



**Urban Transportation Commission
Meeting Minutes**

**Special Called Meeting
18 September 2014**

The Urban Transportation Commission convened in a regular meeting on September 18, 2014 at 301 West 2nd Street, Room 1029, Austin, Texas

Chair Highsmith called the Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commission Members in Attendance:

Meredith Highsmith – Chair
Boone Blocker – Vice Chair
Jace Deloney
Richard MacKinnon
Stanton Truxillo
Dustin Lanier
Mark Gilbert

Commission Members Absent:

None

Staff in Attendance:

Gordon Derr	Marissa Monroy	Frances Hargrove
Charlotte Huskey	Joana Perez	Carlton Thomas

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the 08/18/14 were approved on Commissioner Blocker motion and Commissioner Truxillo second, the motion passed on a 6/0/0/1 vote with Commissioner Gilbert absent.

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

2. CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

3. NEW BUSINES

A. Code Approach Alternatives and Annotated Outlines for CodeNEXT – Discussion and Possible Action

Mr. George Zapalac Division Manager with the Planning and Development Review discussed the overview of the project, the current and future code, the three approach alternatives

explored, the elements that form an approach, code format and organization, development review and standard models, and upcoming schedule.

No action Taken

B. Dia De Los Muertos Event Discussion – Discussion and Possible Action

Ms. Frances Hargrove Special Events Manager and Ms. Charlotte Huskey Senior Planner with the Austin Transportation Department discussed an event that received 20% disapproval.

There were several individuals that oppose the street closure because of concern for the elders that live on that street, traffic, noise, music, trash, safety concerns, and parking. Mr. Jason Maurer Sales and Events Manager with the Parks and Recreation Department discussed the details of the event and other various park closures that occur at Pan Am Recreation Center. Ms. Vanessa Maldonado with the Easter Seals discussed the events purpose and benefits to the community.

On Commissioner Lanier motion with Commissioner Truxillo second, Commissioner Highsmith opposing, Commissioner Blocker recused himself and Commissioner Deloney absent, the motion passed on a 4/1/1/1 vote.

Ayes: Truxillo, Lanier, MacKinnon, Gilbert

Nays: Highsmith

Abstain: Blocker

Absent: Deloney

C. Special Events Ordinance Update – Discussion and Possible Action

Mr. Bill Manno Corporate Special Events Program Manager with the Office of the City Manager discussed the previous revisions to the special events ordinance and the questions from the Commissioners; the significant changes; definitions; categories; insurance requirements; fees, deadlines and denials of applications; sales of goods, food and beverage; the proposed tier system and approval and notification challenges. Mr. Roger Calvin and Ms. Gail Romney are not in favor of the ordinance unless it has a transit impact fee that is enforceable, the transit priority lanes should be added to the list of corridors that are ineligible for street closures, and to include in the application not just parking and traffic impacts but those transit impacts. Commissioners requested more discussion at the next Urban Transportation Commission Meeting.

No Action Taken

D. SXSW Report – Discussion and Possible Action

Mr. Gordon Derr, Assistant Director with Austin Transportation Department presented the report to the Commissioners prior to the meeting and asked if anyone had any questions. Mr. Bill Manno Corporate Special Events Program Manager with the Office of the City Manager discussed the report has been given to Council and the possibility of adding or changing transit priority lanes.

No action Taken

E. 2014 Bicycle Plan Update – Discussion and Possible Action

Mr. Gordon Derr Assistant Director of the Austin Transportation Department discussed the importance of the bike plan; the integrating Imagine Austin plan into the Bicycle Plan; the important changes; existing bicycles lanes based infrastructure attracts less than 20% of Austin's population; a network of protected bicycle lanes will attract 55+% of the population; each mode is more and less useful at different trip lengths; short trips by bicycle; the rise of cycling over time; a network approach that will involve all facility types to form one all ages and abilities network; proposed short terms; high capacity bicycle parking at transit stations; integrating transit with bike share; cost benefit to regional mobility; implementation and future boards, commissions and council status.

On Commissioner Gilbert motion with Commissioner Truxillo second and Commissioner Deloney absent, the motion passed on a 6/0/0/1 vote.

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

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. TNC Working Group Update – Discussion and Possible Action

Mr. Gordon Derr, Assistant Director with the Austin Transportation Department, provided an update on the TNC Working Group that was set up per City Council direction. The overview covered the background, meeting dates, the UTC Sub-Committee recommendations, driver and passenger safety, data and insurance requirements, and future topics.

Ms. Leah Bojo Council Aid for Council Member Chris Riley presented a draft ordinance that will be presented to Council at their next meeting. The ordinance will legalize the TNC's as they are currently operating and allow staff to collect the information from the companies to ensure safety. This ordinance will be in place until the ordinance from the TNC working group is approved. There were several speakers that were either in opposition or approval of the ordinance.

Commissioner MacKinnon made a recommendation to ask Council to direct staff to enter into an interim pilot as soon as possible with the TNC's that are willing so we can 1) inform the TNC working group and TNC Committee 2) Get into a set of recommendations as soon as possible. Commissioner Lanier amended and added that we eliminate the formula and replace it with a provision that will allow staff to dynamically manage the issued permits to the taxi industry.

On Commissioner MacKinnon motion Commissioner Truxillo second with Commissioners Highsmith and Blocker opposing, the motion passed on a 5/2/0/0 vote.

5. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. CSAC –** There was discussion on Transit Gateway and a future update from Capital Metro to UTC.

B. Downtown Commission – There was discussion on the Lance Armstrong and the special events ordinance was voted down.

C. CAMPO – No Update

D. BAC/PAC –BAC-There was discussion on the upcoming elections, details for bike lanes and why the Bike Plan did not pass at the Planning Commission. PAC-There was discussion on the Complete Streets Policy Ordinance

On Commissioner Blocker motion with Commissioner Gilbert second and Commissioner Deloney absent, the motion to go past 10:00 p.m. passed on a 6/0/0/1

E. Taxi Task Force – Gordon made a presentation on the taxi franchise renewals that included background, taxi hours on duty, dispatch acceptance, accessible issues, standard taxi service delivery, universal dispatch, green vehicle incentives and formulas. Mr. Ed Kargo spoke in favor of these changes.

F. TNC Committee – There will be a meeting in October.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. IH 35 Pedestrian Crossing
- b. 2040 Campo Status Update
- c. Vision Zero Project
- d. Nomination and Election of officers and approval of 2015 Calendar and Meeting Schedule
- e. Redline Update
- f. Transit Impact Fee
- g. Transit Gateway

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Highsmith adjourned the meeting at 10:24 p.m. without objection.

Approved Minutes


Urban Transportation Commission

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