Bicycle Advisory Council Recommendation: Highway 183 South Pedestrian and Bicycle Underpass

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) advises the City of Austin and other jurisdictions on all matters relating to the use of the bicycle, bicycle infrastructure, and individuals of all ages and abilities who utilize bicycles; and

WHEREAS, the trail network that runs from Red Bud Isle along the south shore of Lady Bird Lake all the way to Roy G. Guerrero Park currently ends at the Montopolis bridge; and

WHEREAS, the area bounded by Highway 183 South, the Colorado River, Highway 71, and Highway 130 contains popular recreational bicycling routes, several isolated neighborhoods, and part of the planned shared use path to the airport; and

WHEREAS, The City of Austin owns the properties along the south bank of the Colorado River on both the east and west sides of the Montopolis and Highway 183 South bridges; and

WHEREAS, a pedestrian and bicycle crossing beneath the Montopolis and Highway 183 South bridges along the south bank of the Colorado River was identified as a Tier II Urban Trail in the City of Austin Urban Trails Master Plan, which City Council adopted as a component of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the alternative planned pedestrian crossing of Highway 183 South at Patton Avenue is over one mile south from the trail network in Roy G. Guerrero Park, and the planned shared use path along the west side of Highway 183 South is in conflict with high speed motor vehicle traffic exiting the southbound service road to Montopolis Drive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC recommends the Austin Urban Trails Program consider increasing the priority of a pedestrian and bicycle crossing beneath the Montopolis and Highway 183 South bridges along the south bank of the Colorado River, and discuss possible funding with Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority.

Date:	
Vote:	
Attest:	
[Chair, Vice Chair or Sta	ff Liaison signature]