Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 1/1/2013 to 12/31/2013
(This report is due in the first quarter of each calendar year for the previous year.)

Urban Transportation Commission
(Official Name of Board or Commission)

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) **is:**

The purpose of the board is The Urban Transportation Commission shall serve as an advisory body to the city council, the city manager, and all other transportation-related departments concerning transportation-related matters including: transportation energy conservation matters grant applications; streets and highways; bus and rail service; pedestrian and bikeway programs and projects; safety related programs and projects; provision for the needs of the mobility impaired; transportation franchise requests, renewals, rate adjustments, and hours of operation. The commission shall review and make recommendations to the city council on all requests for taxicab permits, including annual permits and franchise permits. The commission shall annually review and report to the city council on the City's transportation system, including policies and programs. The commission shall review, study, and make recommendations to the Planning Commission on: transportation-related projects proposed for inclusion in the Capital Improvements Program; and plans and programs submitted by the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. The commission shall receive and study citizen comments and suggestions in all areas of transportation. In its deliberations, the commission shall: recognize the relationship between transportation and economics, energy, safety, land use, neighborhood integrity, and environmental quality; and consider transportation access to health care, employment, education, housing, and recreational facilities. The commission shall seek to promote close cooperation between the city council, other city boards and commissions, city departments, and individuals, institutions, and agencies concerned with transportation-related

activities so that all similar activities in the City may be coordinated to secure the greatest public welfare.

1. **Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

   The UTC provided a number of recommendations related to the taxi cab industry; some of the discussion is ongoing and will be rolled into 2014-2015. Other recommendations made by UTC include:
   - *Vacation of portion(s) of streets and ROW as applicable*
   - *The creation of municipal utility districts*
   - *Recommendations related to long and short-range transportation projects, including Project Connect and Capital Metro Rapid Bus*
   - *On-street parking*
   - *Hotel courtesy and shuttle vehicles*
   - *Local area traffic management*

   The UTC also reviewed and made recommendations on a number of applicable ordinances, including:
   - *Parameters of the rideshare industry in Austin*
   - *Special events ordinance*
   - *Charter vehicle ordinance*

   The commissioners participated in a number of committees, driving feedback on projects and within the commission. Committees include:
   - *Bike/Ped Committee*
   - *Capital Metro Customer Service Advisory Committee*
   - *Downtown Commission*
   - *North Corridor Advisory Committee*
   - *Project Connect Committee*
   - *CAMPO Transportation Advisory Committee*
   - *Taxi Advisory Group*

2. **Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

   The resolutions regarding special event street closures were technically outside of the scope of the commission's mission statement per Section 2-1-85 of the City Code. And these alone do not reflect the full deliberative caseload where resolutions were not made. In view of the growing caseload of special event street closures, we recommend that Section 2-1-85 be updated to reference the commission's additional responsibilities outlined in

Section 14-8-4. This request was previously made in 2013, and we ask that it be considered for 2014.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

The goals and objectives captured below do not fully capture everything presented before the UTC and are provided on the understanding that the UTC still intends to fulfill the duties set forth in the city code. The goals below are simply items set forth in the UTC 2014 work plan.

UTC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2014:

- The commission will make recommendations on taxi cab annual permits and the current franchise system.
    - Research and develop cab franchise models.
    - Work towards promoting an increase in percentage of accessible taxi cabs per fleet.
    - Work towards promoting an increase in environmentally friendly taxi cabs.
- The commission will weigh in on all long range transportation plans underway impacting the City of Austin, including, but not limited to, the following:
    - Project Connect
    - Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization 2040 Transportation Plan
- The commission will make recommendations on short range transportation proposals impacting the City.
    - The commission will review the neighborhood planning process to determine how to proactively incorporate transportation alternatives.
    - The commission will formulate a recommendation for the upcoming 2014 transportation bond election in November.