



**BOND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
18 May 2016**

The Bond Oversight Commission convened in a regular meeting on May 18th, 2016 at 625 E 10th Street in Austin, Texas.

The Commission Meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Duke Browne
Keri Burchard-Juarez
Sumit DasGupta
Moses Garcia
Brennan Griffin

Linda Guerrero
Kristina Hager
Wolfgang Niedert
Santiago Rodriguez
Jay Sands

Staff in Attendance: Katy Zamesnik, Financial Services

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Susana Almanza spoke on the bond, stating that bikes and sidewalks should be separate, and noting the lack of sidewalks in her area.

Danial Llanes from PODER spoke on the bike movement as a leisure activity in East Austin, and there has been a lack of inclusion in discussions on the bond. He also noted that bicycle is an instrument of gentrification.

Jake Spidle spoke on master plans, and the need to increase the feeling of safety in bike lanes. He noted a report on bike commuting in Austin that found more infrastructure increases safety.

Leo Anderson, District 10, spoke on his 16 mile commute, and urged the Commission to support adding a November ballot for bikes and sidewalks. He stated that traffic will be reduced across the City if the City implements the bike plan.

Roy Waley, Sierra Club, stated the City's North/South connectivity is good, but the East/West Connectivity is not. He spoke on the official position of the Sierra Club, which is that road lanes should not be the focus; we should move people, not cars.

Scott Boone, City of Austin Resident, stated he was in support of bike and sidewalk funding.

Wendy Eichstaedt questioned why these issues were all on the same bond, as the sidewalk issue is huge.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 5th and APRIL 20TH BOND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETINGS

Minutes were approved on Chair Burchard-Juarez's motion, Commissioner Garcia's second, on a 10-1 vote, with Commissioner Thomas off the dais.

3. A) STAFF BRIEFING AND UPDATE ON THE SIDEWALK MASTER PLAN AND ADA TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE.

John Eastman, Public Works, presented on the Sidewalk Master Plan and ADA Transitions Plan update. He then answered questions from the Commissioners.

3. B) STAFF BRIEFING AND UPDATE ON THE AUGUST BOND SALE SCHEDULE

This item was postponed.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATED TO A POTENTIAL FUTURE TRANSPORTATION BOND ELECTION.

Nick Moe requested the Commissioners support funding Master Plans (Sidewalk and Bike), noting that the 2nd largest expense for a family is on transport.

John Woodley, advocate for disability action, stated that bicycles could be used as an option for folks with disabilities (when they cannot get a driver's license). He urged that the Commission support funding the entirety of the Master Plans.

Frank Warner spoke in support of the bike and sidewalk masters plans. He noted he would send an email to the Commissioners.

Mercedes Feris, Bike Austin executive director, spoke in favor of high priority sidewalks and stated that everyone is entitled to the same sidewalks and infrastructure.

Elizabeth Schmelzel, cyclist, spoke in support of the Master Plans because of equity. She noted the disparity in the infrastructure between southeast Austin and central Austin.

Miller Nuttle noted the inequity in infrastructure in Austin, and stated that the Commission had the chance to right an historical wrong in Austin.

After citizen's communication, the Commissioners debated their different resolutions to send to City Council regarding a potential November bond. Commissioner Garcia proposed a motion to send his memo to Council to Council in lieu of a resolution. His motion was withdrawn after further discussion.

Motion to approve resolution as amended was approved on Commissioner Niederts's motion, Commissioner Sands' second, on an 8-1 vote with Commissioners Guerrero and Thomas absent and Vice Chair Garcia voting no.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR BOND PROJECTS

This item was not discussed.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioners requested a staff presentation on bonding capacity and input from Mobility Talks.

Commissioner Griffin suggested a July discussion of Convention Center bonds.

Commissioners requested a discussion and possible action on moving the date of the July meeting.

Commissioners discussed when to bring back Vice-Chair Garcia's memo for discussion.

9. ADJOURN

Chair Burchard-Juarez adjourned the meeting at 11:49 am without objection.

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