MOVING AUSTIN TOWARD BECOMING A MORE MULTIMODAL CITY

Autocentric to Multimodal

Where are we now?

Autocentric land use patterns and streets make driving the most rational way to travel.

Prescriptions:

- Plan for density along transit corridors.
- Update street designs.
- Address sidewalk connectivity and quality.
- Resolve utility conflicts.

Mitigating Congestion

Where are we now?

Austin has some of the most congested roads in Texas, with Austinites experiencing an average delay of 52 hours a year. High construction and operating costs, combined with a lack of physical space, prevent us from employing large-scale supply fixes.

Prescriptions:

- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) for development above a certain threshold, including strategies such as subsidized transit passes, car or bike share, variably-priced parking, or unbundling parking from housing.
- Limit variances to connectivity requirements.

Parking

Where are we now?

High parking requirements are impediments to smaller-scale infill development and erode neighborhood character, in addition to reinforcing dependency on private motor vehicles.

Prescriptions:

- Context-sensitive requirements.
- Eliminate minimum requirements and establish maximums in higher intensity zones.
- Create smart, shared parking.
- TDM.
- Paid parking in higher intensity transect zones.

Affordability

Where are we now?

Austin's relative low-density requires most Austinites to drive, an almost \$12,000 annual expense. The cost to provide parking also drives up rents and the prices of goods and services.

Prescription:

- Density bonuses along transit corridors and parking cash-out.

Cost of Growth

Where are we now?

The cumulative effects of growth are not well accounted for and many developments are below the current TIA threshold.

Prescription:

- Create a context-sensitive multimodal Traffic Impact Analysis.

Safety

Where are we now?

Over the past decade, over 700 people have been killed on Austin roads and for each person killed, 8 more are seriously injured.

Prescriptions:

- Build safety into design.
- Code to encourage walking, bicycling, and transit.
- Incorporate safety into review.

CODE NEXT
SHAPING THE AUSTIN WE IMAGINE

