

PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

The purpose of the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) is to advise the City of Austin and other jurisdictions on all matters relating to walking /pedestrianism.

April 25, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Austin, Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) supports the modified design proposal for the East 6th Street Streetscape Project. In the interest of improving the streetscape and in particular toward improving the pedestrian access and safety in alignment with the goals of PAC and Vision Zero.

PAC supports a streetscape plan that includes the following:

- Pedestrian pathways that are physically protected by back-in angled parking on both sides of East 6th St. maintaining clear wayfinding and access on the sidewalk areas.
- Accessible parking spaces.
- Pedestrian bulb-outs at the corners created through use of striping and texture changes to the pavement to protect pedestrians. Especially the “low line of sight” individuals such as wheelchair users, visually impaired and elderly with vision issues.
- Two westbound vehicular travel lanes.
- Interventions that utilize affordable materials like paint, bollards, etc., but do not in themselves, create barriers or tripping hazards.

The vast majority of serious injuries and fatality crashes happen on our major streets, including 6th St. despite the fact that these streets account for a fraction of our overall network. The types of pedestrian-critical improvements discussed above will help advance Austin’s ambitious Vision Zero goals, enhance safe mobility along 6th St. and serve as an example to future Austin streetscape projects. Safety and pedestrian access along this popular area will also help improve the local business community.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Almazan
PAC Chair

Heyden Walker
PAC Vice-Chair

The Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) shall advise the City of Austin on pedestrian planning, policy, design, funding, education, and enforcement efforts regarding the creation, maintenance and operation of pedestrian facilities in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable circulation for both commuting and recreation within the City of Austin. The PAC’s goal is to ensure sensitivity to pedestrian issues in the design and implementation of all public and private projects impacting pedestrians.