

Urban Transportation Commission (UTC) Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting 11 July 2017

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on July 11, 2017 at 301 West 2nd Street, Room 1101, Austin, Texas.

Commission Members in Attendance:

D'Ann Johnson – Chair Kelly Davis Alex Reyna
Eric Rangel – Vice Chair Jonathon Gins Beverly Silas
Mario Champion Chris Hosek Cynthia Weatherby

Commission Members Absent:

Daniel Hennessey Michael Wilfley

Staff in Attendance:

Jim Dale Jen Samp Emily Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Johnson called the commission meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the meeting of June 13, 2017 were approved on Commissioner Reyna motion, Commissioner Silas second on a 6-0 vote with Commissioners Champion, Davis, and Weatherby abstaining and Commissioners Hennessey and Wilfley absent.

3. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

- Robin Orlowski
- Patricia Schaub
- David Knipp
- Ken Cameron

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Downtown Austin Alliance Downtown Austin Parking Strategy – Briefing

A presentation was made by Dewitt Peart, President & CEO, Downtown Austin Alliance and John Kennedy, Vice President of Mobility, Downtown Austin Alliance. Jason Redfern, Parking Operations Division Manager with Austin Transportation, was also present to answer questions.

B. Vision Zero Report Card & Annual Report – Briefing

A presentation was made by Laura Dierenfield, Active Transportation Division Manager with Austin Transportation. Francis Reilly, Vision Zero Program Manager with Austin Transportation, was also present to answer questions.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. F#9642-1601 – Vacation of a portion of Montopolis Drive and Kemp Street – Discussion and Possible Action

A presentation was made by Kim Vasquez, Property Agent Senior, Office of Real Estate Services.

A motion to approve the vacation of right-of-way was adopted on Commissioner Rangel motion, Commissioner Reyna second on a 9-0 vote with Commissioners Hennessey and Wilfley absent.

B. Bringing Equity Through Hike and Bike Trail in E. MLK Region – Discussion and Possible

A presentation was made by Pinaki Ghosh, East MLK Combined Neighborhood Plan Contact Team Chair. Ali Ronder, Hog Pen Neighborhood Association President, was also present to answer questions.

Mr. Ghosh submitted draft recommendation language for the UTC's consideration which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Urban Transportation Commission encourages the Austin City Council to allocate funds and explore all available means, including the Safe Routes to School Program, so that projects mentioned below can be accomplished. Where ever possible we will request city to use parks and other green areas (like Morris Williams Golf course) for the hike and bike trail to reduce route lengths and improve bicycle safety. EMLK area has been historically one of the most underserved areas in the city – we want to change the situation.

We urge Council to direct the City Manager to adopt EMLK area as a test bed for multi-model transportation as proposed by the Draft Street Design Guide (June 2017) with the following specifics

- Expedite the building of the La Loma Trail
- Explore building the hike and Bike trail through the Morris Williams Golf course.
- Increase the priority of the trail through the Little Walnut Creek Park from Tier 2 to Tier 1.
- Create a connectivity to Springdale park from the south side through Fort Branch.
- Bring companies like Austin B cycle, Bike Austin to EMLK area to facilitate the bike trail"

A motion to approve the recommendation as amended was adopted on Commissioner Gins motion, Commissioner Champion second on a 6-2 vote with Commissioners Rangel, Champion, Davis, Gins, Reyna, and Weatherby voting aye, Commissioners Hosek and Silas voting nay, Commissioner Johnson abstaining, and Commissioners Hennessey and Wilfley absent.

6. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **A. Downtown Commission** No update.
- **B.** Joint Sustainability Committee No update.
- C. Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) Staff liaison Emily Smith gave the update. In June, the BAC received a briefing from Austin B-Cycle and adopted a recommendation regarding Pedicab Access During Street Closures and Special Events. In July, the BAC will receive briefings on the Share the Road Texas Campaign and the Vision Zero Report Card & Annual Report. Additionally, the BAC's 2017 membership applications will launch online in July and be open through August.

- **D.** Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) Staff liaison Emily Smith gave the update. On June 29, the PAC received a briefing on the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) Draft Plan. Additionally, the PAC's 2017 membership applications will launch online in July and be open through August.
- **E. Vision Zero Task Force** No update.
- F. Multimodal Community Advisory Committee No update.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A motion to not meet in September was adopted on Commissioner Silas motion, Commissioner Reyna second on a 9-0 vote.

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

- **A.** Sidewalk Riding Code Changes (August)
- **B.** Draft Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (August)
- C. Urban Transportation Commission Bylaws and Mission Statement (August)
- D. CodeNEXT
- E. Austin Community Climate Plan
- F. Wayfinding
- **G.** Economic Development Policy
- H. Proposed Amendments to City Hands-Free Driving Ordinance
- I. Ground Transportation Regulatory Reform
- J. Non-Radioactive Hazardous Materials (NRHM) Route Designation Plan
- K. Special Events Draft Ordinance
- L. Pedestrian Mall
- M. North Toll Road 130
- N. Prop 7 TXDOT
- **O.** Transit Impact Fee for Special Events
- P. Personal Rapid Transit

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. without objection.