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11-17-05

November 17, 2005

Mayor and Council,

We, the undersigned members of the Design Standards Taskforce, offer our support for the proposed amendments to the Design Standards policy document.

These amendments faced extensive community input and review and represent the consensus of those serving on the taskforce. The amendments create useful tools to be used by residents, businesses, planners and other stakeholders in the Neighborhood Planning process. The majority of the amendments focus on removing barriers that discourage Vertical Mixed Use development. Provisions were included that will make Vertical Mixed Use easier and more profitable resulting in a healthier tax base and a more pedestrian oriented built environment. The amendments to the Design Standards policy document reflect sound urban planning and promote the goals of Envision Central Texas.

We encourage you to approve these revisions.

Respectfully,

Richard Weiss, Design Commission Chair
Chris Riley, Planning Commission Chair
Girard Kinney, Design Commission
Laura Morrison, Austin Neighborhood Council, OWANA
Kevin Lewis, Austin Neighborhood Council
Cathy Echols, Liveable City
Steve Metcalfe, Drenner Stuart Wolff Metcalfe von Kreisler
Melissa Mathiesson, Drenner Stuart Wolff Metcalfe von Kreisler
Brad Greenblum, Texas Sign Association
Pete Sitterle, Texas Sign Association
Bruce Shelton, Ad Lite Signs