

PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 – 6:00 PM AUSTIN CENTRAL LIBRARY – 4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM 710 W. CESAR CHAVEZ STREET AUSTIN, TEXAS

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Branigan Mulcahy.

Full Members in Attendance:

Branigan Mulcahy (Chair) Sarah Gamble Heyden Black Walker

Jay Blazek Crossley (Vice Chair) Adam Greenfield Kelsey Veazey

Katie Deolloz Patricia Schaub

Alternate Members in Attendance:

Noah Halbach Tom Wald

Full Members Absent:

Girard Kinney

Alternate Members Absent:

Jackie AhmadBradley BreyJustin HendersonJonathan BrewerWallis GoodmanLenore Shefman

Staff in Attendance:

Emily Smith, ATD Laura Dierenfield, ATD Amanda Ross, PARD

Robin Osborne, ATD Joel Meyer, ATD

Guests in Attendance:

Zach Kenealy Maddie Hirsch, Big Red Dog John Woodley

Kathy Rock Jackson Archer, Big Red Dog

Alex Goff, Big Red Dog Nicole McGrath

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Heyden Walker: promoted attendance at, and participation in, Park(ing) Day ATX on Friday, September 21.

3. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2018 MEETING MINUTES

The August 6 meeting minutes were approved on Gamble motion, Crossley second on an 8-0 vote with Kinney absent.

4. UPDATE ON TRAFFIC FATALITIES

Adam Greenfield read aloud the names of eleven people whose deaths due to traffic crashes on Austin streets have been reported since the PAC last met: Patrick Hilliard, Thomas Edward Craig, Zenaida Mae Adair, Felecia Daniels, Deemora Benson, Jarrod Wayne Sowers, Kendall Taylor Dezelle, Brianna Nicole Polzine, Juvenal Rubio Martinez, unidentified male, Michael Anthony Reed-Harper.

5. ITEMS FROM PAC

A. Traffic signalization in downtown Austin – Briefing and Possible Action

Robin Osborne, Traffic Signal Engineer, Austin Transportation Department (ATD) briefed the PAC on current traffic signalization in downtown Austin. Joel Meyer, Pedestrian Coordinator, ATD, explained how signal operations strategy would be addressed in the upcoming Austin Strategic Mobility Plan.

The presentation can be found on the PAC's webpage. More information about the traffic signals can be found here.

B. Recommendation regarding interim safety improvements to reduce design speeds – Discussion and Possible Action

Adam Greenfield presented draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) recommends that:

The Austin Strategic Mobility Plan and Transportation Criteria Manual list all streets in Austin (excluding those that are limited-access) and attaches to each street a targeted safe design speed appropriate to the context and no faster than 35mph;

The City of Austin implements interim safety improvements that reduce street design speeds to the aforementioned targeted levels and facilitate multi-modality at serious or fatal crash sites, locations of concern highlighted by citizens and City staff, as part of routine street upgrade projects, and at other identified locations;

The City of Austin creates an interim safety improvement pilot program that makes changes at selected locations and over a variety of time periods, including multi-day demonstrations led by the City of Austin and/or residents and longer term installations, and which develops tools and best practices with measurable outcomes, expanding the program when established criteria are met, and provides a path to make successful upgrades permanent;

Once a year, the Fatality Review Board, and/or other relevant City entities, present to the PAC a representative sample of the crash locations its work addressed in the past 12 months, what improvements were made, and its progress on implementing interim measures, such as those included in the aforementioned Interim Improvements Examples List;

Action taken: A motion to approve the <u>recommendation</u> was adopted on Walker motion, Deolloz second an 8-0 vote with Kinney absent.

C. Recommendation regarding City Code Section 8-1-31 (Use of Motor Vehicles in Parks) – Discussion and Possible Action

Amanda Ross, Natural Resources Division Manager, Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) shared a recent memorandum from PARD to the City's Parks and Recreation Board regarding the process underway of reviewing options and implications of a comprehensive code review and revision of City Code Section 8-1-31.

Patricia Schaub presented draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pedestrian Advisory Council recommends the creation of a 1-year pilot program beginning on October 1, 2018 by PARD and ATD staff to:

- 1. Study the use of e-bikes and e-scooters on Urban Trails;
- 2. Observe and collect data on the speeds and behavior of all users of Urban Trails; and
- 3. Establish the framework for future amendments to PARD Park Use Rule 5 and City Code Section 8-1-31 that:
 - a) Respects the vision of Butler Trail as a quiet place for the community to enjoy nature in the city;
 - b) Benefits the comfort and experience of all users of the trail, and minimizes potential conflicts;
 - c) Includes education and outreach campaigns to promote safe biking practices and courteous trail use;
 - d) Reclassifies electric bikes and scooters as a category aligned with state and city legal definitions of

bicycles;

- e) Integrates the Urban Trails as a connection for legal e-bike users within the on-street all-ages- and-abilities bicycle network;
- f) Sets appropriate guidelines for the use of scooters based on the trail surface and public right-of-way;
- 4. Make recommendations for infrastructure improvements based on the findings of the pilot program.

Action taken: A motion to approve the <u>recommendation</u> was adopted on Greenfield motion, Deolloz second on a 7-0 vote with Kinney absent and Veazey abstaining.

6. STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

- Staff updates
 - o Emily Smith: Please promote this year's PAC membership application form, which closes September 16!
- Bicycle Advisory Council
 - o Schaub: in August, the BAC received briefings on the <u>Dockless Mobility Program</u> and <u>Zach Scott Street</u> and <u>Schieffer Avenue</u> and adopted a recommendation regarding bicycle parking.
- Urban Transportation Commission
 - o Emily Smith: in August, the UTC received a briefing on the Dockless Mobility Program.

7. FUTURE BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / ADJOURN

- Annual membership elections (October)
- Dockless mobility regulations (Mulcahy; TBD)
- Street Impact Fee Study (Mulcahy; TBD)
- Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (Crossley; TBD)
- I-35 Capital Express project (Walker; TBD)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by Chair Branigan Mulcahy.