

ORDINANCE NO. 000309-114

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A FUTURE RAIL CORRIDOR IN THE FOURTH STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN INTERSTATE 35 AND RIO GRANDE STREET, AND WEST THIRD STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM SHOAL CREEK TO NORTH LAMAR BOULEVARD; AND PROHIBITING ADDITIONAL UTILITY INSTALLATION IN THAT CORRIDOR.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. FINDINGS.

- (A) The Austin Transportation Study 1998 Summary Report on the East-West Downtown Transit Corridor indicated that an alignment along Fourth Street in the Downtown area (identified in the map attached hereto as Exhibit "A") is feasible for rail and other transit access.
- (B) The Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Fourth Street Passenger Rail Corridor Protection Study Final Report, dated June 3, 1999, found that the Fourth Street right of way is adequate to accommodate either three tracks of electric light rail or two tracks of commuter rail, and recommended that no new underground utilities be placed running parallel to and below track locations shown in that report for three tracks of electric light rail.
- (C) The installation of additional utility infrastructure in the right-of-way along this Corridor will unnecessarily complicate completion of the project, increase the cost of the project, and increase the inconvenience to the public, as a result of the relocation of the utilities that will be required when the project is under construction; and, alternate locations for such utility infrastructure will adequately serve the public.
- (D) The downtown Fourth Street Corridor is an appropriate east-west passenger rail corridor, and a prohibition on the installation of additional utility infrastructure in the Corridor will avoid potential additional costs and inconvenience to the public associated with the completion of the project, and a prohibition is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

PART 2. The Downtown Fourth Street Passenger Rail Corridor is designated, consisting of the Fourth Street right-of-way between Interstate 35 and Rio Grande Street, and West Third Street right-of-way from Shoal Creek to North Lamar Boulevard.

PART 3. The installation of additional utility infrastructure below the three electric light rail track locations shown in the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority Fourth Street Passenger Rail Corridor Protection Study Final Report, dated June 3, 1999, is prohibited, except for utility crossings installed in accordance with the appropriate Technical Criteria Manuals.

PART 4. The City Manager is directed to make appropriate revisions to applicable Technical Criteria Manuals, to provide criteria and specifications for installation of additional utility infrastructure in the vicinity of the proposed passenger rail corridor.

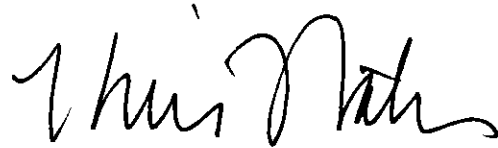
PART 5. The Council waives the requirements of Sections 2-2-3 and 2-2-7 of the City Code for this ordinance.

PART 6. This ordinance takes effect on March 20, 2000.

PASSED AND APPROVED

March 9, 2000

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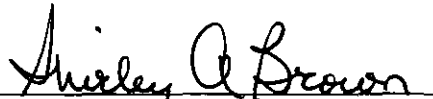
Kirk Watson
Mayor

APPROVED:



Andrew Martin
City Attorney

ATTEST:



Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk

East-West Downtown Rail Corridor

