

## **Bicycle Advisory Council Recommendation:**

### **Financing of Project Connect System Plan**

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, transit and bicycle facilities are complementary parts of a complete transportation network, extending trip range and creating more options for users of both modes of travel;

WHEREAS, on June 10th the Capital Metro board of directors and Austin City Council unanimously adopted a final, ballot ready version of the Project Connect transit plan;

WHEREAS, Capital Metro's plan calls for Project Connect to be funded in part by property tax revenue via a Tax Rate Election;

WHEREAS, an overwhelming majority of those polled in a Capital Metro survey supported the transit plan;

WHEREAS, the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP) calls for a reduction in the percentage of single occupancy cap trips to 50% by 2039;

WHEREAS, the ASMP further calls to invest in a high-capacity transit system such as the one proposed in the Project Connect system plan;

WHEREAS, any further delay in transit investment translates to additional burden for Austin residents without access to a car;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC recommends City Council move to fully fund the Project Connect system plan. This would require, in addition to federal and Capital Metro revenue funding, an increase in property taxes triggering a tax rate election on the ballot this November.

Date: July 21, 2020

Vote: 7-0 with LeBlanc absent

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Smith".

Emily Smith, staff liaison