

# 2024 AIA-Austin City Mayor & Council Candidate Questionnaire

PROVIDED BY AIA AUSTIN

City Council Candidate Name: Adam Powell  
 Council District Number: 7

**ABOUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE:**

This questionnaire was prepared by the AIA Austin Advocacy Board, which aims to improve the quality of the built environment by promoting excellence in design, planning, and public policy. Its goal is to inform the public where council members and mayors stand on topics important to the city's future growth. Please fill out this questionnaire and provide any written responses as needed. There is no ranking system or response by the committee. The information provided will be compiled as filled out and shared with the public on the committee's webpage (<https://aiaaustin.org/committees/advocacy/>).

PLEASE PROVIDE IN AN 'X' IN THE COLUMN THAT BEST REPRESENTS YOUR VIEW FOR THAT TOPIC. SPACE FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENTS HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN THE LAST COLUMN. THERE IS NO LIMIT TO RESPONSE, ADJUST CELL SIZE FOR LENGTH

TOPIC	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Additional Comments / Explanation:
<b>#1: GROWTH</b>						
Austin should address its rapid growth by allowing a diversity of multi-unit and "missing middle" housing types in all neighborhoods.	X					
Austin should prioritize infrastructure investments based on the adopted Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan - Growth Map. Imagine Austin needs to be updated to reflect the significant growth and economic changes that have occurred over the past ten years.	X					
Austin should coordinate and integrate equitable access to community resources (public facilities, healthcare, healthy food, frequent/accessible transit) into all short- and long-term growth policies.	X					
The city should revisit its small area planning methods and use it as a tool for developing Imagine Austin's "complete communities."			X			I'd be interested in more context on this question. I'm not opposed to the idea, I would just want to learn more about what AIA defines as "small area planning methods" and what it looks like in practice.
<b>#2: AFFORDABILITY</b>						
Austin should prioritize the preservation and creation of small, local businesses in its economic development efforts.	X					
Austin should preserve and create market-rate and income restricted affordable housing, as defined in the Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint, through partnerships between the private development community and public funding.	X					
Affordable housing should be provided in all areas of the city and not be restricted to certain locations.	X					
Austin should continue to advocate for infill housing density, and support ordinances that make developing on smaller lots easier for Austinites.	X					
<b>#3: DENSITY</b>						
Austin should prioritize mixed use (residential & commercial) development along transit corridors & hubs.			X			Yes, mixed use development should occur along transit corridors and hubs. I also believe that we need to break down the barrier between residential and commercial uses in a more
Austin should evaluate existing Neighborhood Plans to ensure consistency with Imagine Austin's "complete communities."	X					
Austin should invest in infrastructure that encourages development within the city limits rather than the ETJ.	X					
Austin's Density Bonus Program could be more effective and better utilized.	X					
Austin should rethink its approach to Neighborhood Plans to ensure that all parts of the City adhere to principles of environmental protection, social equity and economic opportunity.		X				
<b>#4: ZONING &amp; REGULATIONS</b>						
Austin should prioritize the preservation of neighborhood character over the creation of market-rate and income-restricted affordable housing units.					X	
Austin should continue to create density within 1/2 mile of core transit corridors to support of multi-modal transportation.	X					
<b>#5: PUBLIC REALM</b>						

Austin can improve the quality of life and health outcomes of its residents with the provision of high-quality public spaces and placemaking in support of increased residential density.	X					
Austin should provide public funding and/or public/private funding to create better pedestrian-friendly streets with sidewalks, street trees, seating, and integrated stormwater management systems.	X					
Austin should provide accessible and pedestrian-friendly public spaces (streets, plazas, parks) when evaluating its underutilized public resources, such as surplus land and underutilized buildings.	X					
Austin should create additional development incentives that encourage projects with more public benefits, such as pedestrian-friendly streets, plazas, courtyards, & parks.	X					
<b>#6: ENVIRONMENT</b>						
Austin should incentivize water conservation practices, such as rainwater collection and reuse, a/c condensate harvesting and reuse, and low-irrigation use landscapes, through financial incentives and rebate programs.	X					
Austin should continue to advocate for and enforce local tree protection and preservation ordinances in order to preserve one of the great natural assets in our community.	X					
Austin should incentivise and help fund renewable energy (solar and wind) and resource recovery (recycling and composting) for both commercial and residential customers.	X					
Austin should provide incentives for homeowners and developers to install green roof systems because of their many environmental benefits, including stormwater reduction, habitat creation and heat island reduction.	X					
<b>#7: MOBILITY</b>						
Austin should prioritize implementation of the Green Infrastructure Resolution calling for street trees in rights-of-way to encourage non-SOV modes of transportation.	X					
Austin should support local and regional investments in multi-modal transit system that reduces the need for vehicular travel.	X					
Austin should integrate transit & land use planning to effectively support access to transit.	X					
Austin should pair transit stations & hubs with walkable communities.	X					