



## Austin Transportation Department

P.O. Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78767

June 16, 2016

To Stakeholder, Property Owner, or Resident:

The Austin Transportation Department (ATD) recently held a transportation open house and call for feedback on several streets where there are near-term opportunities for safety and mobility improvements, including Berkman Drive from 51<sup>st</sup> Street to US 290. Funding in the amount of \$60,000 has been identified to make near term improvements on this segment of Berkman Drive by the District 4 Council Office. This is a notice of an upcoming public meeting to give further input on the shape that any improvements should take. You are receiving this notification because you live on and/or own property adjacent to Berkman Drive in Austin, Texas or are otherwise registered as a stakeholder in the area.

*Recientemente el departamento de transporte de la ciudad de Austin realizó una reunión para solicitar comentarios acerca de varias calles donde existen oportunidades a corto plazo para mejoras de seguridad y movilidad, incluyendo Berkman Drive desde 51st Street hasta US 290. Usted está recibiendo esta notificación porque vive cerca de Berkman Drive, es dueño de propiedad cerca de Berkman Drive, o es parte interesada de Berkman Drive en Austin, Texas. Si necesita un documento traducido en español, llame a (512) 974-7092.*

**Figure 1 – Existing Conditions on Berkman Drive at Briarcliff**



The following is a high level summary of feedback from the first transportation open house for Berkman Drive as well as feedback provided by residents of Windsor Park to the District 4 Council Office:

- Berkman is very busy during the morning and afternoon peak periods
- There are backups and safety issues due to heavy left turns at certain intersections / locations including Greenbrook Parkway, Rogge Lane, Ridgehaven Drive, Briarcliff Boulevard, Wheelless Lane, Patton Lane to US 290
- While the bicycle lane is appreciated, people using bike lane as passing lane instead of waiting for people to make a left turn creates unpredictable situations for all roadway users

- There are infrequent safe pedestrian crossings of Berkman Drive and desire for improvements at Greenbrook Parkway, Rogge Lane, near the Windsor Villiage retail area, Wheeless Lane, Patton Lane
- There are visibility issues caused by on-street parking at Broadmoor Drive
- There are issues with the merges both north and southbound at the Berkman and US 290 intersection
- The southbound bicycle lanes from Greenbrook Parkway to 51<sup>st</sup> Street are made uncomfortable by heavy motor volumes turning right onto 51<sup>st</sup> Street
- Desire for calming traffic on Berkman Drive

A detailed summary of public feedback received at the first public meeting is available online:

[http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Transportation\\_Open\\_House\\_Feedback\\_Summary.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Transportation_Open_House_Feedback_Summary.pdf)

The meeting will not include a specific proposal for changes to the street but will offer some tools that that could be applied at desired locations to address issues raised including, but not limited to, the following:

- Adding or extending turn lanes at high turn locations to address backups and safety issues
- Adding physical protection to the buffered bicycle lane and/or turn restrictions at other intersections to prevent darting around turning vehicles
- Improving pedestrian crossings with either median refuge islands or flashing beacons
- Changing on street parking to address visibility issues

These tools have the potential to improve safety and mobility for all users of the street. Between 2010 and 2015, a total of 97 crashes occurred on this segment of Berkman Drive including one fatality, five pedestrians, four bicyclists, and 88 involving only motor vehicles.

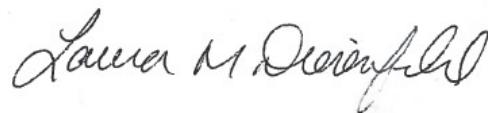
ATD is seeking feedback on current issues with Berkman Drive and the tools to address these issues from local residents and other users of this street prior to developing a proposal which would be brought back to the community for further feedback. You can obtain additional information about this mobility project and provide feedback at an open house on **Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the gym of the Memorial United Methodist Church, 6100 Berkman Drive, Austin, TX 78723**. Feedback based on local experience frequently results in stronger project proposals and we welcome your input.

If you cannot attend this open house and have questions or comments, please contact Nathan Wilkes at 974-7016 or via email at: [Nathan.Wilkes@austintexas.gov](mailto:Nathan.Wilkes@austintexas.gov).

Sincerely,



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