

**Austin Forward. Together.**

***BUILD Alignment with ACT’s 2018 AFT Quality of Life Plan***

<b>Issue Area: Economic Development</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus</b>
1. “Invest in local arts and cultural centers.”	1.1 Create community arts and cultural centers	With a public art gallery, multiple performance spaces, music, and art studios, BUILD Campus <i>will be</i> such a center and place to showcase local work.
	1.2 Build a public/private partnership to support and expand existing funding for arts	With the studio space to support local artists (and a program cultivating new young ones), the arts will only expand, providing a foundation for more significant partnerships and platforms for public art funding.
2. “Increase the number of authentic images and stories portraying the Austin community.”	2.1 Bridge the gap between residents’ experiences and how media outlets reflect them.	BUILD’s podcasting program and collaboration with “Austin Has the Mic” provides platforms to share local multigenerational stories, and helps youth write and amplify their own as well.
3. “Create environments that foster health and wellness in the community.”	3.2 Promote healthier food choices across Austin	The Iris Garden program produces 1,000 lbs of food free to the community each year – our Harvest Days and Harvest Festival reach families. The new commercial kitchen will support a whole nutrition and cooking curriculum, both as workforce development and regular wellness training for youth.
	3.3 Establish a proactive, healing network of trauma-informed programs	Every program at BUILD is trauma-informed – from sports to art to after-school homework help. BUILD’s growth equals growth of this network.

	3.4 Build a sense of community through activities such as creating and maintaining community gardens	The Iris Garden program is already expanding to create new satellite gardens around the neighborhood.
	3.5 Create an Expanded Mental Health Services Program in Austin	BUILD Campus will house a dedicated mental health center, growing from a single dedicated therapy room to seven. Having a home base will also support expanded outreach and remote services.

<b>Issue Area: Economic Development</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus</b>
2. “Train and develop local workers and entrepreneurs.”	2.1 Survey and connect existing workforce and entrepreneurship programs	BUILD Campus will have the facilities to host and expand specialized workforce training programs with Revolution Workshop, Inspiration Kitchen, MetroEdge, and more – these connections are already made, and in place. And while we are designing programs for youth, awareness of and experience with these partners and their certification programs will extend into adult populations as well.
	2.4 Invest in entrepreneurship development programs	Brand BUILD has long been BUILD’s entrepreneurship program – and with expanded workforce training partnerships, facilities, and storage; we will bring in more volunteers to mentor young entrepreneurs and facilitate support and growth. Plus, the café/store will provide a venue for Brand BUILD goods to be sold and promoted.
3. Build the local economy and small businesses to improve community wealth and self-sufficiency	3.1 Incorporate the co-op model for local restaurants, grocery store, and housing	BUILD’s new Campus will seek out local small businesses and suppliers for goods and services for program and operational needs.

	3.2 Attract major commercial anchors	We expect to attract positive economic activity up and down Harrison Street. BUILD Campus is located just one block from the Laramie exit of the IL 290 highway. We are also a few blocks from the CTA Blue Line's Cicero Ave station, two major CTA bus lines, five elementary and high schools are within six blocks of BUILD's Campus. Nearly 1,500 young people could walk to BUILD after school, and hundreds more could take the bus or train. There is ample commercial real estate available along Harrison Street.
	3.6 Promote community engagement and outreach around a "Shop Local" initiative	As a major crossroads for the South Austin non-profits and school communities, BUILD would play a role in promoting local businesses and bringing them in to provide services and products whenever possible – just as we do now.

<b>Issue Area: Education</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus</b>
2. "Increase parents' involvement in their children's education."	2.1 Teach academic benchmarks to parents	More large common spaces on BUILD Campus will allow for more frequent "Family Nights" where parents come in to engage with their children's work and programs and meet with mentors.
	2.2 Provide convenient programs at schools that help parents tutor and support their children academically	A more robust and broader home base will allow for expansion of BUILD's after-school Prevention programs that take place in partner schools. Parents will also be able to connect with BUILD services, like mental health care, housing support, and counseling, which help them be more present.
	2.3 Improve communication to parents about existing services and agencies based at local schools	BUILD Campus will be its own very visible "billboard" – attracting attention and youth and families to its services. As one of these agencies, we are also good at referring youth to our partner agencies - especially once they are in our case management system.

<p>3. "Increase student access to wrap-around services."</p>	<p>3.1 Implement the Community School Model in schools in Austin</p>	<p>As imagined by the Community School model, BUILD's Prevention programs locate inside schools and both represent and provide a wider community of support available to young people.</p>
	<p>3.2 Establish a proactive, healing network of trauma-informed programs, teachers, and staff in our schools</p>	<p>As our solid home base, the BUILD Campus will enable us to expand the breadth and depth of trauma-informed and healing Prevention and Intervention services we provide in schools by having ample common spaces. We will utilize these areas to train community members in trauma-informed approaches and care.</p>
	<p>3.3 Implement restorative practices schoolwide for staff and students</p>	<p>The Peace and Justice Center at BUILD Campus is designed to drive training, best practice, and advocacy for Restorative Justice across the community, including in schools. Additionally, every BUILD youth learns the experience of being in Restorative Justice Circles – the new facility will have dedicated group spaces to allow for these circles all year round.</p>

<p><b>Issue Area: Public Safety</b></p>		
<p><b>Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>Priority Action</b></p>	<p><b>Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus</b></p>
<p>1. "Create high-quality prevention strategies to build a safer Austin."</p>	<p>1.1 Increase restorative justice activities in the community</p>	<p>Increasing the community's involvement in RJ activities is the exact declared mission of the new Peace and Justice Center, which will be prominently housed on the main floor of the new BUILD Campus building. The partnerships and practice of this community-wide coalition have already been in place for years; this space will allow for anchored growth and healthy expansion.</p>
	<p>1.2 Engage and connect neighbors</p>	<p>BUILD Campus will also be a community center accessible to all our neighbors, mainly before 3 pm on weekdays before most youth programming occurs. The health, fitness, safety, and technology (strong free wi-fi, charging stations) will bring neighbors inside.</p>

	1.5 Create community/police engagement	BUILD enjoys an ongoing, high-quality relationship with the local police department's 15 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> Districts—this larger facility will allow the hosting and sponsorship of many more collaborative community events.
2. "Promote high-quality intervention strategies to help at-risk residents and those impacted by the criminal justice system."	2.1 Promote access to a trauma-informed network in the community	The new Campus will be a large, visible, and inviting place where all will know that positive and trauma-informed services will be available to them. Multiple community meetings have been held in the years before the building opening to ensure that the word spreads, and these meetings will continue as it is built and opens.
	2.2 Create an Austin restorative justice community court	BUILD has worked with partners for years to lay the groundwork for an RJCC. When assigned a judge by the city, it will launch right away: we have designated a space for it in the building. The community network needed to make it effective will remain strong as we work together in the Peace and Justice Center programs.
	2.3 Expand outreach intervention opportunities for local institutions	As a sizeable visible hub, we expect BUILD Campus to have a far greater reach into the community. And wherever we can reach, our partners can go as well.
3. "Increase displays, activities, and events of culture and peace in the community."	3.1 Create art/design showcase opportunities	BUILD Campus will have public art galleries and host a thriving and active community arts program that includes open studio weekends and art nights.
	3.2 Launch beautification projects that create pride in our neighborhood	BUILD Campus will strive to be its site of beauty and green, maintaining the Peace Garden and adding a green fence that extends landscaping directly into the surrounding streets. As a beacon of positivity and quality, we will give the neighborhood much to be proud of.
	3.3 Promote community engagement	BUILD Campus will make it possible for us to host many more impactful community events and engagement opportunities for our services (indoors and outdoors, all year). Still, our spaces will be available to other

	opportunities for local institutions	partners to might also need space to host events and sessions.
4. "Establish more safe spaces in the community for youth."	4.1 Organize events that reclaim parks and other public spaces	BUILD already partners with the city and neighborhoods to host many events like these: Summer Kickbacks, Light in the Night, our own neighborhood sports events like Hoops on the Block, Flag Football, the Summer Peace Leagues, and more. A solid home base with increased storage space will help us support more of these events at a higher level of quality, and bring more youth and families into them.
	4.2 Increase other activities to engage youth	BUILD Campus represents a massive leap in BUILD's capacity to engage considerably more youth, and <u>keep them engaged.</u>
	4.3 Establish more spaces that are valued by the community and open to youth	We have involved youth and community members in the design process for our new Campus. We have ensured that we provide facilities they are excited to have – especially the fitness spaces, technology resources, and open green space for resting and recovery.

Issue Area: Youth Empowerment		
Strategy	Priority Action	Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus
1. "Increase positive social connections, communications, and info shared among Austin youth."	1.1 Involve young people in the community in the leadership of the committee	BUILD has identified and cultivated youth leaders in partnership with Austin Coming Together to work through the leadership council and its cohort-based programs.
	1.2 Create physical places where youth can gather, and community-based organizations can offer services	BUILD Campus is a facility designed for precisely this – a gathering space for youth and a place to access services from BUILD and our partners.

<p>2. "Prepare youth for year-round employment and career opportunities."</p>	<p>2.1 Expose youth to professionals who they can relate to</p>	<p>New specialized facilities will support full workforce development programs in the culinary arts, data center administration, engineering, and skilled construction trades – providing space and programs to connect youth with professionals across these partner organizations. We will also have the capacity to host more meetups and seminars with dozens of other professional volunteers who share backgrounds with our young people.</p>
<p>2.1 Expose youth to professionals who they can relate to</p>	<p>2.2 Increase youth investment in self-awareness and career-focused programs</p>	<p>BUILD's programs are designed to help young people believe and invest in their potential, help them imagine and build paths to their positive future. BUILD Campus will allow us to take those programs to more youth and at a higher quality.</p>
	<p>2.3 Establish programs to build personal and professional career development and entrepreneurial training</p>	<p>BUILD Campus will host the workforce development programs of strong partners: Inspiration Kitchen, Revolution Workshop, MetroEdge, and more – plus our entrepreneurship program, Brand BUILD. The new facility will allow us to develop complementary and supplemental programs that will ease the transition to these more intensive programs, especially helping younger youth get exposure, develop interests, discover talents and passions, and practice basic skills.</p>
<p>3. "Expand supportive programs for local youth's social, emotional and physical well-being."</p>	<p>3.1 Expand access to trauma training for professionals working with youth</p>	<p>BUILD Campus's expanded and dedicated mental health center will be a home base for our therapists to support one another, share best practices and receive the training they need for their work.</p>
	<p>3.3 Create more supportive networks for youth programs</p>	<p>BUILD's holistic model of youth services and programs are designed to support one another – the new BUILD campus will provide the facilities and resources to reinforce those supports and integrations.</p>
	<p>3.4 Create paths for youth interactions with mentors and role models</p>	<p>BUILD Campus has designed its spaces specifically to facilitate the easy and frequent interaction between youth and their mentors, as well as the intergenerational exposure that a healthy community center encourages.</p>

<b>Issue Area: Civic Engagement</b>		
<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Priority Action</b>	<b>Alignment of BUILD and BUILD Campus</b>
2. "Cultivate local leadership to become more effective advocates for our community."	2.2 Identify and train community organizers between the ages of 18-35	BUILD has multiple youth leadership programs containing a vital community service component: Youth Council, My Brother's Keeper, and BUILDing Girls 2 Women all work with community leaders and social justice principles. Other enrichment programs incorporate these principles as well – youth in the Iris Garden "Austin Grown" program explore food deserts and sustainability, for example, as they work on solutions. Several summer jobs offered via One Summer Chicago also are built around community service projects.