

## **Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative**

*Support for additional proposals made by the Pedestrian Advisory Council*

Congress Avenue between Cesar Chavez Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street is known as “the main street of Texas”, a social, cultural, and economic center for Austin and all of Texas. The Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative (CAUDI) recently released a report proposing various enhancements to allow Congress to better perform in these aspects.

Subsequently, the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) released a recommendation for Congress, building on the CAUDI’s proposals in numerous areas, with a focus on creating a physical, cultural, and regulatory structure that allows Congress to change constantly and incrementally over time by inviting participation from a wide range of community stakeholders.

Key elements of the PAC recommendation include:

- Converting all on-street parking spaces on Congress between Cesar Chavez Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street into car-free programmable “flexi-spaces” that facilitate various ongoing commercial and non-commercial uses
- Encouraging more street events, especially between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street, and for longer periods of time, that would allow Congress to be tested as a potential permanent car-free public space; and to convert Congress between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street into a “festival street” design that facilitates easier closures for events
- Reducing the number of vehicle lanes between Cesar Chavez Street and 11<sup>th</sup> Street by more than the CAUDI’s recommended one lane reduction
- Installing public restrooms at regular intervals along Congress

I/we \_\_\_\_\_, support the PAC’s recommendation and urge the Austin City Council to integrate the recommendation’s proposals into the final plan for Congress Avenue and pursue funding for implementation.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

