

RESOLUTION NO. 20170615-061

WHEREAS, investment in public transportation infrastructure allows for more choices about how one can reliably get around the City and promotes more cohesive and sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS, to further the goal of a more connected community, it is important early in the review process to consider the effect on public transit connectivity in the review of zoning changes or site plan development; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20130620-056 requires all zoning cases to include information regarding “what effects, if any, the zoning change or its conditions may have on bicycle and pedestrian connectivity,” but does not include public transit; and

WHEREAS, City Council frequently receives zoning change applications for review that do not contain important information regarding the impact of the change or development on public transit connectivity; and

WHEREAS, no formal process exists, in the review of zoning changes or site plans, to consider the effect of the changes on public transit connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan includes alignment of “land use and transportation planning” as well as “decision-making to achieve a compact and connected city in line with the Growth Concept Map” as one of the Land Use and Transportation Building Blocks; and

WHEREAS, the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan includes the need to “ensure that the construction, operation, and management of rail, bus rapid transit, local bus systems, and future public transportation are integrated and coordinated

across City Departments and with partners such as other local governments, agencies and districts” as one of the Land Use and Transportation Building Blocks; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Transportation Department and Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Capital Metro) created the Transit Priority Working Group to coordinate efforts between their agencies and accelerate public transit improvements within the City; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 20160414-007 asked for the City Manager to put together a Transit Priority Policy recommendation which considers transit corridors in the City which will be included in the City of Austin Strategic Mobility Plan; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 20170302-077, passed by Council on March 2, 2017, now requires standards and procedures for determining traffic impacts attributable to a proposed development and requires transportation improvements for projects that do not trigger a traffic impact analysis or a neighborhood traffic analysis, but requires no analysis of how public transit is affected; and

WHEREAS, the Connections 2025 transit plan, adopted by the Capital Metro board in February 2017, was designed to guide the evolution of Capital Metro’s service over the next five years and identifies long-range opportunities over the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Transportation Department, Planning and Zoning Department, and Development Services Department staff coordinate the review of development applications; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

The City Manager is directed to work with the Austin Transportation Department, Development Services Department, Public Works Department, and Capital Metro to develop recommendations on:

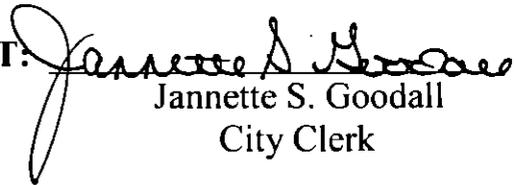
- How Capital Metro and the Austin Transportation Department can work together to include analysis of public transit connectivity in the development review process that includes zoning changes and site plan applications.
 - This analysis should include the impact or the lack thereof on public transit and connectivity in zoning change requests and site plan reviews.
- How best to require the developer to include in zoning change or site plan requests improvements needed to address the need for public transit infrastructure such as shelters or benches.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to present preliminary findings at a Council work session no later than October 3, 2017, with any recommendations on the above topics for full Council on October 12, 2017.

ADOPTED: June 15, 2017

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk