

	Name (First)	Name (Last)	Address (Zip)	If you currently or have ever served on any community, neighborhood, civic or labor organization, please list the name of the organization(s) here:	Which of the following best represents your race/ethnicity? Select all that apply.	Do you identify as someone with a disability?	What is your age range?	Do you have children residing in your home or are you a caregiver?	Please list the top three ways you normally get around Austin. Please list your most-used first.	Briefly describe why you're interested in serving on this advisory committee, and why you think you'd be an ideal member. Please include an experience you've had in your life that made you interested in serving in this role.	Briefly describe your experience advocating for a community, particularly in support of historically marginalized communities or surrounding mobility justice issues. Please include your thoughts on how your experience relates to developing a transit system for the whole city, while ensuring current residents are not displaced by the expansion of the transit system.
33	Susana	Almanza	78741	PODER, Montopolis Neighborhood Association, Raza Roundtable, Austin Latino Coalition, Austin Neighborhood Council	Hispanic and/or Latinx	No	51 years and above	Yes	Car, walking, bus.	As a low-income woman of color, I have experienced first hand the inequities and injustices present in our city and in our society. My journey of walking on the path of justice has been long and challenging but at the same time rewarding. I have experience displacement as a young girl and as a mother with children. I attended segregated schools, lived in polluting neighborhoods and in substandard housing. My parents were spanish speakers and with no formal education and I witnessed the treatment they received for speaking their native tongue. I have worked to safeguard the elderly and next generation by helping to close some of the most toxic industries. I worked to correct uncomptable zoning in communities of color. I have worked with bus riders to keep fares low and to try and bring amenities for women with children and to keep bus fares equitable. My life experiences have led me on a path of justice, understanding that we are all humans and should be treated with respect.	In the early 2000's, PODER created the Bus Riders Union, which advocated for free bus fares, quicker connectivity throughout the city, amenities for women with children, and covered bus shelters for East Austin. In 2013 and 2018 (Prop A) worked to pass Affordable Housing Bonds. In 2003, I was appointed & served as co-chair of City of Austin & Capital Metro Community Advisory Group for the Saltillo District Redevelopment Plan and selected community member for RFP evaluation team. We must work to achieve an equitable transit system. One that connects north, south, east & west. A transit system without barriers for the poor and working poor and the physically challenged. A transit system that does not destroy affordable housing to make way for high cost density housing. A system that does not offer amenities for high class rail riders versus bus riders. Work to create affordable housing for families. Assist transit dependent families & individuals versus choice riders.
56		Azhar	78703	Commissioner on the City of Austin Planning Commission (2019 to present), Commissioner on the City of Austin Codes and Ordinances Joint Committee (2019 to present), Leadership Team member of Planning Our Communities (2018 to present), Leadership Team of ATX Mobility Coalition (2020 to present), Executive Committee Member of the Austin Housing Coalition (2018 to present), Member of the Homelessness Continuum of Care Membership Council (2018 to present), Board Member and Advocacy Committee Chair of HousingWorks Austin (2019 to present), Board Member of Equality Texas (2018 to 2020), Commissioner on the City of Austin Community Development Commission (2019), Commissioner on the City of Austin Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer Quality of Life Advisory Commission (2017 to 2019), Commissioner on the City of Austin Joint Inclusion Committee (2018 to 2019)	Asian	No	26 - 50 years old	No	Public transportation, walk, ridehail (in the absence of social distancing protocols)	As a tenant in Austin, I have been forced to move frequently and live in different parts of the city due to affordability concerns and rising rents. This includes the East Riverside and North Lamar corridors where light rail lines will be located. In all these locations I have used transit and walking as my main mode of transportation since I do not know how to drive. Although I have seen transit and pedestrian infrastructure improve dramatically since I moved to Austin over 7 years ago, there is still a long way to go before we create an equitable system that supports the needs of the most vulnerable users. I have lived experience of a number of the issues that this committee will be engaging with and this is one key reason why I think I would be an ideal member of the committee. In addition, my organizing and advocacy work around housing and mobility justice will help inform my work on the committee.	I have been an affordable housing, anti-displacement, tenants and transit justice advocate in Austin for several years. My focus has been ensuring that our working communities and communities of color have access to opportunities and a good quality of life, without having to face the fear of displacement and eviction. As a member of the Leadership Team of Planning Our Communities and the ATX Mobility Coalition, I have been working with community members and leaders to ensure that Project Connect is developed in tandem with establishing anti-displacement and equitable development strategies. Such strategies will have to be place-specific and adaptive to truly ensure that working communities and communities of color do not face transit-induced displacement and are able to utilize the expanded transit opportunities. It is also critical that community members are engaged in this work from the start, particularly transit users and those at risk of transit induced displacement.
54	Joao Paulo	Connolly	78722	Austin Justice Coalition	Black and/or African American Hispanic and/or Latinx White	No	26 - 50 years old	No	Car, bus, by foot	<p>I have been a public transit user my whole life, both in SA and in Austin. I relied solely on the bus for my first 2 years in Austin, until I moved to a neighborhood in Southwest Austin that had limited bus service and I bought a car for the first time in order to commute.</p> <p>As a community organizer I often use a car to distribute food and resources to families, but I still prefer to ride the bus. I work closely with immigrant and asylum seeking families who depend on the bus and hear many of their concerns and complaints about bus service. This is why consider transit justice one of my primary areas of focus as the director of Housing and Community Development at Austin Justice Coalition.</p> <p>The main thing that motivates me to apply is a desire to see the CAC become strong and effective body within its first year. I hope that whoever does get selected will work in a way that is nimble, strategic, and attuned to community input.</p>	<p>I've been an organizer with Austin Justice Coalition for the past 5+ years, have worked on racial justice, police accountability, and housing access policy for year now, and I have been connected to community organizing in Latin America from a very young age.</p> <p>Mobilizing effectively and winning strategic victories for equity, racial justice, and community power has been a lifelong project for me.</p>

55	Gretchen	Flatau	78731	Drive A Senior Central Texas--Current ED; Texas Mamma Jamma Ride--Board 2020 - present; Project Connect Ambassador Network 2017-2019; Heritage Neighborhood Assoc.-President & Steering Committee Mem. 2013-2019; Austin City Wide PTA & Local PTAs 1994-2009	White	No	51 years and above	No	Walk, Drive Car, Bus	I've spend my entire career, most of it in Austin, as an nonprofit manager. I have a great deal of experience working with the underserved in our community. Transportation and access to transportation is part of our critical infrastructure and its important that it is approached with an equity lens. I know how to advocate for those in our community who don't have a voice; especially seniors. I am a critical and creative thinker that knows how to energetically and actively participate with collaborative partners. I believe it is possible to solve many of the issues we deal with when we operate collectively and cooperatively. We are paying a price for some poor transportation decisions that were made in Austin many years ago--allowing I-35 to split the city and divide our communities, a dependence on single vehicle transportation, our inability (previously) to get mass transit approved and funded--now we have an opportunity to fix some of those problems with Project Connect.	I am currently in a position as Executive Director of Drive A Senior Central Texas where I advocate for non-driving seniors. Most of our clients live in South, Southeast and Southwest Austin. My staff, board and I see everyday how difficult it is for seniors to navigate in a city that is very car-centric. Our clients need assistance to get to grocery stores, banks, pharmacies, medical appointments and social engagements. Currently we are working to get these seniors to vaccination appointments. The seniors that I represent are often voiceless in the public arena; they aren't on social media--they may not have a computer or a smart phone. They aren't able to participate actively and depend on organizations like Drive A Senior Central Texas to advocate for them. We owe our seniors, who built this city, a system that works for them.
18	Theodore	Fong	78758	N/A - Trying to give back for my first time!	Asian	I prefer not to answer	26 - 50 years old	No	Drive alone, bicycle, walk	<p>I'm interested in serving because I think I bring a unique viewpoint and background to the team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Army (Disabled) Veteran - Political Moderate, and sees both sides as someone who grew up in the Silicon Valley but also spent plenty of time in the US Military. - Traveled to 20 countries and therefore have seen many public transportation networks (mostly familiar with Tokyo, Hong Kong, NYC, Washington DC, and SF Bay Area) - Asian-American - Millennial (28 years old) working in Tech. - Also an instructor for UT Austin's Data Analytics Bootcamp <p>I think I'd be an ideal member because I represent many different diversity aspects of Austin and I specialize in data science. I thrive with data and plan to assist in developing research studies, analyzing current data to make data-driven recommendations, and critique or support current data research for our traffic-related decisions. My academic experience studying traffic networks & control theory also made me interested in this role.</p>	<p>Being candid, my experience advocating for justice and historically marginalized communities is quite minimal. In the Army, my role demanded proper Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of all types of people and I always support it for all people (which was not always easy when you can imagine the kinds of people that join the US military).</p> <p>Personally, I think the SF Bay Area is a great case study of what was done wrong with public transportation by both gentrification, rising home costs, lack of scalability. I'm very focused on three areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Price-optimization. Development of our transit system needs to consider social-class economics and budget considerations; 2) Scalability. So we can continue to evolve as we grow bigger; 3) Culturally Sensitive. The neighborhood second and third-order effects from transportation stations, noise, and traffic flow. <p>My experiences lie primarily with being a data expert and able to work collaboratively with all types of people.</p>
44	Jeremiah	Hendricks	78753	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Austin Chamber of Commerce Opening Central Texas Business Task Force • Austin Community College Regional Advisory Board • Liberal Austin Democrats • Central Texas Building Trades Council • City of Austin Airport Advisory Commission • Windsor Hills Neighborhood Association • Gus Garcia Park Advisory Board • City of Austin Construction Advisory Committee • Travis County Civil & Family Courthouse Community Focus Committee 	White	No	26 - 50 years old	No	During COVID that has drastically changed, so currently drive alone is the only form of transportation because we have been working from home and have stayed very pandemic safe. Prior to COVID, drive alone, scooter, rideshare.	As a leader for the Laborers International Union (LIUNA), representing low wage workers in the construction and service industries, our members and their families are predominantly people of color who rely heavily on public transportation. Because of affordability issues they are often forced to live outside of transit service areas, which makes getting to work to support their families very difficult. It is critical we build a transit system that best serves the needs of low wage workers and does little harm to them and their neighborhoods during construction. It is also important that this major investment provides good jobs to local workers. I am also personally a longtime user and supporter of public transportation who has worked on multiple campaigns to support transit investments in both Austin and Oklahoma City.	LIUNA is known in both the United States and Canada as one of the most progressive and aggressive organizations supporting both Union and non-Union workers. We believe every person, regardless of background or status, should have access to good jobs, safe workplaces, and the benefits of our community. We work closely with with allied organizations every day to champion better wages, safer working conditions, and greater access to public transit and other resources. I understand the complex construction, workforce, and community needs that our new transit system can either solve or exacerbate, so it is critical to have community leaders who can ask the right questions and find the right answers on the CAC.
64	Alex	Karner	78751	N/A	White	No	26 - 50 years old	Yes	Bike, walk, drive	I'm an academic researcher and faculty member at The University of Texas. My work addresses applied questions of transportation equity. I have performed sponsored research for the Federal Transit Administration, the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, TransitCenter, and multiple state departments of transportation. The overarching goal of all of my research is to create transportation systems that are fair and just. Serving on this advisory committee will allow me to put my research into action in service of future Austinites. Also, if we get Project Connect right, it will undoubtedly serve as an example for other public transit megaprojects across the country.	I have worked directly in service of community-identified goals on multiple projects. For example, during my dissertation research I worked as part of the "Six Wins for Social Equity" coalition in the San Francisco Bay Area. Specifically, I assisted the group as they advocated for a long-range regional transportation and land use plan that would enhance public transit service in the communities that need it most while simultaneously mitigating displacement risk. My background in civil engineering allowed me to act as a translator between members of the coalition and the travel demand modelers charged with evaluating alternative plans. The resultant "Equity, Environment, and Jobs" scenario outperformed the agency's preferred plan, led to multiple concrete equity wins, and set the stage for future advocacy.
9	Renee	Lopez	78702	ADAPT of Texas; East Austin Neighborhood Planning Team	Hispanic and/or Latinx	Yes	51 years and above	No	my own vehicle, the capitol metro transit system	As a person with a disability who utilizes a motorized wheelchair, I am very interested in public transportation and work with PC to ensure fair access to people with disabilities. I am also a resident of East Austin (a few blocks from I-35/ downtown) I want to ensure fairness and consideration for those of us who will directly impacted by the implementation of the downtown hub.	I have been a community advocate for people with disabilities since a student at UT in 1981. My first advocacy was getting UT to make their buses/shuttles accessible. I am on the board of Accessible Housing Austin!, a nonprofit that works on housing for people who are marginalized and live in abject poverty. As a life-long resident of East Austin and a member of East Austin NPT, I have seen the effects of gentrification including displacement and I want to work to avoid any further displacement.

Brianna	Snitchler	78754	I'm from Detroit originally and worked with an org called Seraphine Collective - a collaborative support network of women/femme/nonbinary musicians, artists & DJ's cultivating joy, creative liberation and camaraderie within Detroit music culture. I am a director and trusted advisor of the Center for Sustainable, Healthy, & Equitable Communities. Since living in Austin, I've volunteered with CCU.	Black and/or African American White	No	26 - 50 years old	No	Car, ridehail, micromobility	As a queer black woman who was raised by a single mom with limited access to resources, I am committed to using my unconventional success to advocate for my community and amplify the voices of the unheard. I didn't start driving until age 24 and relied on the unreliable Detroit public transport system for a majority of my life. I currently work as a User Experience designer for General Motors (before this, Ford) & have extensive experience working on mobility solutions, including Autonomous ride-share vehicles and road safety products for DOTs. I facilitate workshops, lead conversations, and make people centered decisions on a daily basis. I am an advocate for Design Justice, which is a design approach led by marginalized communities that aims to challenge, rather than reproduce, structural inequalities. My life's mission is to seek solutions for a sustainable, healthy, and equitable future.	As an advisor of the Center for Sustainable Healthy & Equitable Communities, I facilitate workshops that engage marginalized community members in urban planning decisions. We recently hosted an online, interactive, community think tank about food access, where we ideated on ways to create an innovative and sustainable food hub business at a local community center. This provided an opportunity for food insecure individuals to share their ideas and experience and drive the design and decision making process. This same process could be applied to the expansion of the transit system. We need to let the community lead. It is far too often that the people most affected by major decisions are excluded from that decision making process. We cannot assume that we know whats best.
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