

RESOLUTION NO. 20180809-111

WHEREAS, the purpose of the comprehensive rewrite of the Land Development Code, known as CodeNEXT, was to promote each of the priority programs and the adopted policies and goals of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and to comply with Article X, Sections 1 and 5 of the City Charter which requires that Austin's land development regulations be consistent with the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, a constantly amended timeline, spanning over five years, a combination of significant disruptions to the CodeNEXT process including major changes to our city leadership and transition to a new 10-1 district system of representation, adoption of the Strategic Housing Blueprint and Strategic Direction 2023 Plan, as well as multiple drafts with major revisions between each draft, have in our community led to significant confusion and lack of confidence in the process that CodeNEXT can achieve its stated goals; and

WHEREAS, many residents, businesses, and stakeholder groups throughout the community have expressed significant concerns that the CodeNEXT process has not reflected their input or produced a draft code they believe is consistent with Imagine Austin or adequately addresses Austin's challenges; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the CodeNEXT process concerns have been raised about the reliability of the data provided to Council, including forecasting models and housing capacity analyses, which led Council to direct the City Manager through Resolution No. 20180628-125 to conduct additional testing and modeling of the latest draft of CodeNEXT and the recommendations of the City Commissions by August 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, City staff informed Council through a July 24, 2018 Memorandum about challenges encountered in the testing process that make it difficult to meet the August 31, 2018 deadline and that Council would be provided a status update, including an anticipated timeline for the completion of the testing effort, once the participants and meeting dates are set; and

WHEREAS, committed volunteers from the Code Advisory Group, Planning Commission, Zoning and Platting Commission, other City Commissions, and City of Austin residents have dedicated countless hours to the CodeNEXT process leading to informative and valuable work, insight, and input; and

WHEREAS, the process of a comprehensive rewrite of a Land Development Code is necessarily complicated and requires consistent executive leadership from staff, a stable political framework, and reliable analytical data;

NOW THEREFORE,

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

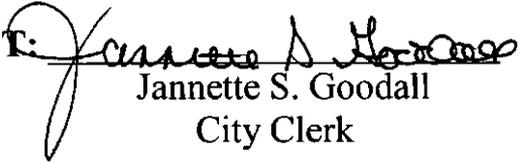
The Council finds that due to a combination of significant disruptions to the process, CodeNEXT is no longer a suitable mechanism to achieve its stated goals or address the critical challenges currently facing our City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to develop and propose a new process leading to a Land Development Code that achieves the stated goals of the City as outlined in the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*, the *Strategic Housing Blueprint*, *Austin's Watershed Protection Master Plan*, and the *Austin Strategic Direction 2023 Plan*; and considers any recommendations the City Manager may derive from the findings in any future City Auditor's special report that may be undertaken.

ADOPTED: August 9, 2018

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk