



## **Urban Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Regular Meeting  
14 September 2010**

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on 14 September 2010 at the Boards and Commissions Room located at 303 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Room 1101, Austin, Texas.

### **Commission Members in Attendance:**

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

### **Commission Members Absent:**

Commissioners Blocker and Holbrook-White were off the dais for the first hour of the meeting.

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Gordon Derr  
Gary Schatz  
Steve Grassfield  
Morris Poe  
Frances Hargrove  
Leah Fillion  
Gilda Powers

Chair Lanier called the Commission meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

### **1. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the 08/10/2010 meeting were approved on Commissioner Lockler motion, Commissioner Demling second, on a 5/0/2 vote, with Commissioners Blocker and Holbrook-White off the dais.

**Ayes:** Lanier, Schaubert, Demling, MacKinnon, Lockler  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** Holbrook-White, Blocker

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Special Events – Year in Review Briefing – Discussion and Possible Action

Frances Hargrove, Special Events Manager with the Austin Transportation Department, gave a detailed and informative presentation of the status of the Special Events Ordinance and Rules during the first year, as well as the different initiatives staff will be taken to continue improving the process and move forward. **No Action.**

#### B. Neighborhood Parking Enforcement Volunteers – Discussion and Possible Action

This item was postponed to the next meeting due to time constraints. **No Action.**

#### C. Parking Benefit District Briefing – Discussion and Possible Action

Steve Grassfield, Parking Enterprise Manager with the Austin Transportation Department, briefed the Commissioners. Three citizens addressed the Commission and spoke against the program. After discussion and clarification on some issues to address the citizens concerns, on Commissioner Holbrook-White motion, Commissioner Blocker second, on a vote of 7/0, the Urban Transportation Commission voted to support staff recommendation to establish a Parking Benefit District Program which may be used throughout Austin as a voluntary option for revenue sharing between neighbors, merchants, and other affected parties.

**Ayes:** Holbrook-White, Blocker, Lanier, Schaubert, Demling, MacKinnon, Lockler

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

#### D. Establishing a Subcommittee related to Parking Issues – Discussion and Possible Action

Chair Lanier opened the item for discussion and explained the reasoning behind the idea of establishing a subcommittee to deal with parking issues in downtown. Members of the Downtown Commission might be invited to participate in the future. On a motion by Commissioner Holbrook-White, Commissioner Schaubert second, on a vote of 7/0, the following motion was approved: The UTC recommends to the City Council that they develop a joint subcommittee of the Urban Transportation Commission and Downtown Commission to look at issues with parking in downtown.

**Ayes:** Holbrook-White, Blocker, Lanier, Schaubert, Demling, MacKinnon, Lockler

**Nays:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** None

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### a. Special Events – Turkey Trot Update

Ms. Hargrove introduced Bounce promoter Michelle Graham who explained the issues they are working on with staff to be able to have the event on November 25<sup>th</sup>. They will continue to work with the Council Aides to reach a solution that is satisfactory to all. **No Action.**

#### b. South Congress Improvement Projects - Briefing

Gary Schatz, Assistant Director with the Austin Transportation Department, and Peter Davis, Project Manager with the Public Works Department, gave an update on the improvement projects to the South Congress area that are being done with funds from the

2000 Bond package. There were several citizens that spoke against the proposed back-in angle parking, parking meters, and residential parking permit projects. Staff will continue to work with stakeholders to address their concerns and will report back to UTC at a later date.

**c. Taxicab Task Force Report – Discussion and Possible Action**

Gordon Derr, Assistant Director and Steve Grassfield, Parking Enterprise Manager with the Austin Transportation Department gave a report with the recommendations made by the task force that was set up by the UTC to address taxicab issues. Chair Lanier introduced two recommendations for discussion. Three citizens addressed the Commissioners.

After receiving input from task force members, citizens, and the full UTC, a motion was made by Commissioner Holbrook-White to accept the Task Force report on taxicab issues that staff recommended and UTC agreed to. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Blocker. During discussion, Chair Lanier made a second motion but later withdrew the motion. Commissioner Holbrook-White reiterated her original motion that the UTC accepts the UTC-ATD Task Force report on taxicab issues as presented this evening. The motion was again seconded by Commissioner Blocker.

A substitute motion was made by Chair Lanier but withdrew the substitute motion after discussion. Commissioner Holbrook-White re-stated her motion: The UTC supports the document that was developed through the consensual process between the Urban Transportation Commission, the Taxi Franchises, and the Austin Transportation Department. On Commissioner Blocker second, on a vote of 7/0, the motion carried.

Chair Lanier made a second motion: Because the UTC believes that the taxicab report did not adequately discuss the issue of elements of competition, therefore the UTC recommends that Council directs staff to complete research on elements of competition that are appropriate to incorporate into the renewal and application review process. On Commissioner Holbrook-White second, on a vote of 7/0, the motion carried.

**Ayes:** Holbrook-White, Blocker, Lanier, Schaubert, Demling, MacKinnon, Lockler  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** None

On Chair Lanier motion, Commissioner Holbrook-White second, on a 7/0 vote, the Commissioners voted to continue the meeting past 10:00 p.m.

**Ayes:** Holbrook-White, Blocker, Lanier, Schaubert, Demling, MacKinnon, Lockler  
**Nays:** None  
**Abstain:** None  
**Absent:** None

**5. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Staff Briefings – Reception to welcome the new Capital Metro CEO Linda Watson will be held on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Staff will post a notice of event just in case four or more members of the UTC attend.
- b) Downtown Commission – None

- c) Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee – None
- d) CAMPO – None
- e) SCIP – Commissioner Lockler said the East Riverside Corridor committee met on August 31<sup>st</sup> and decided on the ethics rules. Another meeting is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- f) CSAC – None

## **6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Urban Rail Update
- South Congress Improvements Updated
- Innovative Bicycle Facilities Study Results
- Bike Sharing Programs
- Extended Hours / Valet / Commercial Zones, etc.
- Allocation of Parking Fund Monies
- Parking for Bicycles in downtown
- Economic impact due to street closures in downtown
- Streets owned and maintain by TxDOT within the City limits

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Lanier adjourned the meeting at 11:35 p.m. without objection

Approved Minutes \_\_\_\_\_

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