



**PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL
MONDAY JANUARY 4TH, 2015 – 6:00 PM
CITY HALL – ROOM 1027
301 W. SECOND STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Attendance to be provided.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first 3 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

None.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MEETING SUMMARY

Motion to approved was moved and seconded. Meeting Summary unanimously approved.

3. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFINGS

- Bicycle Advisory Council Update

Mr. Wald shared that the BAC revisited the 183N project with a presentation by the CTRMA. At issue was inclusion of a shared use path as part of the project. The BAC will hold a Technical Subcommittee meeting in the future to review the project. The BAC also had a presentation by TxDOT on the 360 and 620 feasibility studies. The draft study is expected in January. The BAC will form a Technical Subcommittee to discuss these projects with TxDOT. The BAC also received a staff update on proposed changes to the MLK and Guadalupe intersection for the transition of the bike lane across the right turn lane to MLK.

Ms. De La Morena Chu requested that intersection improvements or modifications be brought to the PAC. It was suggested that this be part of the Work Plan for the PAC for 2016. The Project Subcommittee will discuss at their next meeting.

Mr. Kinney requested a presentation on various types of intersection treatments for pedestrian safety and connectivity. Staff will look into resources for this type of training.

- Urban Transportation Commission

Mr. Almazan reported that he attended the UTC meeting and provided an overview of the PAC, its main focus areas during 2015 and what the PAC is hoping to accomplish in 2016.

4. VISION ZERO BRIEFING

Discussion and Possible Action

Presenters:

Francis Reilly, Planner, Planning and Zoning Department

Laura Dierenfield, Active Transportation Manager, Austin Transportation Department

Arthur Fortune, Commander, Highway Enforcement, Austin Police Department

See PowerPoint presentation. Commander Art Fortune opened the presentation with an overview of crash data followed by Francis Reilly who went over the Vision Zero Initiative followed by Laura Dierenfield who shared existing efforts.

The group discussion focused on the following areas:

- Sought clarification for what it means to cross in a prohibited area. This is referring to the City ordinance termed “Pedestrian in the Roadway”.
- The frontage road environment as a “hotspot” for all crash types
- Need to understand all circumstances leading to a crash
- Concern with “victim blaming”
- Request to focus on the 12,000 hit-and-run crashes, some involving pedestrians and an offer to help create that messaging from the available data.
- Sought clarification on fatalities related to drivers that do not have a valid driver’s license. Currently the law allows a driver who is caught driving without a valid driver’s license to be given a citation in lieu of arrest. APD is finding a lot of recidivism.
- Request to understand the breakdown between the pedestrian fatalities on all highway and mid-block.
- The need to clarify the legality of crossing mid-block.
- Confirmation that the prioritized intersections with the highest crash rates that can be made safer with engineering do include those on TxDOT’s jurisdiction.
- Concern that TxDOT needs to be a part of the Vision Zero presentation.
- Concern that design of frontage roads simply puts the onus on the police department to enforce an environment that allows for higher speeds.
- Request to invite TxDOT to the PAC to discuss Vision Zero.
- Question about how the Vision Zero plan will guide decisions about mobility vs. safety. For example, North Lamar between 183 and 35 is within TxDOT’s jurisdiction. Would the plan make it easier for the City to make improvements on this street? Vision Zero plan provides a new way to look at safety from a systems perspective and invites all agencies to take a part in reducing serious injuries and fatalities.
- Frustration that the actual Vision Zero Action Plan was not available for the PAC to review at this meeting and request that the PAC be provided an opportunity to share their comments with other Boards and Commissions prior to the final plan going to Council. The draft Action Plan is currently being reviewed and formatted for distribution.
- Mr. Anderson makes a motion, “To make sure there is a board and commission process with sufficient time frame for input to be received on the Vision Zero Action Plan from the Pedestrian Advisory Council, Bicycle Advisory Council, before advancing through the formal boards and commissions process (such as the Urban Transportation Commission, the Public Safety Commission), then to

Committees of Council, and then before the full Council, especially since the Vision Zero effort originated with the Pedestrian Advisory Council.”

- i. The motion is seconded by Mr. Baird and passes unanimously.
 - ii. Staff will work with Mobility Committee Chair Ann Kitchen to suggest that the boards and commissions review process allow for comment from the PAC and others to be brought to the Urban Transportation Commission and Mobility Committee prior to the final plan going to Council.
- Following the discussion, presenters were thanked for their time and effort.

5. CAPITAL METRO PEDESTRIAN SAFETY CAMPAIGN PRESENTATION (7:00-7:30)

James Hoskins, Program Manager, Safety, Capital Metro

Mr. Hoskins was unable to make the meeting. This will be scheduled for a future date.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Projects Subcommittee Update:** Election of new Subcommittee Chair
The Projects Subcommittee will meet in the near future to elect a chair, discuss a work plan for 2016 and review the draft Vision Zero Action Plan.
- **Technical Subcommittee Update:** Peter Baird, Technical Subcommittee Chair
Mr. Baird reported that the group had a productive meeting in December and will be meeting again on January 21st to review the progress with the pedestrian rights and responsibilities document under development.

7. FUTURE BUSINESS / ADJOURN

Chair Almazan explained that upon further consideration and input from other PAC members, that the PAC will not be hearing the coyote management issues as it is more of a wildlife management issue rather than a focus area of the PAC.

Ms. Black-Walker reminded the group to comment on the Lamar Beach Master Plan currently underway by the Parks and Recreation Department. Deadline to comment is 1/15/16.

Ms. Black-Walker also reminded the group to comment on the Capital Metro Service Plan 2025 survey as well.

Mr. Moe reminded the group to comment on ATX Safer Streets survey about how Austinites use transportation network companies such as Uber and Lyft.

Chair Almazan requested that the new ADA Coordinator be invited to a future PAC meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.