

Bicycle Advisory Council Recommendation:
Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO)
Allocation of funding to I-35 Capital Express project

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, category 7 projects identified for deferral in order to fund the I-35 Capital Express project comprise only 1-2% of the estimated \$7.5 billion total project cost, and the subset of these category 7 projects which focus on active transportation and transit comprise less than 1% of that total estimate; and

WHEREAS, reduced economic activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic along with the collapse of the Permian basin oil industry could have a significant impact on state tax revenues used to fund transportation projects, and there is no timeline for how long deferred projects would be delayed; and

WHEREAS, active transportation and transit projects are needed to improve safety for the most vulnerable users of our transportation network, to increase connectivity of our sidewalk, bicycle, and trail system, and to provide alternative transportation options than single occupancy vehicle trips;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BAC recommends CAMPO maintain funding for already-approved active transportation projects and transit projects, including but not limited to, the construction of a bike and pedestrian path at Northern Walnut Creek Trail and design work for a Red Line Commuter Rail bridge or underpass at North Lamar.

Date: May 19, 2020

Vote: 7-0 with Boone and LeBlanc absent

Attest:



Emily Smith, staff liaison