



Urban Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

**Regular Meeting
9 March 2010**

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on 9 March 2010 at the Boards and Commissions Room located at 303 West 2nd Street, Room 1101, Austin, Texas.

Chair MacKinnon called the Commission meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Richard MacKinnon – Chair
Dustin Lanier – Vice Chair
Boone Blocker
Allen Demling
Sheila Holbrook-White
Dana Lockler

Commission Members Absent:

Eileen Schaubert

Staff in Attendance:

Gordon Derr
Morris Poe
Greg Pepper
Gilda Powers

1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of 02/09/2010 were approved with the following corrections: Item 2 should read “*The minutes from meeting of 01/12/2010 were approved...with Commissioner Holbrook-White...*”. Item 3-a, correct spelling of Commissioner Lockler on second line to read “*...on a motion by Commissioner Lockler...*” Commissioner Holbrook-White made the motion to approve, Commissioner Lockler seconded on a 5/2 vote, with Commissioners Schaubert and Lanier absent.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Real Estate Vacation Evaluation – Presentation and Possible Action

Ms. Chris Muraida, Real Estate Division Property Agent with the Contract and Land Management Department, requested the vacation of a 308 square foot portion of right-of-way at the corner lot of Newton Street and West Annie Street (Address: 1800 Newton Street). On Commissioner Lockler motion, Commissioner Holbrook-White second, the motion was approved on a 6/1 vote, with Commissioner Schaubert absent.

- B. Austin Cab Taxicab Franchise Renewal – Presentation and Possible Action**
- C. Yellow Cab Company Taxicab Franchise Renewal – Presentation and Possible Action**

Mr. Morris Poe, Transportation Regulatory Manager with the Austin Transportation Department, made a presentation for items 3B, 3C, and 4C. Three citizens addressed the Commission and two memorandums from the Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid and Yellow Cab Company were distributed to the Commission. After discussion and at the direction of the City Council, on Resolution No. 20100225-60 that requests recommendation on issues related to the taxicab industry, the UTC formed a Task Force lead by Commissioners Lanier and Blocker. The Task Force will meet in two weeks and will give an update of progress at the next UTC meeting.

Additionally, on Commissioner Lanier motion, Commissioner Holbrook-White second, on a 6/1 vote, with Commissioner Schaubert absent, the following recommendation was approved: “The Urban Transportation Commission recommends a one year renewal of Austin Cab and Yellow Cab Companies franchise agreements to allow for sufficient time to study the items directed by the City Council on Resolution No. 20100225-60 as well as other issues related to the vehicles for hire category.”

- D. Valet Operations – Presentation and Possible Action**

Mr. Gregory Pepper, Permitting Supervisor with the Right of Way Division of the Austin Transportation Department, briefed the Commissioners on the steps necessary to request, issue and process a valet operator’s permit. During his presentation he explained that fees are being revised. The Commissioners asked that an update is provided if and when a decision is made to raise those fees or not. No action was taken.

- E. Special Events**

- a. Texas Round Up Event – Appeal and Possible Action of the Special Event Ordinance, Chapter 14-8, Section 3**

Mr. Gordon Derr, Assistant Director with the Transportation Department, gave a brief presentation and requested that the UTC approves staff recommendation to allow the event to proceed. On Commissioner Demling motion, Commissioner Holbrook-White second, the UTC recommends to the City Council that the event is allowed to proceed and that negotiations between all parties continue. The motion was approved on a vote of 6/1, with Commissioner Schaubert absent.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Proposed Bicycle Boulevard – Briefing and Possible Action**

Mr. Derr, speaking on behalf of the Neighborhood Connectivity Division of the Public Works Department, gave an update on the Bicycle Boulevard and indicated that City staff will provide a more detail update at the April meeting that will be based on the traffic impact study, community feedback, and engineering expertise. No action was taken.

- B. Strategic Mobility Program and Urban Rail – Presentation and Possible Action**

Mr. Derr gave an update on the Strategic Mobility Plan and Urban Rail Program. These updates will be given on a monthly basis to keep the Commissioners up to date on the process.

C. Taxi Cab Fare Related Issues - Discussion and Possible Action

(Per City Council Resolution 20100225-060)

This item was discussed with Items 3-B and 3-C. The Task Force will review eight issues identified in the City Council Resolution No. 20100225-60 and report back to the UTC at future meetings.

STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Staff Briefings – None
- Downtown Commission – Commissioner Lanier said that a question was raised at the last meeting about parking around the Convention Center with the changing street overlay.
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee – The subcommittee will meet on March 22nd.
- CAMPO – Mr. Derr said the CAMPO Board will go into session to look at policies and objections to the 2035 Plan. He also informed the UTC, he is now a CAMPO Committee Chair.
- SCIP – Commissioner Lockler said that the results of the survey to find out if a Residential Parking Permit (RPP) is feasible on South Congress are expected back in late April.
- CSAC – Chair MacKinnon reported that Capital Metro's Red Line is up and running.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Special Events Appeals
- Pedicabs permits
- New Pay Stations update and comparison of revenue between both systems
- Update on Valet Parking Operation
- Parking Operation – Garages in Downtown
- Vehicles for Hire – Spaces available in the City
- Nueces Bicycle Boulevard Update
- Taxicab stands in the Entertainment District of downtown
- Update on CAMPO's 2035 Plan

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair MacKinnon adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m. without objection.

Rich MacKinnon, Chair
Urban Transportation Commission

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