

ORDINANCE NO. 20050407-038

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ARTICLE 22 OF CHAPTER 2-1 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO THE DESIGN COMMISSION.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. The city council finds that:

- (A) To enhance the quality of life in Austin through excellence in urban planning and design, it is beneficial to have a citizen advisory body to provide advisory recommendations regarding the design and development of the urban environment.
- (B) The existing city code provisions establishing the Design Commission are obsolete and do not reflect the current responsibilities of the commission.
- (C) It is desirable to establish the focus of the commission's purpose and to clearly delineate its responsibilities.

PART 2. Article 22 of Chapter 2-1 (*Boards and Commissions*) of the City Code is repealed and replaced to read as follows:

ARTICLE 22. DESIGN COMMISSION.

§ 2-1-221 CREATION; MEMBERSHIP.

- (A) The Design Commission is created and composed of nine members appointed by the city council.
- (B) To obtain a broad range of community viewpoints, the commission shall be appointed from a diverse group of persons having expertise in urban design, architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation, civic art, real property development, construction, and economic development and shall include:
 - (1) five design professionals, including at least two registered architects and at least one registered landscape architect; and
 - (2) four citizens at large, including one person employed as a developer.

- (C) A member who holds two or more different professional design accreditations may be appointed to fill only one of the positions described in Subsection (B)(1).

§ 2-1-222 TERMS.

- (A) Each commission member shall be appointed to serve a two-year term.
- (B) Five commission members shall be appointed to terms that expire on October 1 of even-numbered years and four commission members shall be appointed to terms that expire on October 1 of odd-numbered years.

§ 2-1-223 QUORUM.

Five members of the commission constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

§ 2-1-224 PURPOSE; DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

- (A) The Design Commission shall provide advisory recommendations to the city council as requested by the council to assist in developing public policy and to promote excellence in the design and development of the urban environment.
- (B) The commission shall:
- (1) offer policy recommendations regarding specific issues of urban design;
 - (2) participate in developing design guidelines;
 - (3) unless otherwise directed by Council, for projects that require the approval of the Planning Commission or the Zoning and Platting Commission:
 - (i) review a project only after a formal request by the project sponsor or applicant; and
 - (ii) complete the review before the respective Planning or Zoning and Platting Commission takes final action;
 - (4) provide citizen education and outreach regarding quality urban design;
 - (5) provide a venue for citizen input on the design and development of the urban environment;
 - (6) maintain liaison relationships with city staff and other boards and commissions; and

(7) perform other activities as directed by the city council.

- (C) The commission may appoint at least one member to serve as liaison to a project-specific community advisory group addressing urban design and planning issues at the formal request of the project sponsor.

PART 3. This ordinance takes effect on April 18, 2005.

PASSED AND APPROVED

April 7, 2005

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Will Wynn
Mayor

APPROVED: _____
David Allan Smith
City Attorney

ATTEST: _____
Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk