

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the cost of housing is too high for too many people in Austin;
and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin last completed a comprehensive Land
Development Code (LDC) rewrite in 1984; and

WHEREAS, the current LDC is outdated and insufficient to address
Austin's critical housing needs; and

WHEREAS, City staff presented 31 in-progress LDC amendments at the
Housing and Planning Committee on May 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, there is limited staff time and resources to process code
amendments; and

WHEREAS, the Council will continue to initiate LDC amendments aimed
at modernizing the code to better serve Austin's housing needs; and

WHEREAS, when initiating LDC amendments, the Council generally
passes a resolution that defines specific objectives and identifies portions of the
code to be amended, which then serves as a basis for preparing the staff
recommendation; and

WHEREAS, in preparing staff recommendations on code amendments,
there could be benefits to looking beyond the specific objective of Council's
resolution and further identifying ways to improve and streamline the LDC; and

WHEREAS, in cases where a Council resolution initiating LDC
amendments includes items that are straightforward and easy to address, along

with more complex or challenging items, staff strives to bring the more straightforward items forward ahead of the harder ones; and

WHEREAS, the Council supports opportunities to improve staff efficiency and effectiveness when updating the LDC to best address Austin’s housing needs;
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

When responding to a Council resolution that initiates amendments to the LDC (“initiating resolution”), the Council authorizes the City Manager to propose indirectly-related amendments if the proposed amendments support the policy goal of the initiating resolution. This would include proposing amendments that accomplish the following:

- eliminate unnecessary or outdated provisions;
- address conflicts between indirectly-related sections;
- clarify existing language; and
- propose improvements that complement the changes contemplated in the initiating resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

If any requested change to the LDC has multiple components, the City Council supports the City Manager returning to City Council with a portion of the requested changes before completing all components.