

TEMPLATE FOR BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS



DRAFT

BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Commission on Seniors

Recommendation Number: (YYYYMMDD-XXX) (XXX is the agenda item number): Recommendations on the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan

WHEREAS, the Commission on Seniors serves as an advisory board to the council concerning the quality of life for senior citizens in the Austin area; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Transportation Department (ATD) has been engaged in developing a strategic plan for mobility in the Austin area entitled the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP); and,

WHEREAS, the ASMP will be the guiding document for the City's mobility development for years to come; and,

WHEREAS, access to transportation consistently ranks as a top concern for seniors, particularly those who no longer drive themselves; and

WHEREAS, the City's Commission on Seniors has a specific interest in implementing the Age Friendly Action Plan and making sure that the needs and interests of the City's senior population are adequately served by the provisions of the ASMP and has received regular briefings from ATD staff; and,

WHEREAS, several provisions of the draft ASMP specifically support the needs of Seniors and align with the Age Friendly Action plan, including goals related to Safety, Equity, Affordability, Accessibility, Public Health and Public Interaction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission on Seniors supports the ASMP and makes the following recommendations to strengthen ~~encourages the Austin City Council to make sure the ASMP contains strong~~ provisions for meeting the mobility needs of seniors, including:

- Involved the Commission on Seniors, the community and agencies serving seniors to ensure the needs of seniors are met in implementing the plan, especially with regard to. ~~Specifically, the Commission would expect the ASMP to have significant provisions for~~ Pedestrian Safety, adequate Street Lighting, enhanced Sidewalk construction and maintenance throughout all the

City, adequate ADA ~~qualified~~ compliant parking spaces, longer and safer street crossing times on the larger thoroughfares, and more options for innovative transit use for seniors all over the City.

- ~~Consider~~ Finally, the Commission encourages the Austin City Council to consider the creation of a "Pedestrian Safety Zone"—a lowering of speed limits (similar to school zones) wherever there is extensive pedestrian traffic such as hospitals, senior centers, or community centers.
- Amend Action Item #26 (parking) to specify that the item refers to non-accessible parking and clarify that even with reduced or zero parking there will be adequate ADA compliant spaces. In addition, the Commission suggests inclusion of temporary use parking spaces available for the safe pick up and drop off of riders who may not be able to use public transportation and rely on rides from a friend or family member, TNC, volunteer driver program, shuttle bus, etc.
- Expand Action Item # 35 (TDM website) to recognize that not all riders have access to or skills to use the internet. Provide necessary information to enable 311 or another appropriate entity to provide callers with information and assist with scheduling of rides.
- Amend Action Item #64 to include reference to voluntary services for the non-driving population (eg. Drive a Senior).
- Amend Action Item # 213 to include offering training on customer service to riders of all ages and abilities.
- Regarding Action Item # 226, include age in the demographic data collected.

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council take into consideration action items contained in the Action Table of the ASMP that advance the priorities outlined in the above referenced WHEREAS clause. Specifically, the Council should consider goals contained under the headings of "Transportation Demand Management Programming", "Sidewalk System", "Emerging Mobility Solutions", and "Public Health" as those goals relate to the needs of our growing senior population.~~

Date of Approval: _____

Record of the vote:

Attest: _____

(Staff or board member can sign)

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