



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

URBAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Recommendation Number: (20140211-03E):

This is a request for the Vacation of: 1) Whitis Avenue between West Martin Luther King Blvd. & West 20<sup>th</sup> Street; and 2) The Alley between Whitis Avenue & Guadalupe Street, and between West Martin Luther King Blvd. & West 20<sup>th</sup> Street. The University of Texas owns each of the properties that abut the Alley and Street which are subject to this Vacation request. The University intends to develop the Vacated areas as part of their Graduate Business School expansion. City staff recommends approval of the Vacations, subject to retaining easements for existing utility infrastructure, or the relocation of those utilities at the developer's expense.

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents of the University of Texas Systems, as landowner, has requested the Vacation of Whitis Avenue between West Martin Luther King Blvd. & West 20<sup>th</sup> Street; and the Vacation of the Alley between Whitis Avenue & Guadalupe Street, and between West Martin Luther King Blvd. & West 20<sup>th</sup> Street;

WHEREAS, City staff has reviewed the Vacation request and recommends approval, subject to the retention of easements for existing utilities, or relocation of existing utilities at developer's expense;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission approves staff recommendation and encourages the Austin City Council to approve this Vacation as long as the requirements above and one of the following options are met:

- A. The City will regain control of the Right of Way if the University of Texas does not meet the design standards for pedestrians and bicycles implied by the examples provided in the pictures and specified on the escrow documents.
- B. Ensure that an easement to provide access to bikes and pedestrians is maintained according to City standards.

Date of Approval: 2-11-14

Record of the vote:

Vacation of Alley Vote: 6/0/0/1 with Commissioner Blocker absent

Whitis Avenue Vote: 5/1/1/1 with Commissioner Deloney against, Commissioner Gilbert abstaining and Commissioner Blocker absent

Attest: 

(Staff or board member can sign)