

**Pedestrian Advisory Council Recommendation:**  
**Electric-Assist Pedicab Regulation**

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) is to advise the City of Austin on pedestrian planning, policy, design, funding, education, and enforcement efforts regarding the creation, maintenance and operation of pedestrian facilities;

WHEREAS, pedicabs are helpful to the public in getting around, and they make being a pedestrian easier by providing last-mile transport for longer distances; and

WHEREAS, pedicabs provide an invaluable tool for managing traffic flow, particularly during special events and road closures; and

WHEREAS, pedicabs are accessible for those with mild to moderate mobility difficulties; and

WHEREAS, electric motors in pedicabs will assist pedicabs in transporting those who are otherwise pedestrians, without increasing air pollution; and

WHEREAS, pedicabs are a safe and effective mode of transportation in an urban environment and contribute to a truly multimodal society in accordance with the goals of the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the PAC recommends that the Austin City Council take action to allow all pedicabs to choose, if they wish, to move to electric motors as soon as possible, but NOT an internal combustion engine; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC recommends that Austin Transportation Department (ATD) and pedicab industry stakeholders establish safe and common-sense practices for handling batteries and battery charging; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC recommends that pedicabs have a top assisted speed limited to 20 mph, or a speed limit consistent with city e-bike regulations; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC recommends removing other regulatory inequities, such as limited geographic boundaries and occupancy limits, that pedicabs face in comparison to other vehicles for hire and shared micro-mobility services; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC supports the inclusion of pedicabs in the micro-mobility category and embraces the contributions they already make to urban mobility, and the even greater contribution they will make to Austin pedestrians and the mobility-challenged, with these simple and common-sense changes.

Date of Approval: August 5, 2019

Vote: 5 – 0 with Greenfield and Walker absent and Schaub and Crossley abstaining

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JBC', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jay Blazek Crossley, PAC Chair