

Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 16, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.
Austin City Hall – Room 1027 301 W. Second St. Austin, Texas

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Kathryn Flowers.

Full Members in Attendance:

Kathryn Flowers (Chair)	Michelle LeBlanc	Louis Alcorn	Patricia Schaub
Tristan Heinen (Vice Chair)	Lori Merlino	James Lentz	

Full Members Absent:

Yen Nguyen	Raquel Marie Ortega
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Alternate Members in Attendance:

Christopher Heathcott	Tom Wald	Nils Brown	Curtis Rogers
John Koonz	Daniel Alvarado	Matthew McGee	

Alternate Members Absent:

Eryn Moris	David Barrientos	Carol Fraser
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City Staff in Attendance:

Emily Smith, Austin Transportation	Gordon Derr, Austin Transportation	David Taylor, Public Works
Laura Dierenfield, Austin Transportation	Nathan Wilkes, Austin Transportation	Jacob Culberson, Austin Transportation
Marissa Monroy, Austin Transportation	Mike Schofield, Austin Transportation	Jason Redfern, Austin Transportation
Emily Tuttle, Austin Transportation	Tyler Wong, Austin Transportation	Jason JonMichael, Austin Transportation

Guests in Attendance:

Nadia Barrera-Ramirez, Capital Metro	Jasa A.	Emily Shelton
Tommy Eden	Jason VanFickell	Drake Hampton
Tom Thayer	Matt Shaw, Bird	Chris Riley, Bike Austin
Joe Deshotel, Lime	Blanca Laborde, Bird	

1. Introductions

2. Public Communication: None

3. Approval of March 2019 Meeting Minutes: The March 19, 2019 [meeting minutes](#) were approved on Merlino motion, LeBlanc second on a 7-0 vote with Nguyen and Ortega absent.

4. Traffic Fatalities Reported Since Last BAC Meeting: Patricia Schaub read aloud the names of the eight people killed in traffic crashes on Austin streets since the BAC last met: Earnest Turner, Illianna Martinez, Jessica Saathoff, Carlos Cardenas Jr., Garrett Evan Davis, Keaton Michael Carnley, Hannah Jagers, and Wing Chou.

5. Transit Enhancement Program update, including upcoming improvements to Lavaca St and Guadalupe St between 18th St and W Martin Luther King Jr Blvd: Gordon Derr, Austin Transportation Department (ATD) and Nadia Barrera-Ramirez, Capital Metro, gave a [presentation](#). Mike Schofield, ATD and Nathan Wilkes, ATD were also present to address questions. BAC Vice Chair Tristan Heinen introduced draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) recommends the Guadalupe St contraflow lane for installation as it removes a shared bus/bicycle lane and improves reliability of the bus system;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that dedicated bicycle signals be installed at the intersection of Guadalupe/MLK Jr. northbound;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that the shared use path along the “pork chop” be 12’ wide or greater with painted delineation of bicycle and pedestrian lanes to allow for comfortable sharing of the facility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that physical protection be installed to protect the southbound bicycle lane as the road curves between MLK Jr. and 18th St on Guadalupe;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that green lanes be striped through the intersection of Guadalupe/MLK Jr. to enhance the visibility of people on bicycles;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that right turns on red be prohibited at the intersection of Guadalupe/MLK Jr. to reduce conflicts between people on bikes and cars;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that a curbed pedestrian island be installed in the proposed 18th Street buffer zone to reduce the likelihood of right-turning buses infringing on the bike lane;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends removing all on street parking on 18th St between Guadalupe and Lavaca to ensure reliability and safety for people on bicycles and in buses, or if parking must remain, placing it as protection to the curbside bicycle lane;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends making the alley way that connects Guadalupe and Lavaca between 18th and MLK Jr. be made one way west to east in order to reduce conflicts between turning vehicles and the transit priority lanes.

The [recommendation](#) was approved on Heathcott motion, Alcorn second on a 7-0 vote with Nguyen and Ortega absent.

Staff encouraged meeting attendees to spread the word about an upcoming [project open house meeting](#) on Tuesday, April 23 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Cambridge Tower (1801 Lavaca St., Austin, TX 78701).

- 6. Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative Final Project Report:** David Taylor, Public Works Department (PWD) gave a [presentation](#). Nathan Wilkes, ATD was also present to address questions. BAC member Patricia Schaub introduced draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC broadly supports the current draft recommendation for Congress Avenue, but strongly believes its implementation will not come soon enough to prevent needless traffic deaths;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) recommends the implementation of safety improvements to the Ann Richards Bridge by June 2019, including:

- *the creation of protected bicycle lanes,*
- *safe accessible connections from the bridge to the surrounding street grid for people walking and using low-speed multimodal transportation options,*
- *improved sidewalks with a buffer;*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends the application of traffic calming design and strategies to reduce the speed of all traffic on the Ann Richards Bridge;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends a pilot program to put these improvements into place without delay, which will in exchange provide valuable insight and data about their performance to inform the final redesign of the bridge within the Our Congress Avenue project when it is funded and ready to phase in.

The [recommendation](#) was approved on Merlino motion, LeBlanc second on a 6-1 vote with LeBlanc abstaining and Nguyen and Ortega absent.

- 7. Listening session to inform a draft ordinance amending City Code Section 12-1 (Traffic Regulation and Administration) and 12-2 (Bicycles) relating to the safe operation of micro-mobility devices:** Jason JonMichael,

ATD, Jason Redfern, ATD, Jacob Calhoun, ATD and Laura Dierenfield, ATD made a brief [presentation](#) before asking for BAC members' and meeting attendees' general feedback on appropriate tools and strategies for managing sidewalk mobility (i.e. managing how people riding personal or rented bikes, e-bikes and scooters are expected to safely share sidewalk space with people walking). Staff recorded the feedback given during the discussion and will consider it as they revise a related draft ordinance for City Council consideration on May 23. BAC member Lori Merlino volunteered to convene a subcommittee to discuss the topic before the next full BAC meeting.

- 8. Shoal Creek Boulevard from 38th St to US 183 – Review of Alternatives:** Nathan Wilkes, ATD reviewed the [boards](#) from recent public open houses regarding design alternatives for [Shoal Creek Boulevard](#) from 38th St to US 183. Tyler Wong, ATD and Mike Schofield, ATD were also present to address questions. BAC Chair Kathryn Flowers introduced draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC recommends the following infrastructure be implemented along Shoal Creek Boulevard:

Between 38th Street and Highway 183:

- *A two-way protected bicycle lane (option E in the City of Austin's Shoal Creek alternatives document) with concrete curb protection*
- *The City of Austin consider narrowing the east-side parking lane in order to widen the two-way bicycle lane beyond the proposed 10' width*
- *A bicycle-pedestrian path under Northland Drive / Allandale Road*
- *Protected intersections, including bicycle signals and advanced green lights for bicyclists, at all locations identified in the Shoal Creek alternatives document*

Between Foster Lane and Highway 183:

- *A two-way protected bicycle lane on the west side, protected by a concrete curb that contains shade-producing trees*
- *A one-way protected bicycle lane on the east side*
- *Protected intersections on the west and east side at every cross-street*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends, after improvements are implemented, that the City outlines a schedule whereby information – such as usage data, lane surface conditions, crash data, and reported bicyclist comfort – be periodically reviewed and, if necessary, infrastructure adjustments made;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that intermittent traffic calming measures be placed along Shoal Creek Blvd northbound to keep cars out of the parking lane and for speed mitigation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC finds Option C unacceptable and recommends that the City not allow parking at any time in newly constructed bike lanes.

The [recommendation](#) was approved on Merlino motion, Lentz second on a 7-0 vote with Nguyen and Ortega absent.

Staff encouraged meeting attendees to spread the word about the [online project survey](#) (closing April 30).

- 9. Updates/Announcements:** No discussion due to time constraints.

- 10. Future Agenda Items:** No discussion due to time constraints.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Kathryn Flowers.