



Urban Transportation Commission Meeting Minutes

**Regular Meeting
12 July 2011**

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on 12, July, 2011, at the Boards and Commissions Room located at 303 West 2nd Street, Room 1101, Austin, Texas.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Dustin Lanier –Chair
Sheila Holbrook-White – Vice Chair
Boone Blocker
Richard MacKinnon
Eileen Schaubert

Commission Members Absent:

Dana Lockler
Allen Demling

Staff in Attendance:

Gordon Derr	Gilda Powers	Frances Hargrove
Christi Vitela	Gary Schatz	

Chair Lanier called the Commission meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the 6/14/2011 meeting were approved on Commissioner Holbrook-White motion, Commissioner Schaubert second, on a 5/0/2 vote, with Commissioners Lockler and Demling off the dais.

Ayes: Holbrook-White, Blocker, MacKinnon, Schaubert

Nays: None

Abstain: Lanier

Absent: Lockler, Demling

2. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Citizen Ross Smith, former president of the Bouldin Neighborhood Association spoke in regards to a dangerous intersection at Heather St and Mary St. He suggested staggering lights and asked for assistance in resolution. The Urban Transportation Commissions requested a briefing in the future from the Transportation Department on how traffic problems are addressed. They asked both Assistant Directors Gary Schatz and Gordon Derr to assist the citizen in resolution of the traffic problem at hand.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure – Special Event- Discussion and Possible Action**
Presentation by: Frances Hargrove, Special Events Manager, for the Austin Transportation Department, introduced the Susan G. Komen executive director, Christy Casey, and team. The Komen party requested a waiver or recommendation from the UTC to approve their proposed Race for the Cure route, which violates recently modified COA code. After much discussion and input from many citizen supporters, the Urban Transportation Commission recommends taking the request to Council to find a speedy resolution to this issue.

Ayes: Lanier, Blocker, MacKinnon, Schaubert

Nays: Holbrook-White

Abstain: None

Absent: Allan Demling, Dana Lockler

The Urban Transportation Commission also recommends having Council address the possible necessity of a change to the current route restrictions based on the University of Texas' denial of requests for any new races on campus and the limitations on race organizers within current code.

Ayes: Lanier, Holbrook-White, Blocker, MacKinnon, Schaubert

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Allan Demling, Dana Lockler

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. South Congress Improvements - Update

Gary Schatz, P.E. PTOE, Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, gave a briefing on state of the South Congress improvements. He reported that drivers were 90% compliant and that the project has created 370 new parking spaces. Future improvements will begin in late September to include, bulb outs, bicycle racks and a pedestrian beacon.

B. Residential Parking Permit Program – Final Recommendation and Possible Action

Gary Schatz, P.E. PTOE, Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, presented a report finalizing changes to the Residential Parking Permit Program. Several interested citizens voiced their opposition to the current program. The UTC suggested adding a discretionary clause and recommended looking at parking issues more holistically. There was also discussion into whether parking should be viewed as something that should be conserved and tended such as a watershed.

C. Urban Rail- Update

W. Gordon Derr, P.E., Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, provided an update on the progress with the Urban Rail project. He reported that a presentation was given to Council in June. Questions that arose from that presentation will be addressed in a work session with Council sometime in August and September. Financing options most likely be decided upon in Fall 2011.

5. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Car2go- Staff Update

W. Gordon Derr, P.E., Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, gave an update on the Car2go status. He reports that they are currently in the Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

B. Wayfinding – Staff Update

W. Gordon Derr, P.E., Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, gave an update on the Wayfinding status. He reports that a Request for Proposal for a firm has been submitted and the department is currently in the process of setting criteria.

C. Extended Parking Hours in Downtown- Staff Update

W. Gordon Derr, P.E., Assistant Director for the Austin Transportation Department, gave an update on extended parking hours in downtown. Implementation delayed until after Labor Day and Transportation Department awaits direction from Council on any modifications needed to hours and days of proposed plan.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program (LATM) -
- Special Events revision/changes to the Ordinance and Rules - Report
- Downtown Austin Plan – Update
- Bike Share – RFI Update
- Extra Permits for Pedicabs
- Corridor Studies
- Road blocks and road closures – Consistency on enforcement
- Bike parking on street and on parking facilities

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lanier adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m. without objection.

Approved Minutes _____
Dustin Lanier –Chair
Urban Transportation Commission

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