

MATTHEW LEWIS

June 16, 2016
Letter of Resignation

Greg Guernsey
City of Austin
505 Barton Springs Rd.
Austin, TX 78704

Mr. Guernsey,

Austin is a wonderful city and the community deserves a great Planning and Zoning Department. I worked tirelessly, with great enthusiasm and optimism, to help make this the best planning department in the country, implement Imagine Austin and CodeNEXT, and assist in creating fair and equitable planning processes.

Due to historical obstacles, a substantial portion of my work focused on creating a new proactive mindset in the department. I knew I would face challenges, but I underestimated the magnitude of the internal pushback. This opposition manifested itself in a variety of spurious allegations. While I take exception to those allegations, the resistance they reflect makes it impossible to continue in my position. I am resigning from my position as Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning with the City of Austin effective immediately.

I leave the department proud that during my tenure I was able to achieve a number of significant accomplishments:

- Created an effective team, implementation strategy and timeline for CodeNEXT
- Formed the Neighborhood Outreach and Implementation Division to assist neighborhoods with small area plan implementation
- Developed a new community driven process for small area plans to save money, time and resources for the City and the community

I am hopeful the new leadership will continue to implement and use the advancements my team and I developed to create a better Austin, Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Lewis". The letters are stylized and connected.

Matthew Lewis