



LIVEABLE CITY BOARD RESOLUTION
ENDORING THE IMAGINE AUSTIN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, Austin faces an array of serious civic challenges including increased congestion, ongoing drought, declining affordability, cuts to public education, the need for cleaner and more affordable energy, and a projected population increase of 750,000 by 2039; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing the need for strong planning in these and other areas, members of the Board of Liveable City have been actively involved in the development of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, along with many community leaders, residents, city staff members and others who are committed to creating a sustainable planning tool for our city; and

WHEREAS, The Austin Planning Commission and Comprehensive Plan Citizens Advisory Task Force have volunteered thousands of hours to this effort, and nearly 18,000 citizen comments were recorded and considered during a multi-faceted public process spanning two and a half years to date; and

WHEREAS, The topics of Education and Creativity were added as Plan elements and Implementation was incorporated as a central theme as requested by the Board of Liveable City and many members of the Austin community; and

WHEREAS, The Plan contains a robust set of indicators and metrics for each Plan element that may be further refined and expanded upon in the future, and the Austin City Charter provides a mechanism for the Austin Planning Commission to annually review and update the Plan with full public participation; and

WHEREAS, After careful deliberation, the Austin Planning Commission endorsed the Imagine Austin Plan by unanimous consent of its members and the Advisory Task Force endorsed the Plan by a vote of 21-3; and

WHEREAS, The Plan, as passed by the Austin Planning Commission, supports many forward thinking concepts including Complete Communities and Household Affordability that hold significant promise for improving the quality of life for all Austin residents; and

WHEREAS, While no plan is perfect, this lengthy public process has resulted in a comprehensive document that broadly reflects the hopes and desires of the Austin community and is supported by many Austin residents and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Liveable City believes the proposed Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, as passed by the Austin Planning Commission, is critical to our development as a resilient, equitable and sustainable community, and the Board looks forward to continued work to make the Plan's fundamental concepts a reality; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Liveable City endorses the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan as passed by the Austin Planning Commission without substantive amendment; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Liveable City calls upon the Austin City Council to adopt the Imagine Austin plan as passed by the Austin Planning Commission without substantive amendment; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board of Liveable City calls upon the Austin City Council to take the following actions to ensure successful implementation of the Plan and to provide for knowledgeable engagement by the public and the members of the City Council as the Plan progresses:

- (1) Create a standing Comprehensive Plan Implementation Working Group, including members of the general public, to review and monitor the implementation of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and to report its findings publicly on a regular basis to the full Austin Planning Commission, which is charged by the Austin City Charter with oversight of the Plan; and
- (2) Direct the City Manager to provide publicly available quarterly updates to the Austin City Council, in a format that includes a public hearing, regarding specific progress on Plan elements and action steps, including funding sources and budget ramifications.

Adopted by the Liveable City Board of Directors
May 19, 2012