

Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting Minutes
Monday November 4, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.
Austin City Hall – Room 1027
301 W 2nd St. Austin, TX 78701

Full Members in Attendance:

Adam Greenfield	Caroline Bailey	Mark Wochner	Patricia Schaub
Branigan Mulcahy	Kimberly Levinson	Nicholas Armstrong	

Full Members Absent:

Anna Bauereis	Justin Henderson
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Alternate Members in Attendance:

Brooke Shannon	Gopal Krishnan	Jacqueline Ahmad	Katherine Cox
Edwin Maldonado	Heyden Walker	Jay Crossley	Mary Ward

Alternate Members Absent:

Nicole McGrath	Aisling O'Reilly
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City Staff in Attendance:

Emily Smith, Austin Transportation	Cole Kitten, Austin Transportation
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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chair Jay Crossley.

Introductions

Public Communication: No members of the public signed up to address the PAC regarding items not on their agenda.

- 1. Approval of September 9, 2019 and October 7, 2019 meeting minutes:** Postponed.
- 2. Traffic Fatalities Reported Since September 9, 2019 PAC Meeting:** Adam Greenfield read aloud the names and ages of - people whose deaths due to traffic crashes on Austin streets were reported since the PAC last met as well as the locations at which the crashes occurred.
- 3. Rainey Street Shared Streets pilot update (response to Council Resolution No. 20190619- 186):** Cole Kitten, Systems Development Division Manager, Austin Transportation Department, gave a [presentation](#) regarding the [Rainey Shared Streets Pilot](#).
- 4. Recommendation regarding Land Development Code Revision draft:** PAC member Jay Crossley presented draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows: *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the PAC recommends the Austin City Council adopt a sustainable, equitable LDC as soon as possible that allows for the majority of regional population and job growth to occur in walkable transit-oriented locations inside of the City of Austin; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the PAC recommends the following:*
 - *The LDC should ensure that all residents have easy, safe access to basic needs, such as by minimizing the practice of segregating uses, ensuring that all such uses can be built, density-permitting, within a 10-minute walk of every resident;*
 - *The city should do everything that it can in the LDC and related regulatory practices to minimize the creation of private streets that do not meet city standards of safe, multimodal access and a connected grid, and find ways to fix existing private streets that have subpar pedestrian access or that block multimodal connections for nearby areas;*
 - *Businesses with drive-through windows or otherwise automobile-oriented access points provide a walk-up window also accessible by wheelchair;*
 - *Eliminate all elements of Traffic Impact Analysis systems that rely upon car trip generation measures and Level of Service for private motorized vehicles, and replace these with a transportation demand management system intended to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) that includes imposing fees for safe, multimodal improvements and ensures that new developments improve access for all;*

- *Include above-ground parking structures in a building's FAR calculation and impose parking maximums downtown;*
- *Allow and encourage socially-oriented housing, such as row housing, housing cooperatives and co-living spaces, apartments with shallow front yards and with as many front entrances per capita as possible, and/or homes oriented around common courtyards and paseos;*
- *Pedestrian paseos, similar to the paseo in the Mueller Neighborhood adjacent to the Children's Museum, be designed for all projects and neighborhoods where a street or road may not be appropriate and that staff recommend changes to this code to allow and encourage such uses, recognizing that human access, beyond car connectivity, is paramount to a healthy city;*
- *The placement of surface parking lots along street frontages be kept to a minimum and the LDC encourage alternatives such as locating parking areas behind or alongside existing buildings that comply with existing ADA accessibility standards, above- and below-ground in-structure parking, shared parking areas, and access to parking from secondary streets as opposed to major thoroughfares;*
- *Mixed-Use Zones within transition zones and the urban core prioritize and incentivize residential use, and especially affordable housing use, with the intent that "mixed-use" zoning almost always results in the inclusion of some housing;*
- *Minimum setback requirements between buildings and streets in both Residential Zones and Main Street Zones be eliminated and possible setback requirements be considered on a case by case basis, allowing for important issues, such as installing missing pedestrian infrastructure, to be addressed;*
- *Keep the proposed removal of parking minimum requirements in the current draft, eliminate all parking minimum requirements citywide as soon as is practical, and use market pricing to ensure access to parking in all areas, as was outlined in the PAC's previous recommendation on this subject;*
- *Unbundle parking for all buildings so that the cost of renting/buying a parking space is separated from the cost of renting/buying a unit in a building and that occupants cannot be forced to rent/buy parking;*
- *Establish a system for allowing property owners to convert underutilized parking to better uses anywhere that parking minimums continue to exist;*
- *Rather than being forced to provide parking, developments on streets with insufficient pedestrian infrastructure should, where appropriate, integrate pedestrian safety improvements in the development review process;*
- *Establish equitable transit-oriented development (ETOD) strategies that maximize the amount of people allowed to live within walking distance of high-quality transit and includes meaningfully-affordable housing for various income levels.*

The [recommendation](#) was approved on a 7-0 vote with Henderson and Bauereis absent.

- 5. Nomination and Election of 2019 – 2020 PAC Officers: Chair and Vice Chair:** PAC members Adam Greenfield and Kimberly Levinson were nominated and elected to the positions of PAC Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, on a 15-0 vote with Henderson, Bauereis, McGrath, and O'Reilly absent.
- 6. Regular updates:** No discussion due to time constraints.
- 7. Future Agenda Items:** No discussion due to time constraints.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. by Chair Adam Greenfield.