



**PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
June 1, 2015**

The Pedestrian Advisory convened in a regular meeting on June 1, 2015 at Austin Energy Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Road, 1st floor assembly room.

Elected Members in Attendance

Joe Almazan
Peter Baird
Janet Beinke
Nancy Crowther
Valerie Fruge

Girard Kinney
Mike Sledge
Ramah Leith
Zakq Lockrem
Nic Moe
Marva Overton

Kathy Rock
Patricia Schaub
Mike Sledge
Luke Urie
Heyden Walker

Guests in Attendance

Dayton Criteo
Daniela Radpay

Tom Wald
Bonnie Wang

John Woodley

Staff and Agency Representatives in Attendance:

Robert Anderson
Caitlin D’Alton

Lawrence Deeter
John Eastman

-

CALL TO ORDER

1. INTRODUCTIONS (6:00 – 6:05)

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL (6:05 – 6:08)

Mr. Kinney said his neighborhood association is focused on safety and is doing so through open front porches. The City provides for allowance of porches to intrude five feet into the setback. He said this doesn’t help for corner lots where the open front porch is only allowed on the front set back. He has introduced the idea to city staff to allow for porches also in side yard setbacks.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (6:08 – 6:10)

Mr. Kinney moved to approve. Mr. Moe seconded.

Mr. Woodley said there are errors in the minutes. Ms. Crowther said minutes are not intended to be transcripts. Mr. Kinney suggested in the past we have allowed individuals who felt they were misquoted to offer corrections. He suggested the approval of May minutes be postponed until the July meeting until language can be reviewed.

Mr. Kinney asked whether the \$106 per mile of sidewalk maintenance on page 5 is accurate. Mr. Eastman confirmed that number is accurate.

Mr. Kinney withdrew motion to approve minutes. Mr. Moe accepted withdrawal of the motion. No action was taken.

4. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFINGS (6:10 – 6:15)

A. Bicycle Advisory Council / Urban Transportation Commission

No one present.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS (6:15 – 6:45)

A. ¼-Cent Sales Tax – Briefing and Possible Action

Presentation by: Steve Miller, HNTB

Mr. Snow presented on the funding of the ¼ sales tax.

As part of the 2014 Austin Strategic Mobility Plan, the remaining balance (approximately \$21.4 Million) was to go to Urban Rail operations.

Mr. Snow asked for recommendation on 1 or 2 top priorities. He also said it should be a project for construction or completion of a project rather than design.

He said this issue will ultimately go before the Mobility Committee of City Council. He said the PAC should submit letter. He said in the past, some of the money has been used for urban trails.

Mr. Snow said the Bicycle Advisory Council made recommendations.

Mr. Moe asked where the group can find list of projects that need money. Mr. Snow said the Sidewalk Program or Bicycle Program staff has a list of projects.

Ms. Fruge asked for where to find a list of what the \$113.4 Million has been spent on already. Mr. Snow said if a request was made, they could make that available but it is not publicly available.

Mr. Kinney asked why the ¼-cent sales tax doesn't continuously grow the available funding amount. Mr. Snow said it was in place for a limited time period.

Mr. Kinney asked if Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons would be eligible. Mr. Snow confirmed that, yes, they would be.

Ms. Rock asked if this money could be supplemented with bond dollars. Mr. Snow said one of the items they look at is whether there are other dollars available.

Ms. Rock asked about how bond dollars are determined. Mr. Snow said an advisory committee was set up for the 2012 bond program and there was a committee focused on transportation.

Ms. Beinke asked if other project recommendations have already been submitted that the PAC could support. Mr. Snow said he could check on that and said a staff recommendation was submitted.

Mr. Wald said four recommendations were made by the Bicycle Advisory Council. Those are: Upper Boggy Creek Trail, safety improvements over Pleasant Valley Road Bridge, Country Club Creek Trail, and to increase the number of bike share stations.

Mr. Woodley asked if they can work with Transportation Department and Capital Metro to build hike and bike trail along rail for alternate and safe route. Mr. Snow said they do collaborate with other departments and that trail could be a recommendation.

Mr. Wald said the Boggy Creek Trail is a part of the Capital Metro.

Mr. Snow said, the BAC recommendation regarding Upper Boggy Creek provides regional mobility, adds to existing program and expedites a project for critical mobility.

Mr. Moe asked if it is possible to see where money has been spent by Council district. Mr. Snow said due to the age of the information not all of it was geospatially referenced. Some of them are smaller components of citywide projects. Prior to 2009 is geospatial challenge.

Mr. Sledge asked if the recommendations have to be discrete projects or is it useful (like the PHBs) to recommend enhanced funding for a program. Mr. Snow said that is a consideration and a good recommendation since there is already an established list of needs and which meets the other criteria.

Ms. Walker asked what the timeline is. Mr. Snow said in the next 6 weeks is preferable due to the fact that budget considerations are in progress currently. He suggested writing a letter to the Mobility Committee of Council and to any specific Council members that the group wishes to work with.

Mr. Snow said we need to formally request project list.

Ms. Walker said a committee should look at this. Mr. Baird said this topic is appropriate for the Technical Subcommittee.

Mr. Wald said the BAC recommended about \$10 Million in projects. Upper Boggy Creek, B-Cycle, Pleasant Valley, Country Club Creek Trail are the ranking of projects from the BAC. He said Christopher Stanton from the BAC would be the contact for the list of projects and funding from the BAC.

Ms. Schaub asked when the Technical Subcommittee meeting is scheduled. Mr. Baird confirmed it is June 18.

6. TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE (6:45 – 7:05)

A. Sidewalk Master Plan - Briefing

Presentation by: Peter Baird, Technical Subcommittee Chair, and Others

Mr. Baird presented on the six themes from the Technical Subcommittee on how to update the Sidewalk Master Plan. He said he would allow others to present on the items, Criteria for Asset Management, Alternative Funding Sources, Performance Measures, Shared Streets, Integration with Other City Plans, and GIS Integration

Mr. Moe presented on Criteria for Asset Management. He said the criteria for Sidewalk Master Plan is not changing, so a concern has been how to connect sidewalks. Mr. Moe said Fee in Lieu has been a topic. He said 311 is a source of projects received from the public, but there are equity issues.

Ms. Rock presented on Funding Sources. Kathy also mentioned Art in Public Places as a source of funds.

Ms. Beinke asked if in the other cities research, funding sources have been identified. Mr. Baird said this is part of the work that the consultant team is performing.

Mr. Kinney presented on Performance Measures. Mr. Kinney said connectivity is the most important point in pedestrian system but we don't have a way to measure for connectivity. Mr. Kinney noted there are multiple ways this is done by other cities. Existing systems where there are gaps and that is a major issue. (He added this is a topic to suggest for the ¼ Capital Metro sales tax recommendations). Mr. Kinney mentioned the possibility of a Master Connectivity plan. He said developing a list of possible pedestrian crossings is needed because it doesn't exist.

Mr. Baird presented on shared streets. He said he and Mr. Kinney met with Laura Dierenfield, Active Transportation Program Manager within Transportation Department. He said it was confirmed that shared streets will be a topic within the Sidewalk Master Plan. He said there needs to be a distinction between shared streets for downtown settings with ground floor retail uses versus something like a "quiet street" within a residential area.

He said there then is a need to develop standards for streets that are being retrofitted and those that are new streets. He said some criteria for this could be traffic volume, existing restrictions on access, existing speed limits, environmental or topographical constraints, and geographic location within the city. Mr. Baird referenced a street within the Mueller redevelopment that is a source of study.

Ms. Walker presented on Integration with Other City Plans. Ms. Walker mentioned the Bicycle Master Plan and the Urban Trails Master Plan. She said probably the most important document is the Transportation Criteria Manual which governs how streets are constructed and designed. She said that is a document that is being revised. Ms. Walker said there is the possibility of a public stakeholder meeting on this next week.

Ms. Walker said Mobility ATX is a site set up for crowdsourcing transportation ideas for the city. She said one idea that has received a lot of votes is to fully fund the Urban Trails Master Plan.

Mr. Baird presented on GIS Integration. Julio Carillo, Luke Urie, Nic Moe, Alan de Anda and Peter Baird have been working on how new ways of mapping can be used to provide new thinking for sidewalks in Austin.

Mr. Baird said a project has been submitted to Hack for Change, a program set up to address social change. The topic was connectivity and sidewalk infrastructure in Austin. He said crash data and income could also be incorporated. He said that event is happening this weekend.

Mr. Eastman said the PAC can add a lot of depth. He said August/September is a key deadline for the team updating the Sidewalk Master Plan. He said separate pieces will be submitted to the PAC as it is being drafted rather than submitting a full draft at once to the PAC for comments.

Mr. Eastman said sidewalk funding will be discussed at this week Council Mobility Committee meeting. He said Mr. Lazarus, Director of Public Works Department, will be presenting on accelerating sidewalk funding.

7. VISION ZERO SUBCOMMITTEE (7:05 – 7:15)

A. Sidewalk Master Plan – Briefing

Presentation by: Nic Moe, Vision Zero Subcommittee Chair

Mr. Moe said he would present on the Task Force as well as the nascent citizen grass root effort. He said the Task Force is about halfway through its allotted time to present back to Council. Mr. Moe said staff is looking at what programs already exist and the top contributing causes. He said by looking at these relationships the Task Force can understand gaps and opportunities to enhance current programs.

Mr. Moe said there is a data group working on the data and to perform critical analysis.

Mr. Moe said there is a separate Vision Zero grass roots effort that is getting started and is outside of the PAC. He said there has been one meeting. He said communication was the primary topic under consideration. He said they are working on creating a mission and vision, and trying to figure out how to work with others already working on safety issues in order to co-brand.

Mr. Moe said if individuals are interested in being a part of this effort, to contact him to be on email list.

Ms. Heyden said this is important, especially in light of the fatalities this morning.

Ms. Heyden said Al Batista of Please Be Kind to Cyclists has produced a video showing family members of traffic fatality victims.

8. OTHER BUSINESS (7:15 – 7:45)

A. Budget in a Box – Discussion and Possible Action

Robert presented on opportunity to make recommendations to the Budget Office. He said the budget office confirmed it would be acceptable to submit recommendations to their office by June 10.

Janet motioned to establish Task Force of PAC members to review and make recommendations for Budget in a Box by June 10. Mr. Kinney seconded. There was no opposition.

Ms. Rock, Ms. Walker, Ms. Schaub, Mr. Kinney, Ms. Beinke, Ms. Crowther expressed interest in participating in this.

Mr. Moe asked if it is preferable to submit recommendations as a group or for multiple people to submit recommendations. Staff said he did not know the answer to that.

Ms. Heyden said Council has been giving more weight to group input.

9. FUTURE BUSINESS (7:45 – 7:50)

Heyden clarified that the PAC recommendations will be on for July. Staff said we could revisit a presentation from the Urban Trails staff.

Mr. Lockrem asked about whether we could have a presentation on the ongoing corridor plans.

Ms. Rock asked about the South Lamar mitigation for flooding and sidewalk issues.

Mr. Kinney asked about a briefing on the Transportation Criteria Manual might be a good idea.

Transportation Criteria Manual external meeting time and location: Monday June 8, 1:30 p.m. at Public Works St. Elmo Offices (4411A Menardus Drive).

Mr. Lockrem asked about Green Infrastructure working group. Ms. Rock suggested reaching out to Matt Hollon or Erin Wood.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPDATES (7:50 – 8:00)

- **Webinar** - The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) announce a free webinar on enforcement operations for pedestrian safety:

Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations
Thursday, June 18
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time

To register, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1537593709704836609>

Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations: A How-To Guide

(<http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Pedestrians/Pedestrian+Safety+Enforcement+Operations:+A+How-To+Guide>) is a guide which offers detailed information about planning, conducting, and following up enforcement operations, as well as case studies highlighting successful programs from across the country.

- **City Council Calendar**
 - [Mobility Committee](#) meets on June 3, 3pm. The meeting is held at City Hall Boards and Commissions room.
 - [Planning and Neighborhoods Committee](#) meets on June 15, 4pm. The meeting is held at City Hall Council Chambers.
 - [Public Safety Committee](#) meets on June 22, 4pm. The meeting is held at City Hall Boards and Commissions room.
- [Urban Transportation Commission](#) meets on June 9, 6pm. The meeting is held at City Hall Boards and Commissions room.
- [Bicycle Advisory Council](#) meets June 16, 6pm. Location to be determined. See agenda.
- [CAMPO Calendar](#)
 - CAMPO Transportation Policy Board Meeting meets Monday, June 8, 6pm. The meeting is at Joe C. Thompson Conference Center, 2405 Robert Dedman Drive.
 - CAMPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting meets June 24, 2pm. The meeting is at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 300.
- ADA Access and Sidewalk Task Force – June 24, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, 13th floor director's conference room.
- [Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities](#) meets on June 8, 12pm. The meeting is held at City Hall Boards and Commissions room.

Mr. Kinney announced that Planning and Zoning Department management has said that his porch amendment proposal would be more appropriate for the Planning and Neighborhood Committee of Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Pedestrian Advisory Council – 2014/2015 Regular Meeting Attendance

	Name	Oct 6	Nov 3	Dec 1	Jan 12	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
F	Joe Almazan	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓	●			
F	Peter Baird	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓	●	●			
F	Nancy Crowther	●	●	●	●	●	✓	●	●	●			
F	Valerie Fruge	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	✓	●			
F	Girard Kinney	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
F	Ramah Leith	●	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●			
F	Nic Moe	●	●	●	●	●	✓	●	●	●			
F	Emily Risinger (Vice-Chair)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓			
F	Heyden Walker (Chair)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
A	Janet Beinke	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
A	Julio Carillo (voted alternate at 03.02.2015 meeting)	--	--	--	--	--	--	●	✓	✓			
A	Ken Craig (resigned 1.12.2015)	●	●	●	●	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
A	Dan Keshet (informed of resignation 2.02.2015)	✓	✓	✓	✓	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
A	Jessica Lemann (informed of resignation 2.27.2014)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
A	Nathan Lynch (informed of resignation 2.02.2015)	✓	✓	✓	✓	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
A	Zakcq Lockrem (voted alternate at 03.02.2015 meeting)	--	--	--	--	--	--	●	●	●			
A	Joel Meyer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	●	✓	✓	✓			
A	Carmen de la Morena-Chu	✓	●	●	✓	✓	●	●	✓	✓			
A	Marva Overton	✓	●	●	●	✓	●	✓	✓	●			
A	Kathy Rock	●	●	●	●	✓	●	●	●	●			
A	Mike Sledge	○	●	●	●	●	●	●	✓	●			
A	Luke Urie	✓	●	●	✓	●	●	●	●	●			
A	Virginia Wilkinson (resigned 1.12.2015)	●	●	●	●	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
F = Full Member, A = Alternate Member ● Present ○ Excused Absence ✓ Unexcused Absence													

Draft