Public Hearing
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 48
AGENDA DATE: Thu 06/09/2005
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SUBJECT: Set a public hearing on proposed amendment to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code relating to accessibility for the mobility impaired in housing constructed with public funds. (Suggested date and time: June 23, 2005 at 6:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 301 West 2nd St.)

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Neighborhood Housing **DIRECTOR'S**
DEPARTMENT: and Community **AUTHORIZATION:** Paul Hilgers
Development

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Hilgers, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, 974-3108.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: Visitability Ordinance approved, October 7, 1998 (Ordinance 981007); Visitability Ordinance amended, January 15, 2004 (Ordinance 040115-45)

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended by Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities and the Community Development Commission.

The Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department recommends amendments to the Visitability Ordinance that will increase the number of new single family homes, duplexes and triplexes that will be accessible to people with disabilities. The major features of the proposed amendments are the following:

1. Allows waiver applications on small lots in historic districts where the slope from the public right-of-way to the entrance is equal to or greater than 10%.

2. Allows waiver applications on small corner lots or small lots next to corner lots where alley slope is equal to or greater than 10% and parking access is from the alley.

3. Requires that a copy of a waiver request be sent to registered interested parties who may comment on the waiver request and appeal decisions on waivers to the Building and Fire Code Board and/or the City Council.

4. Allows an alternate method of compliance for a person with disability to access a home from a parking space located in the public right-of-way.