

ANC NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

AUGUST 2012

State of Neighborhood Planning

Over the years many contact teams have requested updates to their neighborhood plans. While city staff recognizes the need for plan updates, staff cannot accommodate the request at this time due to several reasons.

Development and Implementation of *Imagine Austin*—In October 2009, City Council directed staff to begin work on a new Comprehensive Plan, *Imagine Austin*. Developing a new comprehensive plan has been a huge undertaking and we are pleased that *Imagine Austin* has been adopted.

Now the task of implementing *Imagine Austin* is beginning, a number of staff will be needed for implementation, including assisting with priority programs, tracking progress, and conducting the City's charter-required annual review.

Planning for the remainder of the Urban Core—Staff has been directed to complete neighborhood plans for the core before beginning any major plan updates. Several planning staff will be needed to continue working on developing neighborhood plans for those areas.

Planning staff have begun preliminary outreach and research for the South Austin Combined Neighborhood Planning area. City Council passed a resolution June 28th to begin a plan for the area comprised of the Westgate, South Manchaca and Garrison Park Planning areas with an official plan kick off expected in the Fall 2012.

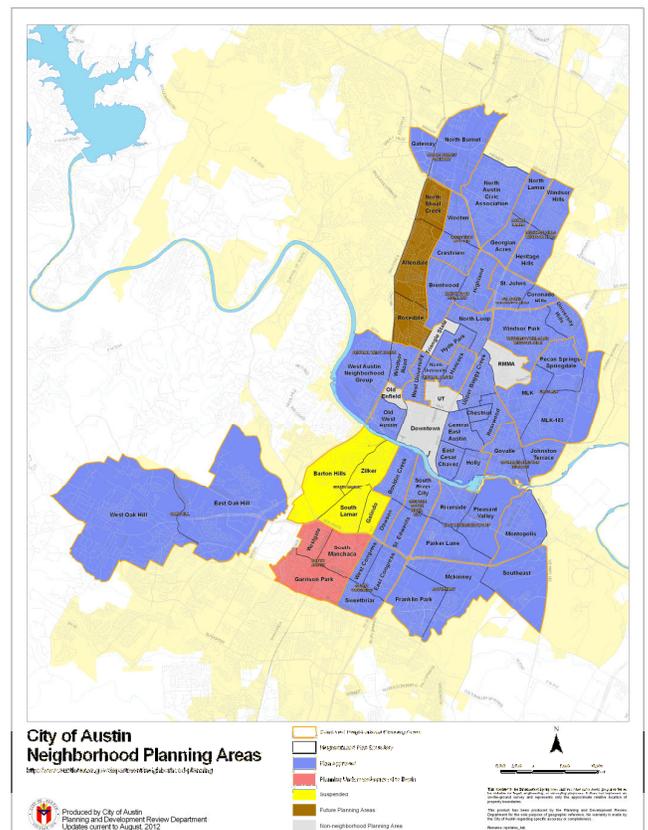
When resources become available, planning staff will develop a

process for updating neighborhood plans that incorporates the implementation aspects of *Imagine Austin*. While it is not known what the process will look like, there will be opportunities for neighborhoods to participate and help shape the process.

In the meantime, contact teams can request *minor* changes to their plans including the addition of design tools and infill options that were not available for plans adopted prior to April 2000. These types of amendments (subdistrict and area-wide) can be submitted by contact teams once every two years. Contact teams that are interested in pursuing a plan amendment for their area should contact the plan amendment case manager.

Adoption of St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Plan

On April 26th, City Council unanimously voted to adopt the St. John/Coronado Hills Neighborhood Plan. Congratulations to all of the community members and staff who worked hard to develop a great neighborhood plan. In addition to plan adoption, the neighborhoods have identified their top planning priorities and have formed two Neighborhood Plan Contact Teams as the primary stewards of the neighborhood plan. The Comprehensive Planning Division's Implementation team will work with the contact teams to assist with reaching neighborhood plan goals and priorities. The plan can be viewed at: <http://austintexas.gov/page/neighborhood-planning-areas>



Imagine Austin and Neighborhood Plans

Neighborhood plans, neighborhood associations and contact teams have played a crucial role in the creation of Imagine Austin, from the project kick-off in October 2009 to the Planning Commission's review of neighborhood plans in January 2012 and the final adoption of Imagine Austin by City Council in June 2012. The adopted plan reflects this input, identifying how the comprehensive plan and neighborhood plans work together to provide City Council the best guidance possible for land use decisions.

The adopted neighborhood plans were reviewed as part of the development of the growth concept map. Only one amendment has been identified for neighborhood plans as a result of the growth concept map. The Southeast Combined Neighborhood Plan Contact Team requested a neighborhood center on the growth concept map on Pleasant Valley Road; currently the neighborhood plan's future land use map does not show this desired center. Staff will work with the contact team to identify the best approach to coordinate the two plans.

Appendix G of the comprehensive plan lists plans to be attached to Imagine Austin. All plans currently attached to Austin Tomorrow will be attached to Imagine Austin, including all of the neighborhood plans. Now that Imagine Austin is adopted, staff will begin working to complete the current roster of neighborhood plans in the urban core.

Community involvement is an important part of Imagine Austin as we move forward with implementation. There are a number of ways for you to get involved and stay engaged. The easiest is to sign up for our email list (via www.imagineaustin.net) and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. You can also request an Imagine Austin speaker for any group with which you are affiliated – community, business or otherwise. There will be opportunities to plug in with the Imagine Austin team throughout the year as we prepare for the Annual Report, to be released each fall. This report will be an opportunity to document what we have achieved in the past year and what we aim to accomplish in the coming year; we need your help in identifying both of these. Additionally, the process of revising the land development code, a Priority Program of Imagine Austin, will be getting underway soon. Please stay tuned to Imagine Austin to find out more soon.

The result of more than two years of work by the Austin community, Imagine Austin brings a thirty-year perspective to the City's day to day operations. For a copy of the plan and more information visit www.imagineaustin.net

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“Bringing the community together to make great places happen.”

Imagine Austin is Adopted !



The Austin City Council voted 7-0 on June 15, 2012 to adopt Imagine Austin, our plan for Austin's future.

“I want to thank everybody in Austin who contributed their time and creative ideas to Imagine Austin. Some folks spent two and a half years on the Task Force and countless others contributed their passion and ideas. This is a momentous achievement of working together to create a collective vision for Austin's future and we are committed to doing our part as a City to begin implementing this plan. We look forward to working with our partners and the public to make it happen.”

Mayor Lee Leffingwell

