



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Michael Knox, Executive Liaison
Downtown Commission

DATE: June 20, 2014

RE: Downtown Commission Recommendation 20140618-005 — Project Connect

The Downtown Commission endorses the Project Connect team's recommendation for the Locally Preferred Alternative with the following additional recommendations:

1. We recommend the City of Austin and Cap Metro ensure that existing bus services, which are used disproportionately by low-income populations, are not cut to fund the operational expenses of the rail line.
2. We support the work of the City's housing/transit/jobs action team and recommend the City act swiftly to adopt robust policies and programs for producing and preserving affordable housing along the corridor. Not only will these policies be extremely important for ensuring that low-income households can access the new transit investments and are not pushed out to areas of the region without transit access, but these policies will also be important in the competition for the federal New Starts funds.
3. We recommend the inclusion of a multi-modal signature bridge across Lady Bird Lake as part of the project.

Date of Approval: June 18, 2014

Vote: 10-1

For: Martin Barrera, Dale Glover, Dan Leary, Jim Nix, Brian Roark, Joel Sher, Owen Snell, Lindsey Sokol, Heather Way, Bruce Willenzik

Against: Bart Whatley

Off Dais: Sunshine Mathon

Absent: Jude Galligan, Rich MacKinnon

Attest: Michael R. Knox
Michael Knox, Executive Liaison