

April 10, 2014

Nadia Barrera and Nathan Wilkes
City of Austin Public Works Department
One Texas Center
505 Barton Springs Road
Austin, Texas 78704

Re: Urban Trails Master Plan and Bicycle Master Plan Amendment

Dear Nadia and Nathan:

Whereas the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) is in nascent form, without official members or a chair to submit a recommendation on the group's behalf, I submit this letter to you as PAC staff reflecting the group's recommendation regarding the Urban Trails Master Plan and Bicycle Master Plan Amendment. An official vote count is included of all members of the public in the audience.

The PAC was formed in summer 2013 in order to advise City of Austin and other entities on pedestrian planning, design, funding, and enforcement efforts regarding the creation, maintenance and operation of pedestrian facilities in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable circulation for both commuting and recreation within the City of Austin. The PAC's goal is to ensure sensitivity to pedestrian issues in the design and implementation of all public and private projects impacting pedestrians.

At the April 7, 2014 regular meeting the PAC received a presentation on the vision of the Urban Trails Master Plan and the Bicycle Master Plan update. The group made several observations and made several recommendations, including:

- The plans are consistent with the vision of the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*;
- Implementation efforts should ensure trails are ADA accessible from on-street sidewalks;
- Urban trails should incorporate ADA signage along routes;
- Urban trails should incorporate mile markers along the urban trails;
- The bike-pedestrian program should enhance education to residents to increase walking and bicycling, particularly given the rapid growth of Austin's population;
- The bike-pedestrian program should make use of the extensive data collected through the performance of surveys as part of the Urban Trails and Bike Master Plan process;
- Staff should coordinate the plans' implementation efforts with sidewalk construction to ensure seamless transition for on-street facilities to urban trails; and
- The Urban Trails Master Plan and the Bicycle Master Plan should consider the full geography of the city – not just central Austin.

After consideration of the above points, the group voted 17-0 in favor (with 7 staff abstaining) to support the vision and principles of the Urban Trails Master Plan and Bicycle Master Plan update.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the recommendations of the Pedestrian Advisory Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Anderson", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Robert Anderson

**Community Transformation Grant Planner and Pedestrian Advisory Council Staff
City of Austin Planning and Development Review Department**

cc: Pedestrian Advisory Council