

Urban Transportation Commission (UTC) Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting 10 March 2020

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a meeting on March 10, 2020 at 721 Barton Springs Road (Town Lake Center Room 130) in Austin, Texas.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Daniel Alvarado	Mario Champion	Samuel Franco	Cynthia Weatherby
Kelly Blume	Kelly Davis	Alex Reyna	
Commission Members Absent:			
Daniel Hennessey	Allie Runas	Susan Somers	Michael Wilfley

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mario Champion called the commission meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

One person addressed the commission regarding items not on the agenda: Carlos León.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FEBRUARY 11, 2020 REGULAR MEETING

The February 11, 2020 minutes were approved on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Hennessey, Runas, Somers, and Wilfley absent.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transit speed and reliability projects update - Briefing

This item was postponed indefinitely by the chair.

B. Taxicab Franchise update, including review of a new Taxicab Franchise Application for Longhorn Taxicab Company – Discussion and Possible Action

A presentation was made by Jacob Culberson, Mobility Services Division Manager, Austin Transportation.

A motion to recommend City Council approval of the Longhorn Taxicab Company's franchise application was approved on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Hennessey, Runas, Somers, and Wilfley absent.

C. Project Connect update – Discussion and Possible Action

A presentation was made by Jacob Calhoun, Senior Planner and deputy program officer for Project Connect, Capital Metro.

Commissioner Champion presented draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission recommends City Council adopt the Project Connect preferred plan with the following advice:

1. Include as an additional referendum item, or as part of a single referendum, funding for historic investments in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to enable all-age and all-ability access to Project Connect's assets.

2. Create policies and funding to preserve land for below-market housing preservation and development near stations and along primary transit corridors at densities which will support high-capacity transit.

3. Create and adopt a Comprehensive Tree and Shade Master Plan which encourages people to use transit, including development of humane bus stops, shaded and safe pedestrian, bike, wheelchair and micro-mobility access to high-capacity transit.

A motion to approve the recommendation was adopted on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Hennessey, Runas, Somers, and Wilfley absent.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) 2045 Transportation Plan – Discussion and Possible Action

Commissioner Champion presented draft recommendation language on behalf of Commissioner Somers which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission urges CAMPO to:

- Adopt a regional Vision Zero goal to end regional traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2045;
- Ensure that the Project Connect Locally Preferred Alternative is included in the RTP;
- Plan for most of our region's job and people growth to occur within the City of Austin, and in consideration of the new Land Development Code adjust their model to add additional jobs and people in dense, walkable urban spaces.

A motion to approve the recommendation was adopted on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Hennessey, Runas, Somers, and Wilfley absent.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Urban Trails Plan and Sidewalk/ADA Transition Plan Updates (Staff; April)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Champion adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m. without objection.