



**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**COUNCIL STRATEGY WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018**

The City Council of Austin, Texas convened in a Council Strategy Workshop on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, Wyndham Garden Hotels, 3401 S. IH-35, Austin and Lake Travis Rooms, Austin, Texas.

Mayor Adler called the Council Meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

1. Discuss policy priorities, goals, and the potential impacts on governance for the City of Austin.

- Outcome Area 1: Health and Environment

Presentation was made by Sara Hensley, Interim Assistant City Manager, Cassandra DeLeon and Lewis Leff.

Recommended changes or areas to consider in the proposed strategies and metrics include:

- On page 4, item 3: Include “avoiding duplication”.
- On page 5, item 13: Consider the need for more long-term planning.
- For successful contracts with vendors to evaluate what made the contract successful and apply those lessons to other contracts to help improve performance.
- Page 5, item 11: Define “where feasible”.
- Page 4, items 2, 3 and 4: Include a method to develop a regional process for collecting performance data established by all entities providing services.
- Page 4, item 1: Include “access to”.
- The outcome is missing any reference to how the City achieves the zero waste goals.
- Page 4, item 4: Consider options other than “stagger the awarding of contracts” as a best practice for reviewing contracts.
- Consider sharing strategies across all entities to help ensure everyone is aware of which strategies are being funded by each entity.
- The outcome is missing any reference to strategies relating to aging found in the “Age Friendly Plan”.
- Page 5, item 13: Clarify that the item includes changes resulting from CodeNext.
- To consider using “all ages” rather than identify specific age groups (seniors, youths, etc.) to make it more inclusive.
- Provide a glossary of terms used in the plan.
- Consider adding a metric-related to the tree canopy and how it is impacted by CodeNext.
- Consider adding a metric for the total daily water pumpage.
- Clarify how performance measures found in the Imagine Austin Plan are going to be reported to Council.

- Consider rewording item F3 more like item F4.
- Consider adding an item relating to health of incarcerated individuals.
- Consider including measures relating to the Pay for Success program.
- Page 5, item 2: Consider rewording “by collaborating” to make it less limiting.

The meeting was recessed at 10:28 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

- Outcome Area 2: Safety

Presentation was made by Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager, Molly Bolte and Keith Simpson.

Recommended changes or areas to consider in the proposed strategies or metrics include:

- Clarify which outcome includes public safety infrastructure.
- Page 9, item 9: Include “youth/juvenile justice”.
- Consider adding measures relating to violent crime, sexual assault and Vision Zero.
- Page 9, item 2: Make it more than just about the relationship but how the City becomes more proactive in identifying and providing services needed that are not available through public safety departments.
- Consider incorporating measures captured by the Sobriety Center.
- Consider making mental health training for public safety personnel mandatory rather than optional and make it on-going.
- Consider adding a metrics such as “Leverage innovative financing models to ensure necessary public safety infrastructure expansion timely expands with growth.”
- Page 9, item 2: Consider rewording “collaborating with” to something more inclusive.
- Consider including Pay for Success measures.
- Consider including numbers as well as percentages on the metrics.
- Page 7, item C.1: Consider defining “natural disasters” to clarify this includes wildfires.
- Page 7, items B.3 and B.4: Need to ensure the survey is statistically valid and incorporates all residents.

The meeting was recessed at 11:29 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:43 p.m.

- Outcome Area 3: Economic Opportunity and Affordability

Presentation was made by Jackie Sargent, Austin Energy General Manager and Annemarie Diaz.

Recommended changes or areas to consider in the proposed strategies or metrics include:

- Page 13, item 1: Define middle-skill jobs.
- Pages 13 and 14: Define the difference between items one and four.
- Page 14, item 7: Include Spirit of East Austin.
- Consider including strategies to increase access to technology.
- Define where successful small businesses fit into the goals. Possible strategy would be “Foster a climate of innovation, entrepreneurship and investment”.
- Consider adding a commitment to a solution to improving the permitting process.
- Consider removing the examples listed in item six.

- Consider including “annual increase in property tax or percent of annual change in property tax”.
- Page 14, item 4: Need to provide method to audit providers for workforce development and housing contractors and develop performance metrics for the contracts.
- Consider including information on the locations of economic opportunities.
- Page 11: Consider removing “compared to income” from the title of the metric C.
- Page 11, item C.5: Add a “c” to address fees.
- Consider adding metrics around early childhood programs.
- Page 11, item C.4: Provide more details on the numbers such as number of bedrooms, etc.
- Page 12, item D.6: Provide more details on the numbers such as number of bedrooms, etc.
- Page 11, item C.2: Include health and other costs as a cost burden.
- Consider including a measure that shows the impact of cost of living for seniors.
- Page 12, items E.2 and E.6: Include the effectiveness of the services and which program helped the individual move into housing.
- Consider including metrics relating to the Pay for Success Program.
- Consider including a metric on the number of people able to move up and out of poverty.
- Page 12, item G.5a: Consider including how many people living in poverty that live on the edge of Austin that would live in Austin if they could afford it.
- Page 12, item E.2: Clarify if this is for permanent supportive housing only.
- Consider adding a general measure to track successful exit from homelessness and the amount of time an individual is homeless.
- Include the numbers as well as the percentage.
- Outcome Area 4: Government that Works for All
Presentation was made by Mark Washington, Assistant City Manager and Zach Baumer.

Recommended changes or areas to consider in the proposed strategies or metrics include:

- Page 19, item 6: Define “meaningful” community engagement.
- Include outcomes that track contract performance to ensure compliance.
- Page 18, Challenge Statement 1: make it more inclusive to include relationship between City Management and Council and effectiveness of Council.
- Page 18, Challenge Statement 3: How we operate across the different levels of government (federal, state and local).
- Consider including how we effectively use technology to improve business processes.
- Page 19, item 5: Add “other regional partners” after City government.
- Page 20, item 9: Include preservation of historical records.
- Consider including rate of property tax increase or percent above the effective tax rate.
- Consider including impact of tax rate on seniors.
- Considering adding a resiliency metric.
- Considering increasing transparency on how we track resolutions and which ones are funded.
- Include numbers in addition to percentages where appropriate.

The meeting was recessed at 2:20 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:44 p.m.

- Outcome Area 5: Culture and Lifelong Learning
Presentation was made by Ray Baray, Chief of Staff, and Lara Foss.

Recommended changes or areas to consider in the proposed strategies or metrics include:

- **Consider including a strategy that addresses the library system.**
- **Page 24, items 6 and 7: Consider including “utilization of the places including exhibit space”.**
- **Consider adding a measure for strategy 6.**
- **Page 22, item D.3: Include a measure to track the ability to accept and store archival items.**
- **Page 22, item D.2: Include “awareness”.**
- **Page 22, item D.4: Clarify how this measure will be defined.**
- **Consider including a measure to track how diverse festivals and specials events are.**
- **Wrap up and next steps, including Plan Adoption and Budget Alignment**
 - **Next steps are:**
 - **Incorporate direction from Council along with feedback from the boards and commissions.**
 - **Prepare final plan for Council review.**
 - **The Mobility strategy is still in development.**
 - **Finalize the roadmap for plan execution.**
 - **Transition to strategic plan aligned to the budget.**
 - **Council to review and adopt plan at the March 8 meeting**
 - **Council to determine priorities for FY19 Budget in April.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

The minutes were approved on this the 1st day of March 2018 on Council Member Alter’s motion, Council Member Garza’s second on an 11-0 vote.