

Her Home Was Her Nest Egg

Until Austin's City Council Changed the Rules

Your biggest investment may go down in value June 8. Don't let this happen.

This is a story of a woman who loved Austin too much. It began when she and her husband moved into a beautiful, historic neighborhood many years ago. While her husband was still alive, she invested their savings into other properties in their beloved neighborhood. It was a nest egg tied closely to the future of Austin. She trusted the city to play fair.

What Can You Do?

On June 8 at 6pm, the City Council will vote to approve these awful new rules.

Register in opposition.

Take people with you.
Go to the kiosk at [City Hall](#), 301 W. Second St., from Monday, June 5 through the time of the hearing (June 8, 6:00pm).
Park free in the underground garage.

Register to speak at the June 8 hearing. (follow instructions above)

If you can't speak, then attend the hearing.
There is strength in numbers.

[Email the Council members a note in opposition.](#)

[Sign the petition.](#)

[Call the Council in opposition.](#)

PLEASE FORWARD TO GET THE WORD OUT.



Now she could lose it all.

Austin's City Council has imposed a moratorium on various construction practices which has caused her, and many property owners like her, to lose as much as 50% of their investment.

Now, some people in our city cannot retire on schedule, cannot expand their homes for their growing families, and cannot remodel to accommodate elderly relatives.

And it could happen to you.

Learn the facts. Let your voice be heard.

Your home may be devalued or "down zoned" without your knowledge or consent thanks to the pending "McMansion Ordinance."

The Austin City Council will vote on an ordinance Thursday, June 8 that severely limits your freedom to remodel, revive and expand your home.

The ordinance was devised by a task force of 16 members. Only four have any urban infill and remodeling construction experience at all. Because of their overall lack of knowledge and experience, they have approved proposed regulations that are confusing, cumbersome and unrealistic.

Currently, it takes about one month to get a building permit from the city and only half of them ever get issued on time. This ordinance (up to 11 pages in its draft form) will only work to prolong that process and could push progress back several months, halting everyone's ability to build within the city limits.

You won't be able to:

1. Build a home any bigger than 2,100 sq. ft. with a 200 sq. ft. garage (or any more than 20% of what already exists) - *The average home in the US is about 2,500 sq. ft. - why would there be a maximum size smaller than the nationwide average?*
2. Have more square footage than 40% of your lot size
3. Have a ceiling height any greater than 15 feet
Or it will count twice towards your total square feet - making the home even smaller
4. Have a home that is higher than 32 feet
5. Have a wall any longer than 32 feet without a break

Plus, it creates yet another bureaucracy, "The Residential Design Commission" that would include "four citizens at large" that get to decide what you can and can't build - imagine someone with no building experience telling you - "Sorry, your taste in housing is unacceptable, you can't build that even if it is on your own property."

What Can You Do?

Next Thursday (June 8), the City Council will vote to approve these awful new rules. You must help convince the Council not to. Please do one of the following (listed in order of effectiveness):

Register in opposition.

Take people with you to also do so.
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Sign the [petition](#).

[Call the Council](#) in opposition.

Please click the link below and forward to your contact list. You can help get the word out before other lives are devastated by this ordinance.

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