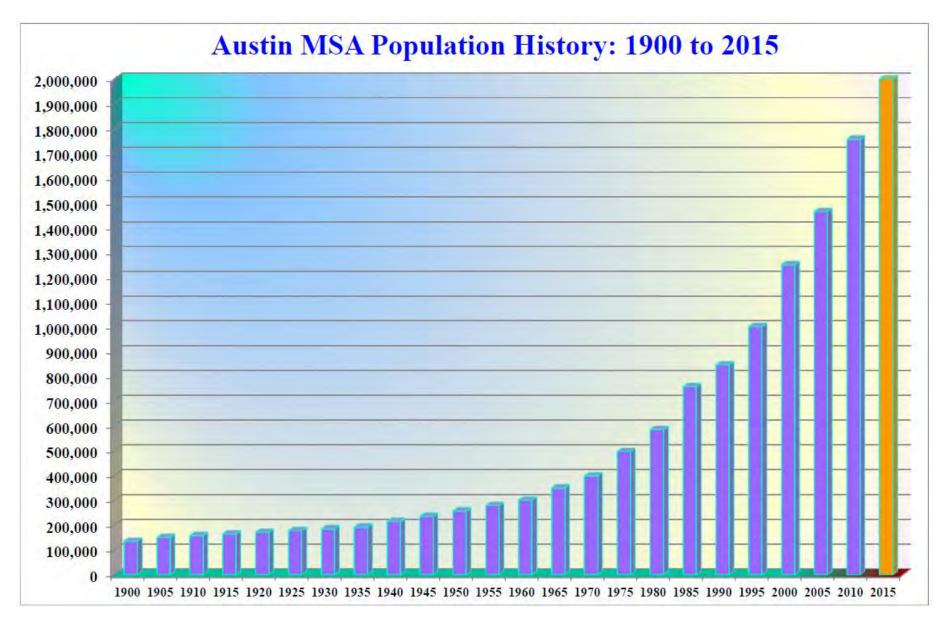


The Growth Machine

Austin as a real estate play

The Big Lie: more people = lower tax burden



"The number of microorganisms in a culture will increase exponentially until an essential nutrient is exhausted."

Is a 2% growth rate sustainable?

10,000 Years ago, Earth's population was 5 million

What would be the population today?

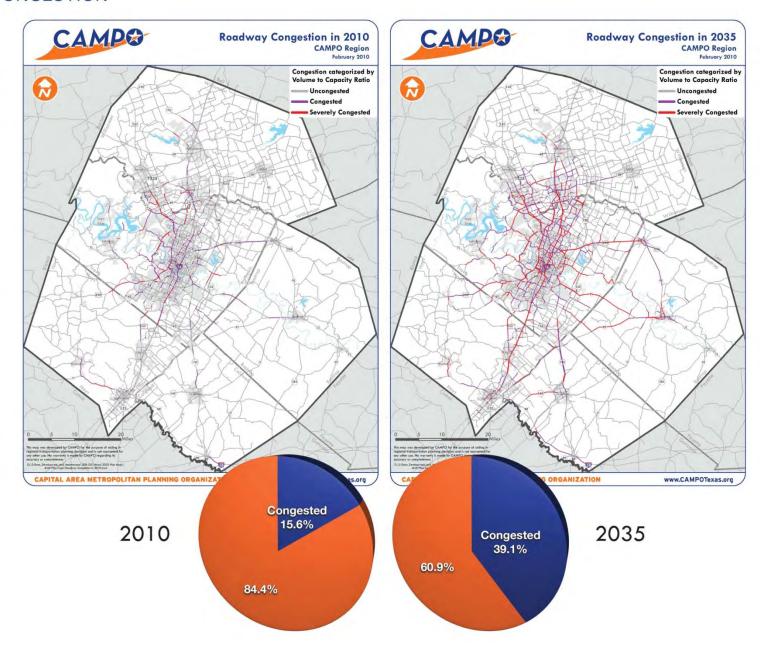
Almost a google.

501,981,300,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 00,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000. people

At 2% annual growth rate, population today would be 5×10^{92} power.

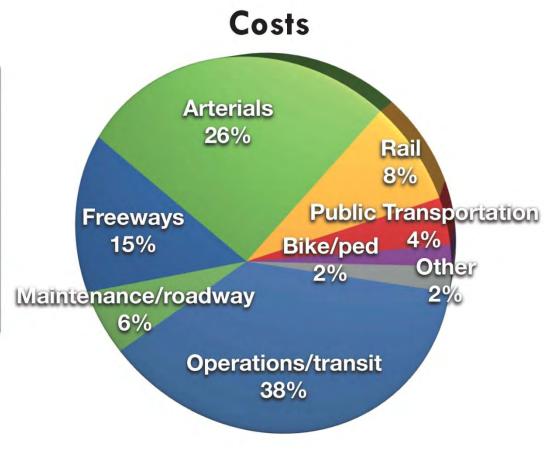
5 County Region Travis, Williamson, Hays, Bastrop, Caldwell

2010 Census	1,716,289
2035 CAMPO Projected Population	3,250,600
New Residents by 2035	1,534,311



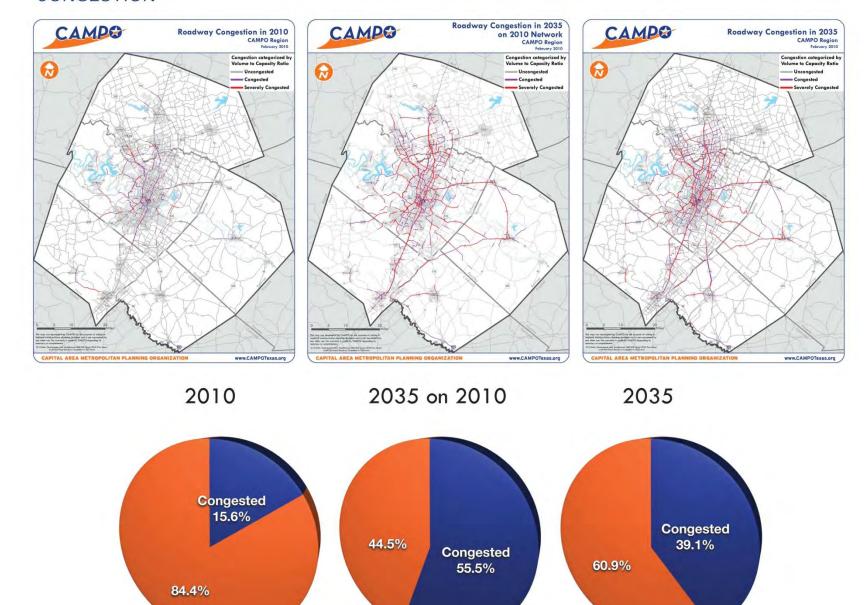
COSTS (IN BILLIONS)

Category	Total
Freeways	\$3.95
Arterials	\$6.93
Rail	\$2.03
Public Transportation	\$0.96
Bicycle and Pedestrian	\$0.44
Other	\$0.55
Operations / Transit	\$10.27
Maintenance / Roadway	\$1.66
	\$26.78





CONGESTION



Congestion 2010 Population 1,716,289 Currently 15.6% 2035 Population 3,250,250 Spend \$17 Billion 39.1%

What would be the population be to get to 39% w/o spending \$?

2035 Population 2,608,842 Not Spend \$17 Billion 39.1%







Discover HT





FOLLOW US















Search..



HOME

NEWS

WEATHER

GOOD DAY

TRAFFIC

SPORTS

HEALTH

ENTERTAINMENT

VIDEO

ADVERTISEMENT

ABOUT US

CHASE

Officials predict Lake Travis will run dry by 2016

Posted: Oct 04, 2013 4:17 PM CDT Updated: Oct 04, 2013 5:40 PM CDT





















See how financing and advice from Chase are helping KC HiLiTES grow



2013 Ford Clearance Sale

ford.auto-price-finder.com

Ford Dealers are Cutting Prices! Find Great Ford Deals Now.

Local Campgrounds

yellowpages.com

Find campgrounds or RV campgrounds in you area



A troubling Dooms Day scenario was laid out during the Thursday night Austin City Council meeting ☑. Lake Travis will run dry by 2016, but efforts are underway to keep that prediction from coming true.

To keep the prediction from coming true, some major water restrictions may have to be ordered as soon as this spring.

Lake Travis was designed to be a giant water bucket, but in order to get your attention about conservation we've been given a rock bottom count-down.

The last time Lake Travis was full, was in 2007. Since then staff members at St. Luke's on the lake have watched the water line behind them slip lower and lower out of view.







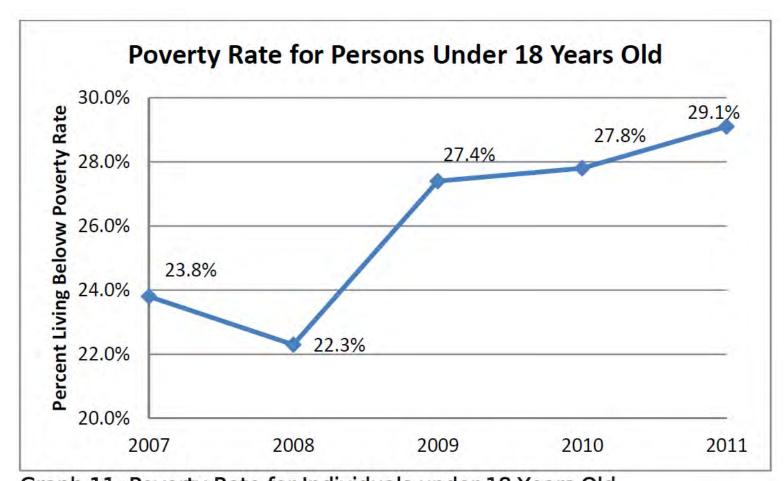




FOX 7

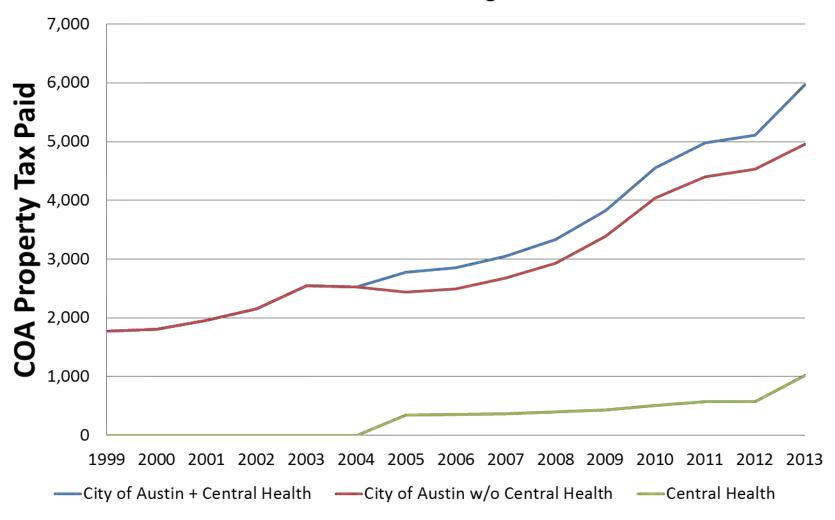
5:11 88°





Graph 11: Poverty Rate for Individuals under 18 Years Old Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2007-2011

City of Austin Tax Increases 1999-2013 Home of Brian Rodgers



Total Taxes 2008: \$15,036

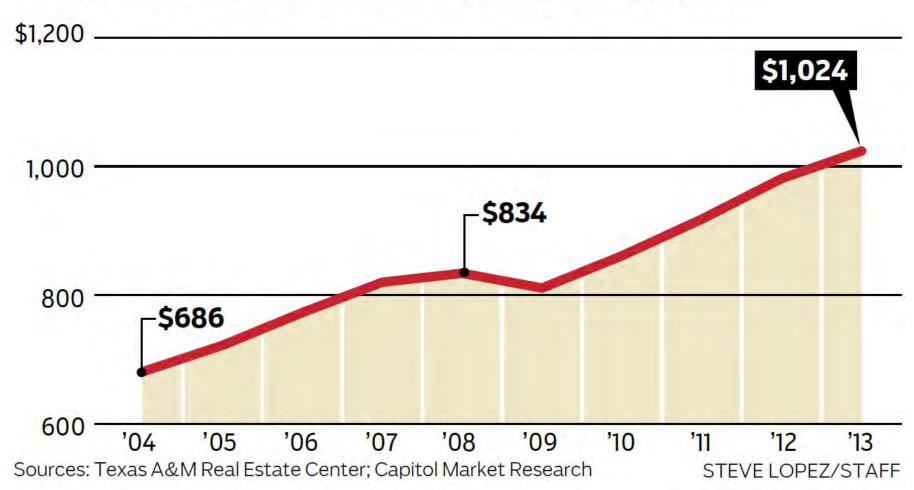
2013: \$22,857

COA +Central Health 1999: \$1,775

2013: \$5,973

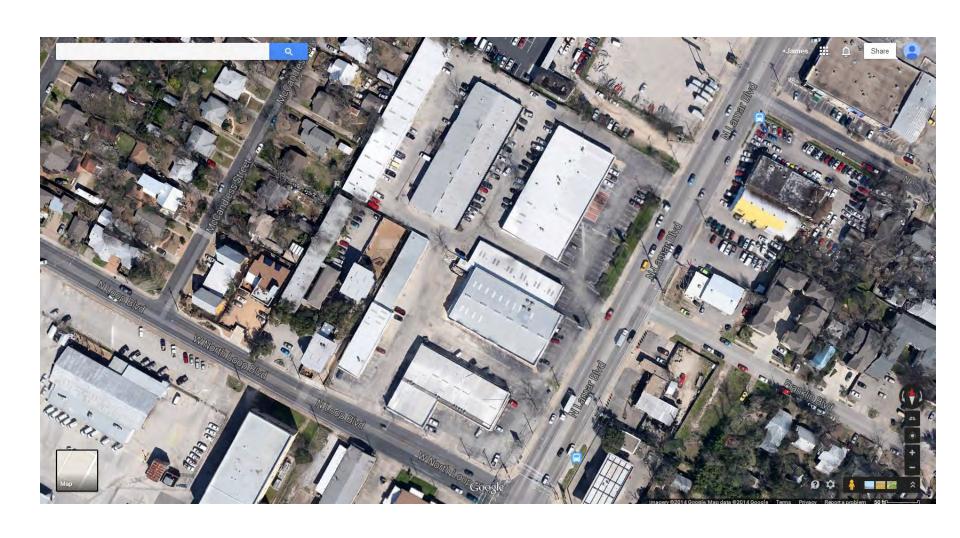
Rent prices

Austin rents have risen 50 percent from 2004 to 2013, while the median income rose just 9 percent.



"an extraordinary market,"

said Charles Heimsath, the head of Austin-based Capitol Market Research



Commercial – higher rents, destruction of older buildings











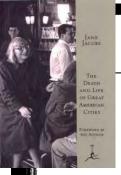








Last Watering Hole of Affordable Commercial Rents



10

THE NEED FOR AGED BUILDINGS

CONDITION 3: The district must mingle buildings that vary in age and condition, including a good proportion of old ones.



Cities need old buildings so badly it is probably impossible for vigorous streets and districts to grow without them. By old buildings I mean not museum-piece old buildings, not old buildings in an excellent and expensive state of rehabilitation—although these make fine ingredients—but also a good lot of plain, ordinary, low-value old buildings, including some rundown old buildings.



If a city area has only new buildings, the enterprises that can exist there are automatically limited to those that can support the high costs of new construction. These high costs of occupying new buildings may be levied in the form of rent, or they may be levied in the form of an owner's interest and amortization payments on the capital costs of the construction. However the costs are paid off, they have to be paid off. And for this reason, enterprises that support the cost of new construction must be capable of paying a relatively high overhead—high in comparison to that necessarily required by old buildings. To support such high overheads, the enterprises must be either (a) high profit or (b) well subsidized.

If you look about, you will see that only operations that are well established, high-turnover, standardized or heavily subsidized can afford, commonly, to carry the costs of new construction. Chain stores, chain restaurants and banks go into new construction. But neighborhood bars, foreign restaurants and pawn shops go into older buildings. Supermarkets and shoe stores often go into new buildings; good bookstores and antique dealers seldom do. Well-subsidized opera and art museums often go into new buildings. But the unformalized feeders of the arts-studios, galleries, stores for musical instruments and art supplies, backrooms where the low earning power of a seat and a table can absorb uneconomic discussions—these go into old buildings. Perhaps more significant, hundreds of ordinary enterprises, necessary to the safety and public life of streets and neighborhoods, and appreciated for their convenience and personal quality, can make out successfully in old buildings, but are inexorably slain by the high overhead of new construction.

As for really new ideas of any kind—no matter how ultimately profitable or otherwise successful some of them might prove to be—there is no leeway for such chancy trial, error and experimentation in the high-overhead economy of new construction. Old ideas can sometimes use new buildings. New ideas must use old buildings.

Even the enterprises that can support new construction in cities need old construction in their immediate vicinity. Otherwise they are part of a total attraction and total environment that is economically too limited—and therefore functionally too limited to be lively, interesting and convenient. Flourishing diversity anywhere in a city

Austin's tattooed bellwethers of economic development





Shane and <u>Shannon Howard</u> got used to a skeptical reaction when they told others of their plan to set up their Mystery City Tattoo shop at the corner of 12th and Chicon streets.

- ... transitional areas with low rents
- ... pioneering spirit primes the area for later commercial and residential development.
- ... in 10 years from now it's going to look even more different.
- ... undesirable sections of town
- ... apprehension turned into outright disbelief
- ... how much the area has stabilized in the past 18 months
- ... Austin's harbingers of progress
- ... You see that the area is now on the precipice, because half a block north on Chicon there are lots ready for mixed-use development
- ... Stock's up in East Austin. Who's buying?

OPINION

The Business Journal welcomes letters to the aditor

Send letters to the Austin Business Tournal
504 Lavaca Street, Suite 1008 Austin, TX 78701
austin@bizlournels.com

VIEWPOINT

Austin should grow 'up' in many places, not just CBD

Austin isn't the only Texas city experiencing fast growth; that's a characteristic most of the state's metro areas share. What does set Austin apart is the fine line it walks as its residents and business and civic leaders try to hold on to its small-town, quirky feel.

Much of the Austin's most noticeable growth has taken place in its urban core and the Central Business District. Outside of downtown, environmental factors and strong neighborhood groups have helped Austin keep its small town identity. They also affect our urban infill development patterns.

The strongest neighborhood activity has traditionally taken place in Central Austin, where most of Austin's City Council members live. As the city prepares to elect members representing 10 districts for the first time in its history, that influence is anticipated to shift.

Some of Austin's new districts include neighborhoods like the Mueller development that epitomizes urban infill development. Those districts, and their representatives, may help make a push for more infill development to take shape not just on high-traffic corridors, but for dense growth to occur in and around neighborhoods as well.

Austin is also poised to rewrite

its land development code, another factor that could impact the way infill development happens in the city. The current code was written 25 years ago, when Austin's population was half what it is now.

The current code hasn't impeded development in Austin, but it is known for its confusing structure. Rewriting the code will also give the city an opportunity to pair density with needed improvements and services. In exchange for density, developers will likely be asked to help improve road networks, dedicate parkland, or provide a certain number of affordable housing units, for example.

A new code may also help more dense growth take shape outside of the Central Business District. The city's Imagine Austin plan calls for nodes of dense growth to take shape around the city. While infill development is happening around Austin, the city's tallest buildings are still only allowed downtown.

One thing that's always been sacred outside of the Central Business District is a hard 60-foot height limit. I'd love to see 15-story buildings on East Sixth Street or Airport Boulevard. Although it's the antithesis of infilling downtown,



Will Schnier

it allows infill to occur around other nodes, which you see in the Imagine Austin plan.

Current zoning, as well as neighborhood sentiment, keeps vertical-mixed use and mixed-

use buildings along larger corridors and out of neighborhoods. With the upcoming changes to city council representation, that could change.

Major urban roads such as Lamar Boulevard and Burnet Road are logical corridors for urban infill; vacant or underutilized sites get a denser mix of uses that serve more people, and neighborhoods around those roads maintain their single-family home makeup. But given Austin's growth rate, there's a need and an opportunity to bring more infill into the neighborhoods themselves.

We could see pocket neighborhoods that have their own infill patterns, their own sense of community and their own product types. One dense project can revitalize a neighborhood. So the opportunity to put mixed use zoning truly inside a neighborhood has got to be there.

We foresee an incredible amount of transit-oriented development poised to take shape at the rail stops. The market supports it, the city has pushed for it, the zoning is in place and the neighbors want infill mixed-use development at the commuter rail stops.

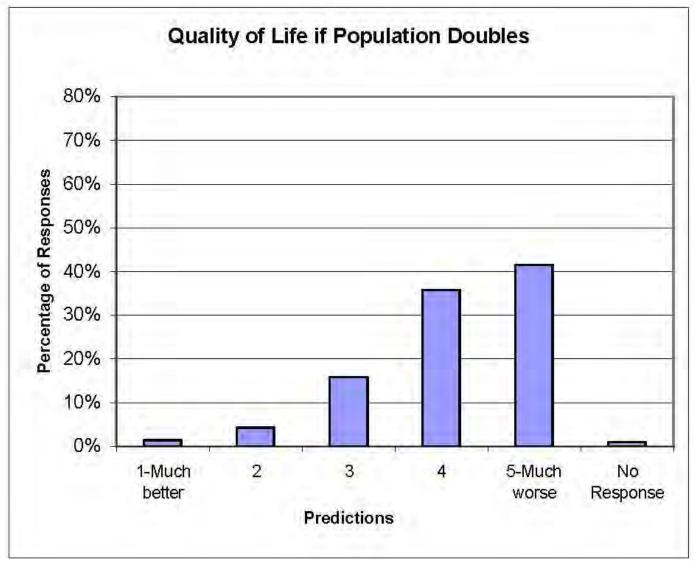
In the past decade, Austin has led the way as Texas cities have entered a new era of understanding that traditional, outward growth doesn't help them achieve their best and brightest futures. Because of our civic leadership, there has been a concerted effort in the state's – and nation's – most vibrant urban areas to bring residents, jobs, and entertainment back into our urban cores. Aging infrastructure and environmental challenges are not issues that are going away, and we'll continue to have to think more carefully about sustainable, smart growth patterns.

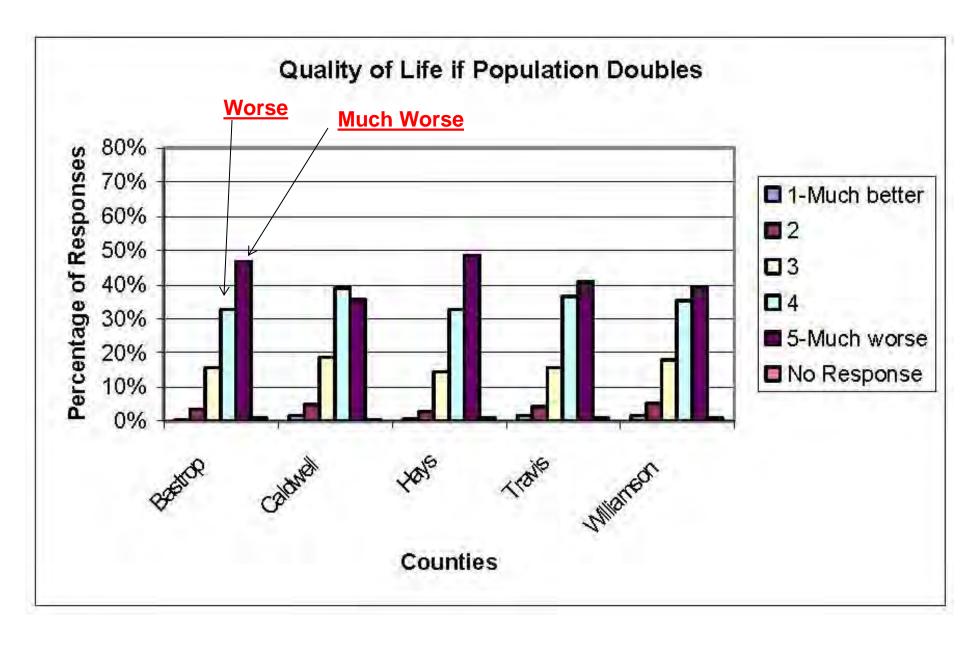
Will Schnier is the CEO of Big Red Dog Engineering and Consulting, serves on the board of the Real Estate Council of Austin, and is a member of the Austin Board of Adjustment.

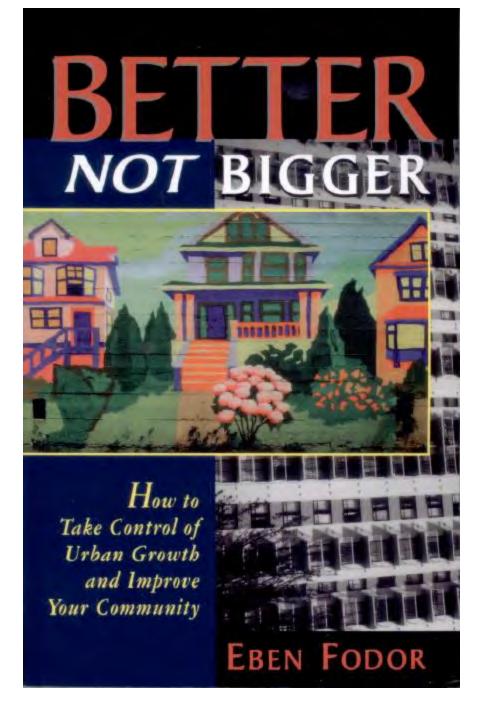


Asked in 2003:

How do you think the quality of life will be affected if the population doubles to 2.5 million people during the next 20 to 40 years?







Is there a conspiracy afoot?

HOME

DO BUSINESS

LIVE & WORK

WHAT'S NEW

Search

G

Greater Austin Communities

Greater Austin Profile

The Austin Advantage

Media Center

Real Estate

Taxes & Incentives

Business Retention & Expansion

About Opportunity Austin

Request for Information

Contact Staff Members

Corporate Partners

> About the Op Austin Initiative

Event & Staff Travel Calendars

Customized Reports

Home > Do Business > About Opportunity Austin > About Opportunity Austin

About the Opportunity Austin Initiative

"The business of economic development is keenly competitive on a global basis. Opportunity Austin articulates a game plan for regional success,"

- Gary Farmer, Chair, Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation

2009 Opportunity Austin Officers

THE CHAMBER

Chairman: Gary Farmer, Heritage Title Company
Vice Chair: Kerry Hall, Texas Capital Bank
Treasurer: Tim Hendricks, Cousins Properties
General Counsel/Assistant Secretary: Tim Taylor, Jackson
Walker

President/Secretary: Mike Rollins, Austin Chamber of Commerce

Austin Chamber Chair. Paul Bury, Bury+Partners
Immediate Past Chair. Joe Holt, JPMorgan Chase & Co

Background

In the years 2001–2003, metro Austin experienced massive job losses, unemployment rates rising to record levels, plunging regional population growth and almost no net in-migration. Income dropped for the first time since 1987.

To turn things around, the Austin Chamber of Commerce launched Opportunity Austin. This ambitious, five-year regional economic development strategy aimed to create 72,000 regional jobs and increase regional payroll by \$2.9 billion. To implement the strategy, the regional business community committed to invest \$14.4 million.

MORE INFORMATION

Opportunity Austin 2.0 brochure

Also see detailed documents on development of the OA2.0 strategy : Competitive Realities, Target Business Review, Economic Development Marketing Assessment, and Opportunity Austin 2.0 Strategy

To learn more about
Opportunity Austin, contact
Mike Rollins, President, Austin
Chamber of Commerce, at
512.322.5615 /
mrollins@austinchamber.com
or Dave Porter, Sr. Vice
President, Economic
Development, at 512.322.5650

/ dporter@austinchamber.com

\$20 million Jobs Jobs Altruistic?

Opportunity Austin #1 Donors

Real Estate Companies

Real Estate Construction/Suppliers

Aspen Growth Properties

Baldwin Interests, Inc.

ABC Pest & Lawn Services

American Constructors, Inc.

Barshop & Oles Co.

Austin Chapter/Ass. General Contractors

Byram Properties Austin Commercial, LP

Capital City Partners Inc

Beck Group

Catellus Development Corporation
CB Richard Ellis, Inc.

Bill Clawson & Associates, Inc.

Braun & Butler Construction

CCIM Central Texas CB Hardware, Inc.

Cencor Realty Services/Weitzman Group
Commercial Property Consultants, Inc.
Chasco Contracting, Inc.

Cousins Properties, Inc. Christianson Air Conditioning & Plumbing

Crescent Real Estate Equities, Ltd. Constructors & Associates, Inc.

David Petrick Company, Inc.

D & H Roofing

Development 2000, Inc.D. R. Horton Homes, Inc.Duncan Commercial, L.L.C.David Weekley HomesEndeavor Real Estate GroupDPR Construction, Inc.

Four Points Centre/Thomas Properties Group Dynamic Systems, Inc. Faulkner USA

The Gottesman Company
Henry S. Miller Commercial Austin, Inc.
The Historic Norword Tower
Holliday Fenoglio Fowler, L.P.
HPI Real Estate Services & Investments

Flynn Construction, Inc.
Fox Service Company
Gehan Homes, Ltd.
J.C. Evans Construction
Jimmy Evans Company

Kennedy Wilson, Inc. - Austin

La Frontera

Landry Commercial, Inc.

Lincoln Property Company

Live Oak-Gottesman

Llano Partners, Ltd.

Lincoln Property Ltd.

Lincoln Property Company

Llano Partners, Ltd.

Joe Bland Construction, L.P.

Lennar Family of Builders

Main Street Homes, Inc.

Raba-Kistner Consultants, Inc.

Rangel Concrete Company

RANGER Excavating

Matt Mathias & Co.

RANGER Excavating

Rodman Construction Company, Inc.

NAI Austin TDIndustries

Oxford Commercial White Construction Company

Schlosser DevelopmentWorkplace ResourceSimmons Vedder PartnersAGUIRREcorporationSteve Hall Commercial Real EstateBury + Partners, Inc.

Stretus Proporties Inc.

Stratus Properties, Inc. Espey Consultants, Inc.

Taylor Commercial Graeber, Simmons & Cowan, Inc.

Transwestern Commercial Services

Gray-Jansing & Associates
HDR Engineering, Inc.

Trinity Real Estate Finance HNTB Corporation

Walters Southwest Jacobs Carter Burgess Inc..

Zydeco Development

Jaster Quintanilla & Associates, Inc.

Amelia Bullock Realtors, Inc.

Jones & Carter, Inc.

Austin Apartment Association
Austin Board of Realtors

Kellogg Brown & Root, Inc.
Longaro & Clarke, Inc.

AvenueOne Properties, Inc. PBS&J

Gables Residential
Gottesman Residential Real Estate

Pfluger Associates Architects
Susman Tisdale Gayle Architects

Mary Nell Garrison Realtors URS Corporation

Masonwood Properties, Inc.

Capitol Aggregates Austin

Momark Development LLC AT&T

Moreland Properties, Inc.

Teeple Partners, Inc.

Texas Gas Service

Wilson & Goldrick Realtors

Time Warner Cable Co.

Jon C. Aune

Jim Boles

Capitol Market Research, Inc.

Gracy Title Company

Ford Alexander Hays County Abstract Company

Janis & William Burrow

Jim Cotton

Heritage Title Company of Austin, Inc.
Independence Title LandAmerica Austin T

Diann Cowling <u>LandAmerica Commercial Services</u>

Peter LamyReal Estate Council of AustinMichael TippsSan Marcos Title CompanyJohn C. Lewis CompanyStewart Title Austin, Inc.

Gold Eagle Investment

Stewart Title Austin, Inc.

Burks Digital Reprographics

Thomas Graphics, Inc.

Real Estate Banking/Finance

Real Estate Law & Accounting

Cooper Graci & Company A + Federal Credit Union

Deloitte, LLP

ABC Bank

Ernst & Young, LLP
American Bank

Flieller, Kruger & Skelton, LLP AMPLIFY

Glass & Company, P.C. Atlantic Trust KPMG, LLP Austin Ventures Maxwell Locke & Ritter LLP Bank of America, Austin Region Powell, Ebert & Smolik, P.C. Bank of Texas Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP Citibank, N.A. Andrews Kurth LLP Colonial Bank, N.A. Armbrust & Brown, L.L.P. Comerica Bank Baker Botts L.L.P. Community State Bank Baker-Aicklen & Associates, Inc. Compass Bank Brown McCarroll, L.L.P. First National Bank DLA Piper US LLP First State Bank Central Texas Drenner & Golden Stuart Wolff, LLP Focus Strategies, LLC Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Franklin Bank Haynes and Boone, LLP Frost Bank Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody, P.C Hester Capital Management, L.L.C. Hughes & Luce, LLP Hoisington Investment Management Comp Jackson Walker L.L.P. International Bank of Commerce Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP IronStone Bank McGinnis, Lochridge, Kilgore, L.L.P. Jones Asset Management Ltd. Morrison & Head, LP JPMorgan Chase & Co. Thompson & Knight, LLP Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith, Inc. Vinson & Elkins LLP PlainsCapital Bank Winstead PC Prosperity Bank Raymond James & Associates, Inc. Real Estate Economic Development Regions Bank/Morgan-Keegan Sovereign Bank Bastrop Economic Dev. Corp Terry McDaniel & Company Capital Metropolitan Trans. Authority Texas Capital Bank Cedar Park Economic Dev Corporation Texas DPS Credit Union City of Austin/Austin Energy Treaty Oak Bank City of Georgetown University Federal Credit Union Georgetown Chamber of Commerce vcfo, Inc. Home Builders Assn of Greater Austin Wachovia Bank, N.A. Hutto Economic Dev. Corp Wells Fargo Bank, Greater Austin Region Pflugerville Community Dev. Corp John Morran Real Estate Council of Austin Robert Wynn Round Rock Economic Dev. Partnership

Taylor Economic Development Corporation

Real Estate Marketing

Elizabeth Christian & Associates
Engelking Communications LLC
Group Solutions RJW
Martin & Salinas Public Affairs, Inc.
Public Strategies, Inc.
Staats Falkenberg & Partners, Inc.

Other

Centex Beverage, Inc.
H-E-B
The Driskill
Four Seasons Hotel
Hyatt Regency Austin
Omni Austin Hotel Downtown
Maxwell Auto Group
Hewlett Family of Dealerships
Chuck Nash Chevrolet
Capitol Chevrolet

Huston-Tillotson University
The University of Texas at Austin

The Austin Business Journal KXAN - TV

Individuals

David R. Adam Kirk Watson

Healthcare Companies

UnitedHealthCare of Texas, Inc
Wortham Insurance & Risk Management
Austin Regional Clinic
Esoterix, Inc.
Harden Healthcare
HealthTronics, Inc.
Hospital at Westlake Medical Center
Seton Family of Hospitals
St. David's HealthCare Partnership

Tech Companies

Activant Solutions, Inc.
Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.
Applied Materials, Inc.
Athens Group
Balcones Resources, Inc.
Dell Inc.
Freescale Semiconductor
Multimedia Games, Inc.
Perficient, Inc.
Samsung Austin Semiconductor LP
Temple-Inland Inc.
Tokyo Electron America, Inc.
Zebra Imaging, Inc.
Premier Global Services of Austin

Amendment No. 12

Contract No. S050367

For

Opportunity Austin Program between

Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation and the

City of Austin

Term	Action Amount	Total Contract Amount
Basic Term: 01/15/05 01/14/06	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00
Amendment No. 1: Option 1 01/15/06-01/14/07	\$350,000.00	\$700,000.00
Amendment No. 2: Modification to the contract	\$0.00	\$700,000.00
Amendment No. 3: 60 day Holdover 01/15/07- 03/14/07	\$0.00	\$700,000.00
Amendment No. 4: Option 2 01/15/07 – 01/1408	\$350,000.00	\$1,050,000
Amendment No. 5: Option 3 01/15/2008 – 01/14/2009	\$350,000.00	\$1,400,000.00
Amendment No. 6: Administrative Increase of \$30,000	\$30,000.00	\$1,430,000.00
Amendment No. 7: Option 4 01/15/09 - 01/14/10	\$350,000.00	\$1,780,000.00
Amendment No. 8: Option 5 01/15/10 - 01/14/11	\$350,000.00	\$2,130,000.00
Amendment No. 9: Option 6 01/15/11 ~ 01/14/12	\$350,000.00	\$2,130,350.00
Amendment No. 9A: Revised to correct Amendment #9	\$350,000.00	\$2,480,000.00
Amendment No. 10: Option 7 01/15/12 – 01/14/13	\$332,500.00	\$2,812,500.00
Amendment No. 11: Option 8 01/15/13 – 01/14/14	\$332,500.00	\$3,145,000.00
Amendment No. 12: Option 9 01/15/14 – 01/14/15	\$350,000.00	\$3,495,000.00

10-5174-170 80

JOELE FRANK, WILKINSON BRIMMER KATCHER

140 East 45th Street

New York, NY 10017 T. 212,355,4449 F. 212.355.4554

Page:

Mr. Dave Porter

January 20, 2009

Senior Vice President, Economic Development

Project No: 669-00 7915

Greater Austin Economic Development Corporation

Invoice No:

210 Barton Spring Road, Suite 400

Austin, TX 78704

Invoice for Public and Investor Relations Services for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2008

Retainer for the Quarter Ending March 31, 2009

\$30,000.00

Total Amount Due

\$30,000.00

TOTAL DUE

\$30,000.00

Note: Expenses for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2008 have been applied towards the retainer (see attached).

Payment Terms: Due Upon Receipt

Please remit to Joele Frank, Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher at the above address or wire to:

Wire / ACH Instructions:

Sovereign Bank Fairfield, NJ 07004 ABA # 231372691

Beneficiary: Joele Frank, Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher

Account # 1161069054

Joele Frank, Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher qualifies as a New York State Minority and Women Owned Business.

Opportunity Austin Public Relations Summary

1st Quarter 2009

In-Market

- Continued to work with the Economic Development department to use media inquiries on companies closing or laying off employees to promote the importance of Opportunity Austin, and its strength through this economy
- Created Spring edition of Business in the Human Capital business retention newsletter
- Created marketing collateral for Financial Aid Saturdays
- Developed radio ad and plan for Financial Aid Saturdays including more than 250 radio spots and six remote events
- In January and February, Worked with the Economic Development department to use media
 inquiries on companies closing or laying off employees to promote the importance of Opportunity
 Austin, and its strength through this economy
- Announced relocations of RedOxygen and Cyrus One in March
- Announced CenTex RCIC ETF recipient Analogix in March

Out of Market Public Relations

- In January, Worked with BR&E to promote the One Med Forum, including stories about BioTech,
 Venture Capital, and government funding for emerging technology. Interviews took place with ABJ,
 Reuters, and Wall Street Journal
- In February, Created news release about Gary Farmer being named "Top 10 People Who Make a Difference" by Southern Business Development
- In March, wrote article for Tech&Jobs magazine on the wireless and digital media industries in Austin
- In February, worked with Wall Street Journal Real Estate reporter doing a special section on luxury real estate including Austin - HAS NOT TWO JET
- Drew Scheberle worked with NY Times on an education story in February
- In March, worked with Forbes on data for articles and rankings

Website Development

Launched <u>www.CollegeReadyAustin.com</u> as a resource for students, parents and volunteers for the Chamber's 20,010 by 2010 initiatives including Financial Aid Saturdays.

Investor Relations

The 2008 Opportunity Austin Annual Report was completed and distributed to investors.





- 1,500,000 new residents /2.6 persons/housing unit = 590,000 new housing units needed
- 590,000 housing units x \$150,000 average each
- = \$88 billion of new housing

- \$88 billion of new housing construction
- \$58 billion of new commercial construction
- \$17 billion for CAMPO 2035 Transportation
- billions more for constructing public infrastructure like schools, water/wastewater treatment plants, power plants, government buildings

\$200 billion in new real estate development

MASTER DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE CITY OF AUSTIN

AND

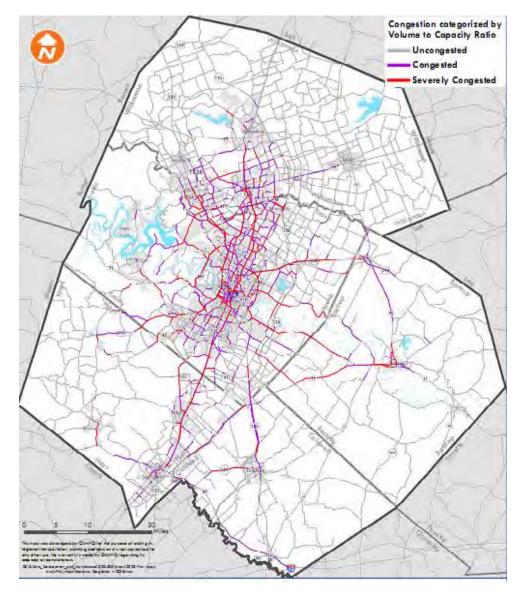
CATELLUS AUSTIN, LLC

CONCERNING THE MUELLER PROPERTY

FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE ROBERT MUELLER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT



<u>Title Company</u> means Heritage Title Company of Austin, Inc., its successors and assigns, or any other title company approved by the City and Catellus. Catellus and the City acknowledge and agree that an agreement has been reached between Heritage Title Company of Austin, Inc. and Stewart Title Guaranty Company with respect to the title insurance work and title insurance policy issuances under this Agreement.



Population In-Migration = Big \$\$

Viewpoints Editor

OTHERS SAY PETE WINSTEAD

Resting on our 'cool' laurels won't keep Austin booming

Twelve years ago, people were moving out of Austin, unemployment was on the rise, nonprof- creation and capital inits were closing and local government was faced with less revenue and declining services. Austin, in short, was losing out to other cities and there was no plan to address the competitive threats facing our community.

Civic leaders, working with the business community, stepped up with a plan to strengthen our competitive advantage by investing in strategic opportunities to attract new companies, create new jobs and expand existing local businesses. And it worked. Today, Austin is a leader among cities. But staying on top requires more than pride and confidence. Austin is now the 11th largest city in America, and we must compete at a whole new level against cities such as Raleigh, Denver and Charlotte, as well as larger cities such as Boston. San Jose and San Diego.

Retaining our competitive advantage is crucial if we are going to address our greatest challenges - mobility and congestion, education and training, job diversity and affordable housing. The best way to tackle our challenges is to continue to have a robust economy, which means continued prosperity, jobs for residents and an expanding tax base to ensure city and regional services can meet the growing demand. Incentives, too, are a crucial strategy if we are going to remain competitive. Our incentive program is performance-based. These agreements are not giveaways, Rather, companies who receive

incentives are playing by our rules - they must meet deadlines for job vestment before receiving any benefits from us. This is the right way to do business. It puts us in control and enables us to set our own priorities.

But incentives give us

the power to negotiate

and ensure that our vi-

ly have 13 active agreements, and those com-

panies continue to meet

our standards and goals

for job diversity and in-

new inflow of jobs cre-

ates a network effect for

locally owned business-

es, enabling us to create

new homegrown restau-

rants, hotels and related

In recent weeks, some

politicians have suggest-

ed that the incentive pro-

gram is no longer need-

just "too successful and

panies don't recognize

that, they can go some-

The problem is, they

likely will. If we let pride

will likely repeat the mis-

drive our decision, we

takes of the past, leav-

ing us with rising unem-

ployment, budget defi-

cits and the inability to

address the pressing is-

sues we already face as

one of the largest cities

ed. Austin, after all, is

too cool. And if com-

services.

where else.

in America.

vestment, Moreover, the

We can just sit back and the world will come to us. That's like saying, "If we don't build roads, we will not have traffic." That thinking was wrong then, and it is wrong

For those of us who re-

member the "tech bust"

in 2000, some of the voices may sound famil-

iar. Some Austin lead-

ers are telling us that we

don't need to compete.

sion for Austin is shared by the companies that Abandoning the inrelocate here. Over the long term, the city will centive program simply collect more tax revemakes us powerless to nue when companies renegotiate with those who locate to Austin. In mawould relocate here. We ny cases, we are importmust protect our powing revenue and shifting er to negotiate. And we money from Silicon Valmust never let pride belev to Austin. The net recome a substitute for a sult is more revenue that Lifestyle and culture can be used to reduce the tax burden on Ausare important but not tin families. We current-

the deciding factor for relocation. The number one factor for relocation. according to economists and sociologists, is economic - low taxes, a vibrant business climate and a positive long-term outlook for jobs.

We owe Austin families no less. We cannot let arrogance distract us from the 40,000-plus unemployed who are still look ing for work. We cannot let blind faith drive our policies.

Austin is one of the most successful cities in the country. Staying on top requires more than vanity. It requires a renewed commitment to the policies that have worked and the vision to build an even stronger and cooler Austin. We can remain the leader we are. But declaring "Mission Accomplished" is not always a good strat-

Winstead is chairman of Opportunity Austin and founder of Winstead PC.

The net result is more revenue that can be used to reduce the tax burden on Austin families.

Titans of Free Enterprise or Welfare Queens?

It's not unusual if a real estate investor:

- Receives the benefit of \$4 trillion in quantitative easing for low interest rates crushing the earnings of senior citizens who relied on earnings from savings accounts
- Pays no federal taxes because of the enormous deductions from rehab and development
- Pays no social security taxes because it's passive income
- Avoids capital gains through a 1031 exchange
- Pays a small fraction of the cost of public infrastructure and dumps the rest on residents
- Gets 100% reimbursement for utility extensions from city. W/WW/Electrical
- Underpays property tax in general commercial undervalued at TCAD
- Games the system with agricultural appraisals and wildlife exemptions
- Sells property to local governments at inflated prices
- Benefits greatly from city projects like Waller Creek flood control with city asking nothing asked in return
- Gets favorable treatment in public/private partnerships
- Receives property tax abatements or sales tax rebates for doing what they would be doing anyway
- Zoning changes given which create value with little to nothing in return to city.
- Variances from regulations or adopted plans add value with nothing asked in return.



Austin is a collection of very different economies but the real estate economy hijacks your local governments for its own purpose.

"You ever get the feeling that this economy benefits some people more than others?"

THE END