

THE NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN-IT

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE CITY OF AUSTIN, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DEPARTMENT TO HIGHLIGHT NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN CONTACT TEAMS

Implementing Neighborhood Plans Through The Capital Improvement Program

By adopting neighborhood plans, the City Council demonstrates the City's commitment to the implementation of the plan. However, approval of the plan does not legally obligate the City to implement any particular recommendation. The City's Capital Improvements Program considers many factors, including Neighborhood Plan recommendations and priorities, as part of the allocation/budgeting process. Implementation of the neighborhood plan requires action and coordination from the neighborhood, the City and other outside agencies and organizations.

Step 1: Contact Teams Prioritize Neighborhood Plan Recommendations

It is very important to have active Contact Teams who can work with the Planning & Development Review Department (PDR) Implementation Planner to monitor and prioritize their plan's recommendations. Every three years PDR Implementation Planners will work with each of the Contact Teams to prioritize remaining unfunded recommendations for potential city investments.

Step 2: Contact Team Actions

Some capital improvement projects are identified and selected by the City through a request-based process. For example, the Local Area Traffic Management Program (LATM) selects neighbor-

hood traffic calming projects from applications submitted by residents on a rolling basis. See the *Neighborhood Plan Implementation Guide* for information on how Contact Teams can implement several types of recommendations found in their neighborhood plan.

<http://austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-plan-contact-teams>

Step 3: PDR Implementation Planners Coordinate with City Departments

PDR Implementation Planners work with City departments and other agencies to identify opportunities to advance the priority projects identified by the Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams. City projects may be implemented through a variety of funding sources, including bond monies, grants, transfers from depart-



ment operating budgets, parkland dedication fees, and other sources. The process that is used by the City to select capital improvement projects for implementation varies

by department, funding source, and city mandates and regulations that may apply. PDR Implementation Planners coordinate to ensure that the Neighborhood Plan Priorities can be integrated into department functional area master plans (e.g. Sidewalks Master Plan, Watershed Master Plan), into department capital improvements program planning, and advanced for funding to the extent possible.



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Inside this issue:

Implementing Neighborhood Plans	1 & 2
10-1 Redistricting	3
South Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan	3
Neighborhood Assistance Center	4
Staffing Changes	4
Helpful Web Links	4

Contact Team

Training Dates:

505 Barton Springs Rd.
3rd Floor Training Room
6:00-7:30 pm

- May 15 — CIP and 2012 Bond Work Program
- August 14 — Imagine Austin
- Nov 13 — Annual Meet & Greet

Light refreshments
will be provided

Bonds Con't

Step 4: Bond Program Development

A major source of funding for City capital improvements are voter-approved general obligation bonds. The City facilitates an extensive public process every few years to identify capital project needs and place a request for voter approval to issue debt to fund capital improvement projects. Development of a bond program also provides a great opportunity for additional public input from the Neighborhood Contact Teams and others on project priorities.



Step 5: Capital Improvements Program Development



The City of Austin maintains a 5-Year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Plan which identifies the City's projected major capital improvement projects over the next five years to improve public facilities and infrastructure (i.e. construction of sidewalks, bike lanes, recreating centers, street reconstruction, and replacement of water/wastewater lines). In order to be included in the CIP Plan, projects typically have gone through an in depth prioritization process at the department level or at the citywide level through bond program development or other means. PDR Implementation Planners are involved in the development of the CIP, and monitor implementation of neighborhood plan priorities. There is an opportunity for public feedback during development of the CIP Plan document; however, it is far more effective to weigh in earlier in the project selection process through working with PDR Implementation Planners to identify priorities, and through participation and comment at the department level or during Bond Program Development.

2012 Bond Implementation Program at a Glance

During the 2012 Bond development process, PDR Implementation Planners coordinated extensively with other City departments in order to ensure that funding would be available to advance neighborhood plan priorities.

2012 Bond—Selected Projects	Neighborhood Planning Area	2012 Bond Departmental Program Highlights	Funding
East 51 st St.	Windsor Park	Citywide Sidewalks, Ramps, Curbs and Gutters	\$25 million
North Lamar Boulevard and Burnet Road Improvements	North Lamar/Georgian Acres, NACA, North Burnet/Gateway, Crestview/Wooten	Citywide Bikeways and Urban Trails	\$7.5 million
Riverside Drive Corridor Improvements	East Riverside/Oltorf Combined	Local Area Traffic Management	\$3 million
Dove Springs Rec. Center and general park improvements	Southeast Combined	Neighborhood Plan-identified Parks Improvements and Open Space Projects	\$7 million
Montopolis Community Building – Rec Center & Neighborhood Health Center	Montopolis	Neighborhood Partnering Program	\$1.2 million
Veterans Pocket Park	Old West Austin	Street Reconstruction and Renovation	\$35 million
		Arterial Congestion and Crash Risk Mitigation	\$8 million

- Sara Behunek, Capital Planning Office
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- Stevie Greathouse, Planning and Development Review Project Management Coordinator
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For More Information ➡ ➡ ➡

10-1 Update

Applicant Review Panel to make final recommendations to City Council for Citizens Redistricting Commission

The panel charged with recommending who potentially should draw the 10 geographic Council districts will present its 60 names to the Austin City Council on May 16. The Applicant Review Panel for the City's first Citizens Redistricting Commission has narrowed an initial pool of 444 people. Each Council Member may strike one applicant from the list of 60.

The remaining names will be placed in a drawing for eight spots on the 14-member Redistricting Commission. City Auditor Kenneth Mory will conduct that drawing at 12:30 p.m. May 22 in the Boards and Commissions Room at City Hall, 301 W. Second St.

"We had an incredible applicant pool of well qualified residents," said Applicant Review Panel Member Caroline Limaye. "It was very difficult to narrow down the list to 60. We'd like to encourage those that applied to please stay involved and engaged in this very important process and time in our city."

Once the eight members have been confirmed, they will select the remaining six. It is expected that the Citizens Redistricting Commission will determine the boundaries for the 10 single-member Council districts by the end of the year.

The three Austin residents serving on the Applicant Review Panel are:

Michele DeFrance, Senior Auditor, Texas State Auditor's Office.

Caroline Limaye, Auditor, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Carol Feller, Auditor.



South Austin Combined Neighborhood Planning Process Moves Forward

The South Austin Combined Neighborhood Plan (SACNP) is the first neighborhood plan to be developed following the adoption of the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*. This neighborhood plan provides a finer-grained vision and neighborhood-scale goals that complement the broader citywide vision established by *Imagine Austin*.

Through a series of public workshops that started in January 2013, neighborhood participants are identifying design guidelines, land use regulations, and other desired policies, actions, and capital improvements for the planning area.

The neighborhood planning process has so far focused on the desired physical design and form of the planning area. At the **Kickoff Meeting**, held on January 12, 2013, over 130 participants identified aspects of the neighborhood that they view as assets, issues, and opportunities, and worked with various city departments to identify capital improvements projects throughout the planning area.

At the **Visioning Workshop**, held on February 16, 2013, over 130 participants participated in a straw poll that identified preferred building forms in several character districts in the neighborhood.



On March 23, 2013, at the **Community Design Workshop**, nearly 90 participants worked with design professionals to create a future illustrative vision for the Civic Center that encompasses the area around Manchaca and Stassney roads.

Moving forward the planning process will focus on policies related to each of the *Imagine Austin* Building Blocks: Land Use and Transportation; Housing and Neighborhoods; Conservation and Environment; City Facilities and Services; Economy, Society and Creativity.

For more information about the SACNP and to join the mailing list, visit:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/south-austin-combined-neighborhood-plan>

Neighborhood Assistance Center (NAC)

The Neighborhood Assistance Center (NAC) was created to respond to neighborhoods' requests that the City provide them with resources and support they need in order to deal with the rapid densification and growth of Austin.

Carol Gibbs and Jody Zemel were the first Neighborhood Advisors hired when the office was established in 2009, and continue to hold down the fort. If you have had the opportunity to engage with either of them, they would appreciate your (anonymous) feedback on a new Customer Satisfaction Survey they have implemented, by going to [www.surveymonkey.com/s/Neighborhood Assistance Survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Neighborhood_Assistance_Survey)

Carol Gibbs has been in Austin since coming to UT in 1975 to earn her Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. Her interest in neighborhood issues began in 2001 when she got involved with her then-fledgling South Lamar Neighborhood Association (SLNA), where she served in several different capacities, culminating as SLNA President for 2005-2006. Her personal experiences in SLNA were her training grounds for becoming a Neighborhood Advisor when the opportunity arose.

Jody Zemel has been a resident of Austin since 1979. She has volunteered on behalf of neighborhoods in Austin as a member of the Bouldin Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) zoning committee and neighborhood plan contact team and also as the webmaster for the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC). Before coming to the Neighborhood Assistance Center, Jody was a webmaster for Dell.com, and a software developer at the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Please contact [Carol Gibbs](mailto:Carol.Gibbs@cityofaustin.org) (512-974-7219) or [Jody Zemel](mailto:Jody.Zemel@cityofaustin.org) (512-974-7117) for further assistance or visit the website at:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-assistance-center>

Neighborhood Partner Program—Staffing Updates

Please join us in congratulating Justin Golbabai as he transitions to Neighborhood Partner Program (NPP) Manager position with the Public Works Department.

The NPP provides opportunities for community and neighborhood organizations to initiate public improvement projects in their neighborhoods by sharing the costs of those efforts with the City. Cost sharing can be achieved through cash contributions, in-kind contributions, or donated labor (sweat-equity). For more information about this program, please contact Justin Golbabai at Justin.Golbabai@cityofaustin.org or <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-partnering-program>

During this time of transition, please direct all other Neighborhood Plan implementation questions to Stevie Greathouse at Stevie.Greathouse@cityofaustin.org.

10—1 Commission Continued

According to the City Charter, each of the Applicant Review Panel Members must live in Austin; be licensed by the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy; and have at least five years of auditing experience. For additional meeting information and back-up materials on the Applicant Review Panel's work, visit www.austintexas.gov/10-One.

CONTACTS

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WEB LINKS

Community Registry—

Update the community registry to reflect the most current contact team officers.

<http://austingo.austintexas.gov/cr>

Contact Team Resources —

<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/neighborhood-plan-contact-teams>

Neighborhood Plan

Implementation Chart —

Find the spreadsheet of action items and recommendations for your adopted neighborhood plan.

http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/planning/neighborhood/imp_reports.htm

