



APPROVED

**Urban Transportation Commission
Meeting Minutes**

**Regular Meeting
19 March 2013**

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on March 19, 2013 at One Texas Center located at 505 Barton Springs Road, Room 325, Austin, Texas.

Vice - Chair Blocker called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Boone Blocker –Vice Chair
Eileen Schaubert
Stanton Truxillo – On dais at 6:05 p.m.
Meredith Highsmith
Jace Deloney
Dustin Lanier

Commission Members Absent:

Richard MacKinnon – Chair

Staff in Attendance:

Gordon Derr	Leah Fillion	Robert Spillar	Karla Villalon
James Dale	Tiesha Payne	Frances Hargrove	Chris Moore
Steve Grassfield			

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 12, 2013

The minutes from the 02/12/13 meeting were approved on Commissioner Schaubert's motion, Commissioner Highsmith second, on a 5/0/0/2.

Ayes: Schaubert, Lanier, Deloney, Highsmith, Blocker
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: MacKinnon, Truxillo

2. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None.

3. NEW BUSINES

A. Transportation Safety Summit– Briefing and Possible Action

Robert Spillar, Director, Austin Transportation Department, and Jim Dale, Manager Engineer, Austin Transportation Department, provided a presentation regarding the 2012 Safety Summit. **No Action Taken.**

B. Safe Routes to Schools – Briefing and Possible Action

Chris Moore, Community Service Program Manager, Public Works Department, briefed the Commission on the Safe Routes to School Program. **No Action Taken.**

C. I-35 Project – Briefing and Possible Action

Robert Spillar, Director, Austin Transportation Department, and Stacy Benningfield with TxDOT, provided a detailed presentation regarding the I-35 project. Commissioner Highsmith recused herself from this item due to a conflict of interest and left the dais. **No Action Taken.**

D. Charter Vehicle Ordinance – Briefing and Possible Action

Steve Grassfield, Parking Enterprise Division Manager, Austin Transportation Department, provided a presentation about amending the Charter Vehicle Ordinance and amending City Code 13-2-251. The proposed changes are scheduled for Council consideration on April 25, 2013. Several Stakeholders addressed the Commission in opposition of the proposed amendments/clarifications.

The proposed amendments to the Charter Vehicle Code to add clarity is as follows:

Charter service shall consist of prearranged service on irregular routes and schedules with a rate of fare based either on a flat rate for each passenger or on an hourly rate, that uses vans, minibuses, buses or motor coaches to transport persons belonging to a specified group and that is:

- Offered only upon a prearranged basis, the prearrangement being made at least one hour in advance of the time the transportation is to begin and on a pre-sold basis to a group representative
- Operated from locations within the city to locations inside the city (point-to-point and continuous trips)
- Used to transport a specified group or person from a same point of origin or from various points of origin to a same point of destination.

Additional amendments to the code would require trip tickets and fleet markings, prohibit a charter vehicle from representing themselves as a taxi service, require that all Charter vehicles with a passenger capacity of 16 or greater secure a successful inspection from the Department of Transportation, and a modification to permit fees.

The Commission made the following recommendations and asked staff to return in April with a draft ordinance: **No Action Taken.**

- Define pre-arranged service to assert the difference between pre-arranged and immediate service
- Consider modifying the one-hour advance requirement by comparing the proposed time limit internationally
- An option for green vehicle and wheelchair accessible vehicles
- Define Taxi Cab service to be “on-demand”
- Re-think the interstate/intrastate options and review the language regarding local buses

E. Trail of Lights – Briefing and Possible Action

Frances Hargrove, Special Events, Austin Transportation Department, and James Russell, Event Organizer, Runtex Foundation, briefed the Commission regarding the 2012 Trail of Lights event. The Commission recommended Runtex to provide alternative modes of transportation, particularly on the eastside of Zilker Park. Six constituents addressed the Commission with one citizen expressing concerns against the event. **No Action Taken.**

F. Bicycle Plan Cycle Track – Update and Possible Action

Annick Beaudet, Project Manager, Public Works Department, requested the briefing be postponed until the April 9, 2013 UTC meeting.

G. Art City Austin – Briefing and Possible Action

Frances Hargrove, Special Events Manager, Austin Transportation Department, and Meredith Powell, representative of Art Alliance Austin, provided a presentation and requested a recommendation on the appeal of requirements under City Code Chapter 14-8-3 (B) for the issuance of a street event permit for Art City Austin to be held on Saturday, April 13, 2013 and Sunday, April 14, 2013. Two constituents, one in support and one against, addressed the Commission. Commissioner Schaubert recused herself from this item due to a conflict of interest and left the dais.

On Commissioner Blocker’s motion, Commissioner Deloney second, with Chair MacKinnon absent, on a 5/0/1/1, the UTC voted in support of staff’s recommendation advising Ms. Powell to consider alternative street closure options.

Ayes:	Blocker, Deloney, Lanier, Highsmith Truxillo?
Nays:	None
Abstain/Recuse:	Schaubert
Absent:	Mackinnon

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Special Events Ordinance Change – Update and Possible Action

Frances Hargrove, Special Events Manager, Austin Transportation Department, briefed the Commission regarding the Special Events Ordinance Change. **No Action Take**

5. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Annual Internal Review of the Urban Transportation Commission as required by the City Clerk's Office– Discussion and Possible Action

Chair MacKinnon is responsible for completing this item.

B. **Bike and Ped Committee** – Commissioner Schaubert noted that the last scheduled meeting was held on March 18, 2013, which included a preliminary version of the Bicycle Plan Cycle Track. The Committee would like a briefing on Open Data at the April 15, 2013 meeting.

C. **CSAC** – Commissioner Deloney spoke to two resolutions passed at the last meeting: 1) Designated downtown transit corridor during special events and 2) Capital Metro to host a civic hacking event that will create useful transit apps based around transit data.

D. **Downtown Commission** – No Report

E. **CAMPO** – No Report

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Metro Rapid Update
- Urban Rail Update
- CAMPO TWG update
- Project Connect Update
- Regional Transportation Discussion
- APTA Group report
- SXSW Traffic Management Update – Spring 2014
- Park Me
- Imagine Austin
- Trails Master Plan
- Transportation Manual
- Walkability
- Side Car

7. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Blocker adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m. without objection.

Approved Minutes _____
Urban Transportation Commission

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Tiesha Payne at the Austin Transportation Department, at 974-5677, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.