



**FIREWISE USA™**  
Residents reducing wildfire risks

# Austin Firewise Alliance

## Austin, Texas

### Resolution on CodeNEXT

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin and surrounding communities have experienced devastating losses of life and destruction of homes and property associated with wildland-urban interface (WUI) fires;

**WHEREAS**, in November 2014 the Austin City Council unanimously approved the adoption of the Austin/Travis County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which was also adopted by Travis County in November 2014 for region-wide application;

**WHEREAS**, in May 2016 the Austin City Council directed the City Manager to include wildland urban interface risk reduction as a high priority consideration in the CodeNEXT and Imagine Austin projects;

**WHEREAS**, the Austin Fire Department will soon recommend adoption of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code, which requires geographic mapping of WUI risk areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Austin Firewise Alliance represents a coalition of neighborhoods throughout the City of Austin and Travis County that have been designated as *Firewise* communities by the National Fire Protection Association in recognition of their demonstrated and ongoing commitment to reducing WUI risk; **NOW THEREFORE**,

#### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AUSTIN FIREWISE ALLIANCE:**

The City of Austin Land Use Commissions and City Council should ensure that CodeNEXT is prepared to accommodate adoption of the International WUI Code and provide reasonable safety measures for future development in identified WUI risk areas by incorporating the following changes:

1. Include a reference to the International Wildland Urban Interface Code (WUI Code), which is expected to be adopted early in 2018, in the CodeNEXT list of technical codes of chapter 23-11;
2. Include the Austin Fire Department's WUI overlay map, which identifies the portions of Austin that are at medium, high, and extreme WUI fire risk; and
3. Ensure that there is a wildfire safety review for new master planned communities, preliminary subdivision plans, and zoning changes.

*Adopted by the Austin Firewise Alliance January 5, 2018.*

**About the Austin Firewise Alliance.** The Austin Firewise Alliance represents a coalition of neighborhoods throughout the Austin region that have been designated as *Firewise* communities by the National Fire Protection Association, or are in the process of seeking such designation, in recognition of their demonstrated and ongoing commitment to reducing fire risks in wildland-urban interface areas. The Alliance collaborates with local fire departments on public policy, public education and risk-reduction programs that improve fire safety in the wildland-urban interface.