

Thursday, November 20, 2008

Public Works RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 37

Subject: Approve a resolution refining the alignment of the Lance Armstrong Bikeway through the downtown area to 3rd Street as an alternative to 4th Street, from Trinity Street to Nueces Street (with the transition from 3rd Street to 4th street on Trinity Street).

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

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Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Urban Transportation Commission.

Prior Council Action: February 27, 2003, Council approved Resolution No. 030227-49 for a 4th Street alignment for the Lance Armstrong Bikeway in the downtown area.

October 26, 2000, Council approved authorization of an interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the Lance Armstrong Bikeway grant awarded by the Statewide Enhancement Program in the amount of \$3,203,163.63.

This refined alignment provides a viable and direct facility for bicyclists, minimizes on-street parking loss for commercial stakeholders, minimize future rail/transit conflicts, and accommodates future rail and traffic operations.

The Urban Transportation Commission, Bicycle Advisory Council, Downtown Austin Alliance and Austin Warehouse District Merchants Association approve of the staff-recommended refined alignment.Project Status: Several segments of the bikeway are complete and open to the public. The status of the remaining segments follows:

• Stephen F Austin High School to BR Reynolds, north side of Cesar Chavez St: opened for use late June; benches are being fabricated and will be installed in December

• The Gables right of way segment: to be built this fall by the Street and Bridge Division of Public Works or added to the existing sidewalk contract between Public Works and Muniz Concrete and Contracting

• 4th Street segment between Trinity and I-35: construction began recently by Capital Metro

• TxDOT segment (E. 5th Street extension from Shady Lane to US Highway 183): construction schedule is not available from TxDOT