



REGULAR CALLED MEETING OF THE DOWNTOWN COMMISSION

Wednesday October 15, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Austin City Hall, Council Chambers, Room 1001

301 W 2nd Street

Austin, Texas 78701

Some members of the Downtown Commission may be participating by videoconference. The meeting may be viewed online at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>

Public comment will be allowed in-person or remotely via telephone. Speakers may only register to speak on an item once either in-person or remotely and will be allowed up to three minutes to provide their comments. Registration no later than noon the day before the meeting is required for remote participation by telephone. To register to speak remotely or in person, please contact Christi Vitela at Christi.Vitela@austintexas.gov or (512) 974-2792.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

Ed Ishmael, *Chair*

Kimberly Levinson, *Vice Chair*

Pat Buchta

David Carroll

Liz Coufal

Nathan McDaniel

Charles Peveto

Nancy Pollak

Sania Shifferd

Philip Wiley

Kevin Chen

Nkiru Gelles

Gina Houston

Jennifer Franklin

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first ten speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Downtown Commission regular called meeting on September 17, 2025.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Update on the Downtown Density Bonus Program/Affordable Housing and SB 840. Presentation by Alan Pani, Planner Principal, Austin Planning.
3. Update on a proposed amendment to City Code Title 25 (Land Development) to establish a base height limit within the Central Business District (CBD) zoning district and update the Downtown Density Bonus (DDB) and Rainey Street Subdistrict to incorporate the CBD base height limit into the DDB program. Presentation by Alan Pani, Planner Principal, Austin Planning.
4. Presentation regarding Staff's response to Council Resolution [20241121-073](#) related to Bird-Friendly design by Leslie Lilly, Environmental Conservation Program Manager, Austin Watershed Protection.
5. Update on the Downtown Austin Alliance's (DAA) construction mitigation strategy. Presentation by Matt Geske, Vice President - Public Affairs, DAA, and Vanessa Olson, Vice President -Communication and Marketing, DAA.
6. Update on the Downtown Austin Alliance's (DAA) active urbanism team regarding programs to support Artists and Creatives: DASA, Musicians activating spaces. Presentation by Raasin McIntosh, Vice President - Active Urbanism, DAA, and Emily Risinger, Director of Planning, DAA.
7. Update from the Arts Commission representative on the Cultural Funding/Grants process and information regarding the work of Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment (ACME) as it relates to the commission.
8. Discussion of the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association proposal for replacing the current Downtown Density Bonus Program.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

9. Approve a Recommendation to Council regarding changes to the Downtown Density Bonus Program.
10. Approve the Downtown Commission 2026 Regular Meeting Schedule.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Christi Vitela at the Office of the City Clerk, at (512) 974-2792 for additional information; TTY users' route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Downtown Commission, please contact Christi Vitela at Christi.Vitela@austintexas.gov or (512) 974-2792.