



**RCA
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 38
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/29/2005
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SUBJECT: Authorize removal of curb islands from Shoal Creek Boulevard between 38th Street and Foster Lane and approve striping of Shoal Creek Boulevard with car-free bicycle lanes on both sides and designated parking on the east side of the street.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$236,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Operating Budget of the Public Works Department.

FISCAL NOTE: N/A

REQUESTING Public Works
DEPARTMENT:

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION:** Sondra Creighton

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Sondra Creighton, 974-7175; Laura Bohl, 974-7064

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: Resolution No. 010329-55 was approved March 29, 2001 directing the City Manager to conduct a transportation analysis for Shoal Creek Boulevard, with review by the Urban Transportation Commission, for a pilot traffic calming program. A motion was approved December 16, 2004 authorizing execution of a construction contract with JAY-REESE CONTRACTORS, INC., Austin, TX, for the Shoal Creek Boulevard Transportation Project in an amount not to exceed \$295,285.50.

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended by Land Use and Transportation Subcommittee.

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

The Shoal Creek Boulevard Transportation Project was implemented following a five-year public involvement process to develop a solution which would accommodate stakeholders by calming traffic, providing a safe route for cyclists and pedestrians, and maintaining unrestricted on-street parking. Since construction began on the project in February 2005 and subsequently at a public meeting after the project was completed, a significant majority of citizens has voiced opposition to the project. Because of the nature of the various, often competing interests, staff concludes that it is not possible to reach consensus.

In early September, the Land Use and Transportation Subcommittee unanimously recommended removal of the curb islands and directed staff to present options to Council for re-striping the roadway between Foster Lane and 38th Street.

Staff also recommends removing the islands. Furthermore, staff recommends re-striping the roadway to accommodate two travel lanes (one each way), two car-free bike lanes (one each side) and parking on the east side only (see attached diagram). This recommendation is consistent with the 1998 Bicycle Plan promoting alternative modes of transportation to address congestion in the city and, in particular, with Section 5.5.2.2 of that plan stating that parking should not be allowed in bicycle lanes. Staff is also prepared to present an alternate re-striping option if Council is interested.

If Council authorizes the staff recommendations, city crews can perform the work in November 2005.

Car Free Bike Lanes

Shoal Creek Boulevard

Staff Recommendation

- Provides car free bike lanes
- Establishes 11' travel lanes
- Allows parking on east side only

