



MEMORANDUM

To: Austin Mayor and City Council
 Capital Metro Board of Directors
 Austin Transit Partnership Board of Directors

From: Randy Clarke, President & CEO, Capital Metro and Austin Transit Partnership
 Gina Fiandaca, Assistant City Manager - Mobility Outcome, City of Austin

Date: April 13, 2021

Subject: **Update on Project Connect Joint Powers Agreement and Tri-Party Meeting**

In March, you received a memorandum with updates on the Project Connect Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) process, including a proposed June 15 date for a tri-party meeting to consider the final document.

As you will recall, the JPA will be an agreement between the City of Austin, Capital Metro and the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP), covering Project Connect program critical topics including permitting, design processes, utilities and more. The JPA will incorporate earlier interlocal and interagency agreements and serve as a comprehensive guiding document for implementation of the Project Connect program.

AGREEMENT	TIMELINE	PROGRESS	COORDINATION TOPICS
City of Austin – Capital Metro ATP Creation ILA	AUGUST 2020	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to create ATP, draft bylaws Commitment to Anti-Displacement
Capital Metro – ATP Administrative and Program Support ILA	JANUARY 2021	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost-sharing admin support functions Program support for BRT, Pickup, rail
City of Austin – ATP Program Support ILA	FEBRUARY 2021	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to Project Connect liaison Staff and program support coordination
City of Austin – ATP Anti-Displacement Funding Grant ILA	MARCH 2021	APPROVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of anti-displacement funds and distribution strategies
ATP – Capital Metro – City of Austin Joint Powers Agreement	OCTOBER 2021	IN PROCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive triparty agreement to coordinate program implementation Design, permitting, construction, etc. Inclusion of all prior ATP agreements

Since voter approval in November 2020, City of Austin, Capital Metro and ATP have worked diligently on building out our respective teams and working through the most pressing JPA topics. To ensure that our collaboration continues and that a comprehensive work product is ready for council and board consideration, we are extending the JPA schedule and proposing an **October 2021** tri-party meeting.

Over the next six months, senior staff at each organization will work out solutions to complex utility, right of way and design challenges. During that time, we will also have more clarity on the important surface transportation and infrastructure legislation that is being considered in Congress.

The Project Connect program is one of the largest undertakings in Central Texas history. It is important that we give the three parties to the JPA the proper time to finalize an agreement that will serve the program well for years to come.

We appreciate your flexibility and leadership on Project Connect program implementation. In the coming months, we will finalize the time, date and location of the meeting and schedule briefings with you on the JPA and transit corridor designs. As always, our teams stand ready to answer any questions that you or your communities may have about the program.

We are proud of what has been accomplished so far and look forward to our continued work together.