

# DOWNTOWN PRIORITIES FOR OUR FUTURE 35 CAP+STITCH DESIGN



## DOWNTOWN AUSTIN ALLIANCE

The recommendations developed in this summary encompass input received at a May 15 meeting of the Downtown Austin Alliance Built Environment Committee. Members of the Active Urbanism and Mobility Committees also participated and contributed insights. A summary of key themes is provided below and more detailed notes and comments from the meeting are attached.

- 1 Balance of Public/Open Space and Building**

Aim for a 50% balance between public/open space and buildings, mirroring the CBD's percentage. Strong building walls that celebrate key destinations like 11th / 12th Streets, the Medical Center, Innovation District, Austin Convention Center, Downtown Station, Plaza Saltillo, Palm Park and Waterloo Greenway.
- 2 Funding, Partnerships and Implementation**

Ensure that each cap has a plan in place for funding and implementation.
- 3 Public Market Pavilion**

Incorporate a public market building of approximately 100,000 square feet, providing a venue outside of hotels that can hold 300 to 600 people for events, filling the gap left by the Downtown Library's limited space.
- 4 Community and Cultural Identity**

Root projects in East Austin's historic Six Square identity, incorporating artist buildings, murals, bandstands, workshop spaces, market stalls, and outdoor galleries to celebrate local art and culture.
- 5 Public Art and Sculptural Trails**

Include large-scale public art installations and sculptural trails, like Klyde Warren Park, to create vibrant, engaging public spaces.
- 6 Pedestrian and Transportation Enhancements**

Improve pedestrian experience between downtown and the 11th and 12th Street corridors. Ensure the availability of bus stops for routes #2 and #5. Include bike/scooter parking and valet/drop-off points.
- 7 Open Space and Green Connectivity**

Prioritize open space connectivity with amenities such as shaded awnings, playspaces, splash pads, and fountains. Ensure crosswalks are wide to connect the caps effectively to the Rainey Street District and eastern neighborhoods, enhancing accessibility for all community members.
- 8 Low-Rise Affordable Housing**

Provide low-rise affordable housing leveraging found land to counter high land costs in the CBD, benefiting artists, musicians, and other creatives given the proximity to the Red River Cultural District.
- 9 Outdoor Dining and Food Trucks**

Focus outdoor dining on natural pedestrian corridors like 4th, 5th, and 6th Streets, incorporating food trucks and creating flexible market spaces focused on food and dining.
- 10 Urban Gardening**

Introduce nature education, food foraging, and local farm-to-table dining concepts currently unavailable.
- 11 Safety and Connectivity Features**

Enhance safety with additional midblock crossings, street lighting along boulevards and sidewalks, and secure bike/scooter parking, particularly for visitors to the 6th/Red River area.