



BUILDING BASTROP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 27, 2019

Media Contact:

Patti Hixon

Buie & Co. Public Relations

512-633-1263

patti@buieco.com

**BASTROP CITY COUNCIL APPROVES POLICY STATEMENT TO GUIDE
HOLISTIC REWRITE OF LAND-USE REGULATIONS**

Statement Designed to Ensure Clear and Consistent Application of Community Priorities

BASTROP, TEXAS – February 27, 2019 – Last night, the Bastrop City Council unanimously voted to approve a policy statement for Building Bastrop, designed to ensure clarity and consistency for all revisions and additions to the City’s land-use regulations. The approved statement directs staff to “create a fiscally sustainable community through land-use regulations that are authentic Bastrop and geographically sensitive.”

This action follows a presentation to City Council on February 12 by Matt Lewis of Simplecity Design, who has been contracted by the City as an extension of the planning team for the Building Bastrop initiative. Based on Council’s feedback regarding that presentation, the policy statement was draft to reflect community priorities and resident input shared at the Design and Code Rodeos hosted by the City in November and December. The statement will guide the ongoing work of Building Bastrop, and Council expects to approve land-use regulations aligned with this policy in the coming months. The first ordinance for consideration will be drainage, which is expected to go before Council as early as March.

“As a Council, we want to create policy that matches the heart and soul of this city. Adopting this policy statement will support appropriate updates to our land-use regulations in the near term, as well as their long-term application,” said Bastrop Mayor Connie Schroeder. “Our outdated drainage standards prompted the Building Bastrop initiative, but we are approaching this effort with a holistic mindset to ensure Bastrop is fiscally sustainable moving forward.”

Since the Design and Code Rodeos, the planning team has diligently worked on new ordinances that would preserve and promote what the community loves about Bastrop today and what residents want to see moving forward, all with a commitment to fiscal sustainability. Foundational elements of the new land-use regulations will include a return to a grid pattern of development, the integration of diverse building types and an emphasis on walkability, maintaining a quarter-mile radius for housing, work space and public amenities.

“We have been challenged by City Council to draft regulations that capture what authentic Bastrop means. This policy statement will be the foundation of the Building Bastrop Block Code, which we are calling ‘B3,’ to ensure the outcomes the City desires,” said Lewis. “We are excited about the framework we developed based on the input we received at the Building Bastrop Design and Code Rodeos. It is truly fiscally sustainable and geographically sensitive, and it will create a lasting legacy for the community.”

In addition to approving the policy statement for Building Bastrop, City Council heard presentations from Kevin Shepard of [Verdunity](#) on the fiscal sustainability of Bastrop’s existing development patterns. In the coming months, Verdunity will provide its analysis of the fiscal sustainability that would be created based on the proposed land-use regulations. Also, Mark Shubak of [Strand Associates engineering firm](#) presented a briefing to City Council on recommended updates to Bastrop’s drainage standards. Based on these presentations, Council is expected to take action on these items in March.

As part of the City’s continued commitment to communicate the progress of the Building Bastrop initiative, a public open house is being planned and will be held in the near future. In the meantime, community members are encouraged to share feedback and questions at any time by contacting the Building Bastrop hotline at 512-588-8181 or by email at buildingbastrop@cityofbastrop.org.

For the most up-to-date information on Building Bastrop, visit www.CityofBastrop.org/BuildingBastrop.

About The City of Bastrop:

The Mission of the City of Bastrop is to continuously strive to provide efficient and proactive services that enhance our quality of life and achieve our vision.

For more information on the City of Bastrop, visit www.cityofbastrop.org and follow us on social media via Instagram, Facebook or Twitter. Residents can also tune in to BTXN TV via Time Warner Channel 10 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99, or watch online at www.btxn.tv.

###