



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Pedestrian Advisory Council

Recommendation Number: 20140602-05B – Cima Homes Subdivision

June 3, 2014

Mr. Ross Wilson
Director of Community Development
PSW Homes, LLC
2003 S 1st Street
Austin, TX 78704

Re: City of Austin Case # C8-2013-0134.1A

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I appreciate your presence at the June 2, 2014 regular meeting of the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) in order to present the proposed 16 lot Cima Homes subdivision located at 3710 Cima Serena Drive.

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.

The PAC invited you to present because the group is particularly interested in ensuring strong connections occur through development in accordance with City of Austin standards for street connectivity.¹ The PAC is also committed to the vision articulated in the *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*. The Plan, adopted summer 2012, articulates a clear vision for compact and connected development encouraging pedestrian connections and walkable places. This vision is found throughout the Plan:

“Austin promotes safe bicycle and pedestrian access with well-designed routes that provide connectivity throughout the greater Austin area. These

¹ § 25-4-151 Street Alignment and Connectivity.

routes are part of our comprehensive regional transportation network.”²

The PAC has not considered the full details of the application and therefore makes recommendations only in relation to our remit of pedestrian design issues. At the meeting several points were made supporting your proposal.

- 1.) There are immense barriers to pedestrian and bicycle connectivity in the immediate area due to cul de sac style development. Access to nearby retail and civic destinations to the north and south will continue to be hindered if Honeysuckle Trail does not connect new and existing development.
- 2.) Texas State Highway Loop 1 (Mopac) serves as a significant barrier to east/west pedestrian and bicycle connectivity.
- 3.) Adherence to new standards for accessibility provides heightened standards for individuals with disabilities visiting the subdivision.
- 4.) Planned alleyways for the proposed development provide for rear-loading to residential lots, thereby providing a safer experience along sidewalks along roadways through the reduction of driveway curb cuts.

After consideration of the above points, the group passed a resolution in support of your subdivision proposal for the increased connectivity and safety provided to the community.

Thank you for your presentation to the Pedestrian Advisory Council. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our recommendation.

Sincerely,



Emily Risinger, Vice-Chair
Pedestrian Advisory Council

cc: Pedestrian Advisory Council
Cesar Zavala, Case Manager, City of Austin
Debra Bailey, neighborhood resident

Date of Approval: June 02, 2014

² City of Austin. (2012). *Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan*, p. 86. Retrieved from <http://assets.austintexas.gov/webiacpfullreduced.pdf>