

# TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



EDDIE RODRIGUEZ

FIFTY-FIRST DISTRICT

June 14, 2016

Mayor Adler and City Council Members  
City of Austin  
Austin City Hall  
301 W. 2nd Street  
Austin, TX 78701

Honorable Mayor Steve Adler and City Council Members:

I write this letter in support of the Austin City Council resolution on completing the Jain Lane Capital Improvement Project.

Jain Lane lies in my legislative district and over the past two years I have been aware of various issues concerning the area.

As I'm sure you're aware, the Jain Lane Improvements were part of a 1984 Municipal Bond Election that was approved with 67% voter approval. Construction began 30 years ago, but was never completed due to multiple pipeline ruptures from the adjoining East Austin Tank Farm. As a result, tank farm mitigation within the proposed right-of-way prevented the completion of the final section of Jain Lane. Remediation was finally completed in December 2007.

Currently, this quarter-mile section remains uncompleted and maintains the original 1930s roadway width of 16 to 18 feet. The approved 1986 construction documents required a 44-foot roadway width to meet Neighborhood Collector design standards.

Jain Lane is a bottleneck and impedes two-way travel, creating a community safety hazard. Furthermore, over the last year, my staff and I have been attending neighborhood meetings regarding critical safety issues caused by the lack of city investment in these East Austin neighborhoods.

These safety issues include the lack of adequate pedestrian options -- especially the lack of safe routes to schools (Ortega Elementary and Eastside Memorial High) that have caused generations of students to create the improvised, 50-year old La Loma trails.

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I believe the time is now to address these issues. There will soon be 300 units of much needed affordable housing with the first units coming online in Fall 2017. The completion of Jain Lane is an essential component to address community connection issues between these affordable housing units to the adjoining neighborhoods, schools and Govalle park.

I urge the Austin City Council to support the Jane Lane completion so that this historically underserved area can have the safety and connectivity that it deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "E Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Eddie Rodriguez  
Texas State Representative, HD 51