

Director of Code Compliance City of Austin, TX





The City of Austin is located in central Texas Hill Country and has a population of more than 770,000 residents. It was chartered in 1839 as the capital of the Republic of Texas, and remained the state capital when Texas was admitted to the Union in 1846. It is the 16th largest city in the United States, and is the cultural and economic center of the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Area with a population of more than 1.5 million.



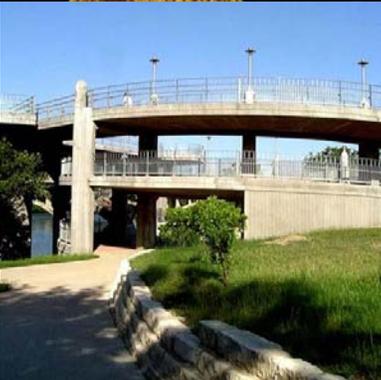
In 2006, Austin was selected as the #2 Best Big City in “Best Places to Live” by Money Magazine and the “Greenest City in America” by MSN. Popular Science also ranks Austin high on their list of “The Greenest Cities” in the US. Residents of Austin are typically known as “Austinites” and their official slogan is “The Live Music Capital of the World”. Recently however, Austinites have adopted the unofficial slogan of “Keep Austin Weird”. This refers to the eclectic and progressive lifestyle of many Austin residents.



The city was founded as the Village of Waterloo in 1830, and was later renamed Austin in honor of Stephen F. Austin who is known as the Father of Texas. The Texas State Capitol was completed in 1888 and was advertised as the 7th largest building in the world at that time. Today, the building remains a significant part of the Austin skyline and is, in fact, taller than the US Capitol. Since its incorporation as a city, Austin has doubled in size every 20 years.



Austin has a humid subtropical climate, characterized by hot summers and mild winters. Though people often think of Texas as being dry, this is not the case in Austin, which is known for being green and for getting plenty of rain throughout the year. Temperatures in the summer months average 90 degrees (June until September). There are only 24 days when the minimum temperature falls below freezing. The city averages 300 days of sunshine each year and about 33.78 inches of rainfall. It rarely snows in Austin.



Politically speaking, Austin is an anomaly. While Texas as a whole is hailed as a largely conservative state, Austin has the second highest liberal voting population in the entire country for a city of its approximate size. Additionally, volunteering is extremely popular and Austin is renowned as the second-most charitable city in the nation.

Austinites are very engaged and active in local politics and are extremely vocal about their likes and dislikes. They have high expectations for their public officials and are not afraid to voice their displeasure to the top levels of city management and/or the media. They also expect deep involvement and high visibility at neighborhood meetings, school functions, parades, community events, and a variety of other engagements, no matter how large or small.

As a result of its highly educated populace and its universities (which bring in people from all over the world), Austin has developed a reputation as being a young and active cultural haven. Uniqueness is celebrated and encouraged. Partly due to the influence of The University of Texas at Austin and their school for Radio, Television, and Film, as well as an advantageous business climate and low-key celebrity culture, Austin has been the location for many motion pictures and television shows, including the current hit, “Friday Night Lights.” The city has taken advantage of this reputation and annually hosts the Austin Film Festival.



The city's nightlife and music scene are also a significant part of Austin's culture. Many Austinites flock to the legendary Sixth Street to enjoy the nightlife and live music offerings, which are plentiful and varied on any given night of the week.

Austin has a thriving economy that is rich in technology (the city is often deemed "Silicon Hills"). The largest employers include the University of Texas, the State of Texas, SETON Healthcare Network, Dell, IBM, the City of Austin, and Freescale Semiconductor. Other high-tech companies with a presence in the city include: Apple Inc., Hewlett-Packard, Vignette, AMD, Sun Microsystems, Samsung, and Intel. Additionally, Austin is rich in small businesses and is served by a strong network of independent, locally owned firms and organizations such as the Austin Independent Business Alliance.



Government:

The City of Austin has a council-manager form of government. The City Council includes seven Council Members, including the Mayor. Council Members are elected at-large for staggered three-year terms. The Council Members' offices are in Austin City Hall.

Position:

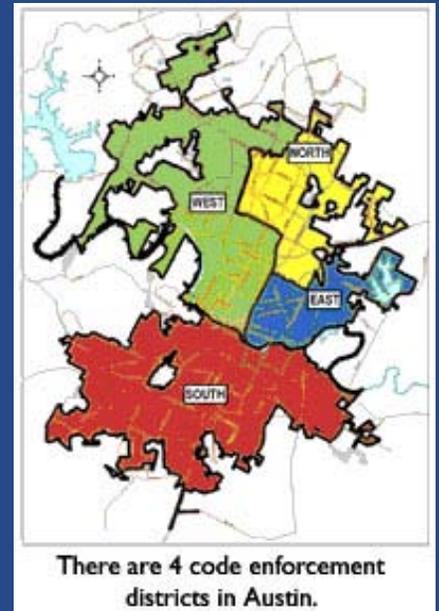
Under the direction of the Assistant City Manager, the Director of Code Compliance is responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating code compliance to secure and maintain city code regulations as they relate to housing standards, vacant lots, salvage yards, and other zoning violations.

Mission:

To attain compliance with City codes regarding land use regulations and the maintenance of structures and premises through education, cooperation, enforcement and abatement to achieve a cleaner, healthier and safer City.

Duties, Functions and Responsibilities:

- Manages and coordinates code compliance programs and activities among various City Departments, neighborhood associations, public agencies and/or private sector representatives, judicial agencies and law enforcement agencies.
- Develops and implements short and long range strategies, objectives, policies, and priorities, determines appropriate service and staffing levels; allocates resources accordingly.
- Plans, manages and develops the department budget; estimates funds needed for staffing, equipment, materials, and supplies; directs the monitoring and approval of expenditures; and directs the preparation and implementation of budgetary adjustments as necessary.
- Acts as official departmental representative to other city departments, City Manager's Office, elected officials, and outside agencies; explains, justifies, and defends department programs, policies, and activities; and negotiates and resolves sensitive, significant, and controversial issues.
- Briefs and advises City management and the Mayor and Council regarding code compliance administration and enforcement in person and through written reports.
- Ensures productivity, efficiency and quality of services of the Code Compliance Department.
- Responds to and resolves sensitive inquiries and complaints from both internal and external sources.
- Coordinates activities with other city departments and outside agencies; provides highly responsible and complex administrative support to the City Manager's Office.
- Develops and negotiates contracts between the City, private developers and other governmental entities.



The Ideal Candidate:

The ideal candidate should be knowledgeable of city code as it pertains to the maintenance and permitting of structures and buildings, as well as zoning codes in the areas of vacant lots, right of way and special events and/or temporary permits. He / she must have the ability to create a long term revenue plan in order to maximize current and potential revenue streams. He / she should be a confident public speaker with experience addressing the media, community groups, and other audiences. This candidate will bring to this position a proven track record of benchmarking for best practices and have a demonstrated track record of program efficiency through process improvements.

This person will demonstrate superior management skills and have the ability to make strategic decisions pertaining to staff and procedures within the department. He / she should possess the capacity and interest to be an effective mentor and leader for staff; developing and strengthening relationships across departmental lines. The ideal candidate should be able to build successful partnerships both internally and with the community to ensure that a common vision is enacted and supported.

The successful candidate will be able to adhere to the highest ethical and moral standards and be able to display transparency.





Education and Experience:

Interested candidates should possess a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in Public Administration, Business Administration, Environmental Management or a related field. The ideal candidate should possess at least seven years of related experience including at least two years in a managerial capacity. A Master's Degree is preferred and may substitute for two years of experience.

Licenses and Certifications Required:

Valid Texas Class C Drivers License.

Salary:

The City of Austin is offering a competitive salary commensurate with experience and a comprehensive benefits package. Relocation assistance will be available for the successful out of area candidate.

How to Apply:

Interested applicants should forward a cover letter and resume to:

resumes@affionpublic.com

Reference: AUSCODE

Affion Public

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