,569	44,575	acres	City of Austin, various
66	Annual Unlinked Transit Passenger Trips	35,512,300	36,402,300	34,178,500	34,700,250			trips	Federal Transit Administration
67	Vehicle Miles Traveled per Capita	15.88	15.98	16.34				miles	Texas Transportation Institute
70	Percentage of Street Frontage with Sidewalks				43.6%	48.2%	53.1%	percent	City of Austin, Public Works Department, Sidewalk GIS layer
71.1	Bicycle Lane Miles	189.5	207.1	236.4	246.2			linear miles	City of Austin, Active Transportation and Street Design project database
71.2	Percentage of Arterials with Bike Lane			34.40%	35.40%	37.60%		percent	City of Austin, Active Transportation and Street Design project database
77.1	Percentage of Trips by Biking	1.66%	1.48%	1.44%	1.37%			percent	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
77.2	Percentage of Trips by Walking	2.99%	2.57%	2.71%	2.54%			percent	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
83	Intersection Density	34.8	35	35.3	35.4	35.5		intersections per sq mile	City of Austin, Intersection GIS data
85	Median Family Income	$ 68,023	$ 71,511	$ 76,663	$ 76,629		$ 86,615	USD	US Census Bureau, American Community Survey
88	Ratio of Jobs to Housing							ratio	household data: U.S. Census Bureau jobs data: Texas Workforce Commission
93	Unemployment Rate	6.0%	5.5%	4.5%	3.6%	3.1%	3.4%	percent	Texas Workforce Commission
96	Small Business Growth	5.32%	4.61%	5.82%	3.60%			percent	US Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics, Quarterly Workforce Indicators
102	Percent of Residents with Health Care Coverage	72.2%	76.2%	81.7%	81.9%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
114	Percent of Population that Performs the Recommended Amount of Physical Activity			48.7%	49.7%			percent	Texas Department of State Health Services, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
115	Violent Crime Rate per 1,000 Population	4.09	3.63	3.96	3.73	4.13		rate	City of Austin, Police Performance Measuring & Performance ATX & Population Histories

#	Measure						Units	Source
116	Property Crime Rate per 1,000 Population	52.19	48.5	41.42	37.71	37.36	rate	City of Austin, Police Performance Measuring & Performance ATX & Population Histories
117	Transportation System Total Annual Delay	48,482	50,055	51,116			thousands of person hours	Texas Transportation Institute
118	Number of Annual Cultural Contracts Applications	244	275	257	401	478	cultural funding applications	City of Austin, Cultural Arts Division
119	Participants in Arts, Culture, and Small Business Workshops Hosted by the City of Austin	186986	209630	366065	170391	325502	partici-pants	City of Austin, Economic Development Department, Parks and Recreation Department
120	Overall Investment in the Arts by the City of Austin	$ 8,472,939	$ 11,329,219	$ 12,715,538	$ 14,908,283	$ 15,352,295	dollars	City of Austin, various
121	Percent of New Housing Units within the Growth Centers and Corridors	70.35%	65.05%	59.84%	57.04%	56.35%	percent	City of Austin, Issued Construction Permits
122	Percent of New Non-Residential Development within Growth Centers and Corridors	80.40%	67.80%	70.10%	74.90%	67.30%	percent	City of Austin, Issued Construction Permits