



Point of Sale Ordinance Defeated

ABoR is excited to announce that our city leaders have adopted a voluntary approach to energy efficiency that does not include mandatory energy efficiency upgrades for homeowners. What it does include is passage last week of an Energy Efficiency Ordinance, which requires some Austin homeowners to conduct energy audits of homes for sale.

“Energy efficiency is very important to Austinites, and it’s becoming a more important component in marketing homes. By having this information available, sellers can earn a premium price for energy upgrades and buyers will be more informed about the properties they purchase,” said ABoR Chairman **Socar Chatmon-Thomas**. “It’s always in our clients’ best interest to provide as much information as possible about a property. These energy audits will give us one more tool to market properties and educate our clients so they can make decisions that are best for their bottom lines.”

Upon the adoption of the Energy Efficiency Ordinance, Austin Mayor **Will Wynn** offered this statement : “We believe this program will result in dramatic energy savings at our electric utility and in household budgets. Most of the time people will do what’s in their economic self-interest – and when they see the math, the savings from basic efficiency upgrades will be too obvious to ignore.”

The ordinance will take effect on **June 1, 2009**, and applies to most residential, multi-family and commercial properties in Austin. For details, attend ABoR’s Government Affairs Forum on **November 18** from 2 – 3 p.m. **Charles Porter**, ABoR’s immediate past chairman, will be on hand to discuss his experiences on the city’s Energy Efficiency Upgrades Task Force. Members will also learn about the Keep Austin Affordable campaign, hear details about the ordinance itself and have their questions answered. The event is free, but you must [RSVP](#).

Courtesy of JB Goodwin