



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

The Downtown Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Mandy Dealey called the Commission Meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Downtown Commission Members in Attendance:

Bryan Cady, Susan Daniels, Mandy Dealey, Linda Guerrero, Stan Haas, Robert Knight, Dan Leary, Michael McGill, Paul Oveisi, Chris Schorre, Richard Weiss, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, EGRSO; Annick Beudet, Public Works Department; Jerry Rusthoven, Planning and Development Review Department; Jason Redfern and Gregory Pepper, Transportation Department

Note: All items on the agenda were discussed, but are listed in the order they were taken during the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Michael Abraham spoke about traffic and infrastructure concerns in the Waterfront/Rainey Street District.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the January 20, 2010 meeting were approved on Commission Member Guerrero's motion, Commission Member Knight's second, on an 8-0-3 vote, with Commission members Leary, Oveisi and Sher abstaining.

4. VALET PARKING

The presentation was made by Jason Redfern and Gregory Pepper, Transportation Department.

5. DOWNTOWN PEDESTRIAN INITIATIVES

Annick Beudet, City of Austin Public Works Department briefed the Commission on pedestrian initiatives in the downtown area.

6. CONVENTION CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT

Commission Member Knight recused himself due to a potential conflict of interest, and left the dais.

Jerry Rusthoven, Planning and Development Review, briefed the Commission on Convention Center Overlay District.

A resolution, recommending that the Downtown Austin Plan consultants include the Convention Center Overlay District in their review of downtown development regulations, consulting with the Austin Convention Center Department, was approved on Commission Member McGill's motion, Commission Member Haas' second on an 11-0-2 vote, with Commission Member Guerrero abstaining and Commission Member Knight recusing himself.

7. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commission Member McGill inquired about the status of the Commission's request to have their bylaws changes to include a defined boundary. Both Chair Dealey and Staff Liaison Knox will follow up on the request.

8. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Downtown Austin Plan: Staff liaison Michael Knox provided the Commission with an update on the Downtown Austin Plan, focusing on the Draft Downtown Development Regulations. Several commission members provided comments on the draft.

Chair Mandy Dealey briefed the Commission on the Council action to charge the Planning Commission Executive Committee to convene a working group to provide input on the proposed Density Bonus Program of the Downtown Austin Plan.

Street Event Closures: Staff liaison Michael Knox informed the Commission that, as an organization listed in the City's Community Registry, they receive notices of proposed Street Event Closures, and staff is seeking more direction on how to respond to these notices. After discussion, staff was request to provide information on the results of the Downtown Street Event Closure Taskforce, and the current process for processing closure requests.

9. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commission Member Weiss asked if a briefing on the Affordable Housing Bonds Funds could be made.

Commission Member Schorre would like to continue the discussion on wayfinding for parking.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mandy Dealey adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. without objection.