

Petition Instructions – CodeNEXT

Mail Petitions To: *IndyAustin*, PO Box 41479, Austin, TX 78704

Who to Reach: 512.657.2089 Linda (SW) * Lucas 512-203-1601 (Central) * Ed (512) 740-9699 (NW)

What is CodeNEXT? A massive overhaul of the city’s land development and zoning codes governing where and what can be built in Austin. For lots more information go to IndyAustin.org, click on the CodeNEXT page.

Petitions Rules and Tips:

1. **Who can sign?** Only registered voters in the city limits of Austin may sign this petition. Ask them clearly and twice – are you a city of Austin voter? If they say they’re in the county or “ETJ” (extra-territorial jurisdiction of Austin) do NOT take the signature. They must be in the city limits of Austin.
2. **When is the deadline?** For CodeNEXT, mid to late March for the November 2018 election.
3. **Use black or blue ink pens -- NO “fine point” pens – use “medium point” and NO pencils.**
4. **How many times can someone sign?** Just once please! If they signed something online, you can take their signature. If they signed a petition on paper about CodeNEXT, don’t take it again.
5. **How many signatures do we need?** 20,000 valid signatures within a 180-day window.
6. **What information must they give? They must sign with their SIGNATURE and a legible PRINTED name.** They must give address (or at least the name of their street – **no** PO Boxes). They must give Date of Birth (DOB) (or at least 2 out of 3 fields) OR the VUID number on their voter registration card. If they balk, tell them this is needed to verify their signature, by Texas election law.
7. **Why give phone number and/or email?** Phone and email are optional but save us in campaign costs (hard mailings) and we are against big developer money in this election.
8. **Is this public record?** Yes, but by law petition signatures cannot be used for commercial purposes. We also never share or publish your information. We also redact your phone or email before we file.
9. **Where can I collect signatures?** Besides amongst your friends and family in Austin, you can go anywhere that is public such as sidewalks, in front of government buildings (so long as you’re not blocking the door), parks and early voting and election day polls. You can walk around shopping areas, just know that you can be asked to leave. If you know a local convenience stores owner or manager, these are ideal because they have regular in and out traffic. Some big box stores will ignore you if it’s a few hours.
10. **Important Hints if you’re petitioning outside a poll site or working outside a building with in and out traffic?** Do not block the door and if you’re at a poll – stand 100 feet from the entrance. You will see marker that says where that 100 feet starts. You can talk to folks on the way in or out. A good way to get them fired up is to hand them the 1/3 page flier for them to read while inside. In most all cases, they will sign on the way out if they are an Austin voter.
11. **Turning in your signatures:** If you don’t have someone to immediately get your signatures to, call or text the folks at the top of these instructions.
12. **Before they leave, make sure you can read their printed name and they’ve signed it!**

What to say: *Excuse me, are you an Austin voter? Great, we need your signature for the right to vote on CodeNEXT – (if they ask what it is, say...). It’s a massive overhaul of the land development code that can lead to much higher property taxes and rents. We want to make sure we at least have the right to vote on it, so please sign to put it on the ballot. (Hand them the board and ask them again): You said you are registered here in the city of Austin, right? Great, please print and sign your name and go all the way across. Email or phone are optional, but help cut our campaign costs.*

