



RECOMMENDATION

Pedestrian Advisory Council

Recommendation Number: 20160502-03

Mobility Talks

WHEREAS, The Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) bylaws state that the PAC “shall advise City of Austin on pedestrian planning, policy, design, funding, education, 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” and “Provide pedestrian information and recommendations to the Urban Transportation Commission (or other boards and commissions) and Council, as needed”;

WHEREAS, The PAC’s goal is to ensure sensitivity to pedestrian issues in the design and implementation of all public and private projects impacting pedestrians;

WHEREAS Mayor Adler has declared 2016 the Year of Mobility;

WHEREAS bicycling, pedestrianism and public transit, as affordable means of transportation, create ladders of opportunity;

WHEREAS building out world-class bicycle, transit and pedestrian infrastructure will help Austin compete for the USDOT Smart Cities Challenge;

WHEREAS City Council has initiated the Mobility Talks public input process to garner ideas from this and other Boards and Commissions for easing congestion and improving mobility, including through a 2016 mobility bond;

WHEREAS investment in meaningful alternatives to single-occupancy car trips, including bicycling, pedestrianism and public transit, is the only proven way to reduce congestion;

WHEREAS funding the Bicycle Master Plan will remove an estimated 20,000 car trips from the Central Business District every day;

WHEREAS constructing sidewalks to schools and transit stops will help Austin achieve its Vision Zero street safety goals to eliminate traffic-related deaths and address historic inequities;

WHEREAS funding a high-capacity transit network that prioritizes high-density corridors and high-diversity populations will make public transportation a viable, convenient and affordable transportation choice for Austinites;

WHEREAS the PAC wishes to ensure that the City of Austin has a fully connected, safe, and accessible pedestrian network;

WHEREAS the PAC supports the creation of a flexible funding source for other necessary pedestrian capital infrastructure;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Pedestrian Advisory Council recommends the City Council pursue a 2016 mobility bond that achieves the following:

1. Fully fund all "Very High" and "High" priority sidewalks in the forthcoming 2016 Sidewalk Master Plan;
2. Fund street and intersection improvements such as pedestrian hybrid beacons necessary to complement and implement connected pedestrian networks;
3. Fully fund the Bicycle Master Plan, including "Tier 1" Urban Trails;
4. Fund strategic components of Corridor Plans, with an emphasis on creating dedicated, high-capacity transit lanes, protected bike lanes and pedestrian safety improvements.

Date of Approval: May 2nd, 2016

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe R. Almazan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Almazan

Chair, Pedestrian Advisory Council