



**PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)
MONDAY OCTOBER 3, 2016 – 6:00 PM
CITY HALL – ROOM 1029
301 W. SECOND STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by Vice Chair Heyden Walker.

Full Members in Attendance:

Heyden Walker – Vice Chair
Peter Baird
Nancy Crowther
Valerie Fruge

Girard Kinney
Tom Wald
Robert Anderson
Emily Risinger

Alternate Members in Attendance:

Carmen de la Morena
Marva Overton
Kathy Rock

Patricia Schaub
Mike Sledge

Absent Members:

Joe Almazan – Chair
Janet Beinke
Luke Urie

Julio Carillo
Zakcq Lockrem

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Dierenfield, Austin Transportation
Joel Meyer, Austin Transportation

Emily Smith, Austin Transportation

Guests in Attendance:

Carly Haithcock
Tony Lynch, Capital Metro
Jay Crossley
Jon Brewer
Peter Marsh
Kathy Sokolic
Branigan Mulcahy
Mike Kram, MV Transportation
Carrie Gammell

Katie Deolloz, ATX Walks
Alex McGonagle, MV Transportation
Joan Hudson, TTI
Doug Ballew, A/TC HHSD
Gretchen Stoeltje, TTI
John Woodley, ADA
Veronica Castro De Barrera, Mother, Pedestrian,
Mueller Resident
Daniela Radpay

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None.

2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The September meeting minutes were unanimously approved on Girard Kinney's motion and Valerie Fruge's second.

3. ITEMS FROM PAC

A. PAC 2016-2018 Elections – Discussion and Possible Action

Each candidate present had 1 minute to give a statement, and then a secret ballot voting process was facilitated by staff in accordance with the PAC bylaws. The elections results are below:

- Full members (2 year term):
 - Girard Kinney
 - Patricia Schaub
 - Peter Marsh
 - Carrie Gammell
 - Branigan Mulcahy
- Alternate members (2 year term):
 - Carly Haithcock
 - Michael Kram
 - Lenore Shefman
 - Jonathan Brewer
 - Katie Deolloz
- Alternate members (1 year term):
 - Mike Sledge
 - Carmen de la Morena
 - John Andoh
 - Tony Lynch
- Chair (1 year term):
 - Peter Baird
- Vice Chair (1 year term):
 - Robert Anderson

(Note: Robert Anderson, Peter Baird, Tom Wald, and Heyden Walker were elected as full members last year and are continuing their 2 year terms into October 2017.)

Updated membership information can now be found on the PAC's [webpage](#).

Staff liaison Emily Smith will add newly elected members to the PAC Google Group and work with the newly elected chairs to organize an orientation meeting for the new membership.

B. Amendment the Bylaws of the PAC to Allow for Staggered Alternate Member Terms – Discussion and Possible Action

A motion to amend the PAC bylaws by adding the language "For the elections to be held 2016, five alternate member terms will run until the first regular meeting in October, 2017. Five alternate member terms will run until the first regular meeting in October, 2018. This is to ensure staggered elections for the future." to Article III, Section 4 was approved unanimously on Girard Kinney's motion and Nancy Crowther's second.

The [revised bylaws](#) can be found on the PAC's [webpage](#).

C. I-35 through Downtown (Riverside Drive to MLK Boulevard) section of Central 7-mile Comprehensive Project – Discussion and Possible Action

Heyden Walker and Girard Kinney submitted draft recommendation language for PAC approval which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Austin Pedestrian Advisory Council:

Request that TxDOT's "Purpose and Need," which includes improved safety, be reflected in frontage road, underpass, and bridge design speeds. It is further requested design speeds on all surface streets – including frontage roads, bridges, and underpasses –not exceed 25 miles per hour.

Requests that TxDOT respect the City of Austin stated Imagine Austin goal to grow as a compact and connected community. This includes re-stitching our divided city across the I-35 barrier with quality east/west connections.

Requests that TxDOT's clear zone policy for the I-35 corridor prioritize the safety and protection for pedestrians and cyclists.

Requests that TxDOT respect the City of Austin goals set out in the adopted Vision Zero Action Plan, and follow the upcoming ITE Vision Zero Toolkit and guidance in all implemented designs.

Requests that TxDOT comply with the adopted Great Streets Master Plan and adopted Complete Streets Policy on all surface streets and bridges in the I-35 corridor.

Requests that TxDOT ensure that the I-35 corridor is a walkable urban thoroughfare by using the guidance provided by Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context-Sensitive Approach.

Requests a robust transit / pedestrian network that increases accessibility for all ages and abilities. This project should focus on opportunities to support that network, including dedicated transit lanes on surface-level streets in the corridor, expanded park-and-ride facilities, safe transfers between routes, pedestrian access to all routes, and appropriate height clearances for high-capacity transit vehicles that will operate below-grade.

Requests that TxDOT ensure that all surface streets and bridges in the I-35 corridor are built to complement an all ages, all abilities, all modes transportation network.

Requests that a project representative from TxDOT provide the PAC with an update in February 2017 in relation to the recommendation."

Action taken: The motion to approve the recommendation as amended passed unanimously on Girard Kinney's motion and Emily Risinger's second.

The [recommendation](#) can be found on the PAC's meeting documents [webpage](#).

Staff liaison Emily Smith will share the recommendation with TxDOT staff and confirm that the recommendation will be included in the official public meeting record for the Central7 Environmental Study.

D. Pedestrian Injury in Mueller Neighborhood – Discussion and Possible Action

Kathy Sokolik spoke with the PAC about her nephew, who was recently hit and seriously injured while crossing a neighborhood street on his way home. She presented three "asks" of the PAC and PAC members developed corresponding recommendation language for PAC consideration which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Austin Pedestrian Advisory Council:

Requests that City Council direct city staff to find out more information / potentially join with City of Houston on legislation at the Texas Legislature that would allow Texas' largest cities to reduce the prima facie speed limit to 25 mph (rather than 30) and allow cities to lower speed limits down to 20 mph where they deem appropriate and are willing to use appropriate signage.

Requests that City Council direct city staff to plan and execute pilot projects in one or more neighborhoods, for example the Mueller neighborhood. Those pilot projects would lower both speed limits and design speeds throughout the neighborhood.

Requests that City Council direct city staff to study how to optimize the safety, comfort, and capacity benefits of lower design speeds to include in the new Transportation Criteria Manual (TCM) and up-coming Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP.)”

Action taken: The motion to approve the recommendation as amended passed unanimously on Girard Kinney’s motion and Valerie Fruge’s second.

The [recommendation](#) can be found on the PAC’s meeting documents [webpage](#).

4. TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Chair Peter Baird explained the group is continuing their work on creating a pedestrian-focused Road Rules and Regulations document and educational pamphlet.

5. PROJECT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Only PAC alternate member Kathy Rock and staff liaison Emily Smith attended the scheduled September meeting to discuss which city departments, partner agencies, and community groups should be considered for PAC membership as agency representatives and community liaisons. They recommend that the conversation be elevated to the full PAC as its own agenda item. Due to time constraints, the item will be discussed at a future PAC meeting.

6. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFINGS

None.

7. FUTURE BUSINESS / ADJOURN

This is a running list of potential future agenda items that have been proposed by PAC members and/or staff which may be placed on a future PAC agenda. These items were not be discussed by the PAC as part of this agenda.

- Austin Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee 2016 Policy Agenda
- Drive-Through Facilities (City Code 25-2-813)
- Appointing New Project and Technical Subcommittee Chairs
- Discussion of Agency Representatives and Community Liaisons

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by Vice Chair Heyden Walker.