



### **Mission Statement**

The Economic Development Committee's purpose is to create opportunity for financial success and security for young Austin residents. Working with other AYC committees, members, local groups, and business, this committee is a forward-looking group focused on solutions for Austin's young professionals.

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### **Economic Development Committee General Meeting August 28, 2019**

*MEETING LOCATION: Capital One Cafe, 106 E 6th St Suite 100, Austin, TX 78701  
Parking validated - Park in the Littlefield Garage ON BRAZOS and bring ticket.*

- 1) 5:30-6:00 Welcome, Introduce Speaker
  - a) City Budget: Erik Nelson
    - i) homelessness initiatives have been a big budget focus for a year.
    - ii) In thick. Of budget process now, it's a year long process. Started in jan getting feedback from council members.
    - iii) More suggestions about improving efficiencies and reallocating funds to address pressures from state. Revenue caps
    - iv) Starts process earlier each year to make more time for public feedback
    - v) Financial forecast, 5 years out. More low key this year because of what was happening at legislature.
    - vi) Aug/Sept go back and forth with council to firm up
    - vii) Hope to pass budget in 1 day on Sept 10th
    - viii) Budget website to solicit feedback throughout process
    - ix) You can also contact your council member directly to provide feedback
    - x) 4.2 billion dollars, 1.1 million for general fund
    - xi) Police and fire cost more than we collect in property taxes
    - xii) Property taxes represent 50% of general fund budget
    - xiii) Sales tax, utility transfers, other revues make up rest of general fund budget
    - xiv) Senate Bill 2 - Largest challenges facing, actions by legs to cap local revenue growth (i.e property taxes)
    - xv) House bill 1152 - can only collect one fee in telecommunications/cable, reduction of 5.2 million
    - xvi) City manager approved 15.3M one time investment to offset future gaps in the budget. Hold off until 2021
    - xvii) Future planning - improve efficiency for city services, comprehensive review of Fire/EMS services, establish homeless advisory council, develop long term strategies for ensuring financial stability of policy and city employees retirement systems , explore opportunities for broadening, increasing general fund revenues.
    - xviii) Moving forward need healthy sales tax and look at potentially cutting services to bridge gap.
- 2) 6:00: General Intro
  - a) Mission, Leadership Intros
  - b) New/Prospective Members?
- 3) 6:05: Austin in Transit Presentation
  - a) Way behind in transit, we have tried to do transit before in 2000, 2014, keep losing,
  - b) Transit for Austin is non profit to build education to support high capacity, regional transit
  - c) focused on building a coalition,
  - d) Need transit for connecting people to better jobs, housing, health care, etc.
  - e) Project connect working on blue/orange line for transit either BRT or rail



- f) Website, social media coming soon
  - g) Launch date sept 19th
  - h) Q&A
  - i) Vote: Committee Members Only
    - i) 18 members voting - 17 for, 1 against, committee moves to recommend to the AYC board that we join the coalition for transit in Austin
- 4) 6:30: : Policy Leads
- a) Carson: Tech
    - i) Hired new Econ dev director for City of Austin, ending a lot of tax credits that have attracted businesses here.
    - ii) Hack a ton that UT & COA put on 2 weeks ago.
    - iii) Pitch competition for mobility innovation. 9/9.
  - b) Christopher: ACC Education
    - i) Implantation of house bill 3, Austin ISD upcoming issues - school closures,
    - ii) Action - sign up to help with FAFSA, provide link
    - iii) Data release this week that found graduates at the school districts hit 66% for readiness, up
  - c) Becky: State Lege
    - i) Texas tribune, end of sept 26-28, festival
  - d) Holly: Local Advocacy
  - e) Oren: Land Development Code
    - i) Memo from City Manger Cronk on how he was going to structure process - process outlined in timeline on austin's website. Not holding back public participation and interest just doing it in a different format. Instead, taking draft 3 of code next, re-writing to work on guidelines from council, test it out in house and then open up for public comment. District meetings if only requested by district, office hours that public can stop by if they want to. Still waiting to see how they will incorporate new information. [austintexas.gov/lcd](http://austintexas.gov/lcd) to read blog posts. Blogs to try and get in front of questions that came up next time. Shooting to pass by end of year.
  - f) Andy: City Council
    - i) Raising property taxes to 8% was discussed and passed at last council meeting
    - ii) Homelessness forum, tomorrow at LBJ school from 6-8PM
- 5) 6:50: Call to Action:
- a) City Hall Representation
    - i) Every other Thursday meetings
  - b) Ask for submissions
    - i) Hosting Randy Clark, CEO of Cap metro for LEAD series lunch - please sign up
  - c) Policy Lead Vacancies:
    - i) Austin City Budget
- 6) 6:55: Upcoming Events/Reminders
- a) Civics 101- Sept
  - b) Nonprofit Fair
  - c) Budget Party
  - d) NAMI Walk