



**PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)
MONDAY APRIL 4, 2016 – 6:00 PM
CITY HALL – ROOM 1029
301 W. SECOND STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701**

MEETING SUMMARY

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Vice Chair Hayden Walker.

Full Members in Attendance:

Heyden Walker – Vice Chair
Nancy Crowther

Peter Baird
Tom Wald

Alternate Members in Attendance:

Janet Beinke
Joel Meyer
Carmen de la Morena

Marva Overton
Patricia Schaub
Mike Sledge

Staff in Attendance:

Laura Dierenfield
Emily Smith
Francis Reilly

Robert Richman
Art Fortune
Ronnie Bell

Guests in Attendance:

Nic Moe, Children's Optimal Health
Leah Bojo, Land Use Solutions
Kelan Robinson, Land Use Solutions

John Woodley
Preston Tyree, Bike Austin
Todd Johnson, FHWA

Carrie Gammell
Caitlin D'Alton, Capital Metro
Louis Alcorn, Capital Metro

Absent Members:

Joe Almazan – Chair (excused)
Valerie Fruge (excused)
Julio Carillo
Zakc Lockrem

Girard Kinney (excused)
Robert Anderson (excused)
Kathy Rock
Marva Overton

Emily Risinger (excused)

Luke Urie

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.

- Leah Bojo: Public forum on digital billboards is coming up on Thursday, April 28th. Land Use Solutions is representing Scenic Austin on this issue. Find more info here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/billboards>

2. APPROVAL OF MARCH MEETING SUMMARY

Mike Sledge motioned to approve the minutes for March. Tom Wald seconded. Meeting Summary unanimously approved.

3. PRESENTATION ON DRAFT ORDINANCE REGARDING LOITERING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Robert Richman, Lieutenant at Austin Police Department, gave the presentation. Art Fortune, Commander at Austin Police Department and Ann Howard, Executive Director of Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO), were also present to provide feedback on the presentation. The presentation covered proposed changes the language of the 1992 Pedestrian Safety Ordinance that is currently reflected in city code, statistics on pedestrian fatalities in the city of Austin from 2013-2015, draft language for proposed changes to city code, and proposed pedestrian educational components. Presentation is available [here](#).

The following discussion among PAC members focused on specifics of how data on pedestrian fatalities is collected, the effectiveness of an enforcement, behavioral, or educational approach to preventing pedestrian fatalities when engineering and infrastructure can be the underlying causes of situations that lead to fatalities, potential protections from citation for people walking in dangerous situations who have no other choices or options for walking to their destination, and potential conflicts the proposed language might encounter in federal or state laws. PAC members also asked about how the history of crashes explained the need for the proposed ordinance, and requested that APD provide a map of the areas that would be affected by their recommended changes.

No action taken.

Robert Richman also announced that he would no longer be serving as the APD liaison to the PAC because he has been reassigned within APD. Art Fortune announced plans to appoint a specific APD liaison for pedestrian safety and special projects in July.

4. EAST 6TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PRESENTATION

Leah Bojo, Entitlements and Policy Manager at Land Use Solutions gave the presentation. Land Use Solutions is representing the business owners in the East Sixth Street Public Improvement District (PID). Land Use Solutions is proposing a concept for a streetscape project on East Sixth Street that would temporarily redesign the street through a tactical urbanist approach by using inexpensive materials, such as paint and planters, to create back-in angled parking spaced, a protected bike lane, and pedestrian facilities on the street. Presentation is available [here](#).

The following discussion among PAC members focused on issues of accessibility and ADA compliance, accommodations for emergency vehicles, loading vehicles, and pedicabs, the speed limit on the street, and parking demand and supply in the area.

No action taken. PAC full member Nancy Crowther will draft a recommendation of support for consideration at next month's meeting.

5. BERKMAN DRIVE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The PAC considered a motion to appoint Girard Kinney as the official Pedestrian Advisory Council representative to the Berkman Drive Working Group. The motion passed unanimously on Peter Baird's motion and Mike Sledge's second.

6. TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

- Peter Baird, Technical Subcommittee Chair

The Technical Subcommittee now has an "academic" version of their pedestrian document completed, which includes a lot of research on pedestrian-related policies at the local, regional and state levels. The committee's next steps are: 1) choosing findings and messages from their research to simplify into a public, shareable, educational pamphlet on the current policies and 2) using their research findings to make recommendations for future policy changes.

7. PROJECTS SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

- Robert Anderson, Projects Subcommittee Chair

Robert was absent, so Carmen de la Morena gave the update. The Project Subcommittee reviewed the revised Vision Zero Action Plan at their last meeting and will have their next meeting on April 13th to give their final feedback before the full PAC considers a recommendation of support for the plan in May. The Subcommittee is also learning about the city's Safe Routes to School program and researching pedestrian activity around schools.

8. STAFF AND COMMISSION BRIEFINGS

- Bicycle Advisory Council Update – No update. The BAC did not meet in March.
- Urban Transportation Commission Update – No update.
- Mobility Committee Update – No update.

9. FUTURE BUSINESS / ADJOURN

- Laura: ATD Walk Audit Leader training is coming upon Tuesday, April 5th. Walk Audit Workshop is coming up on National Walking Day, Wednesday, April 6th from 9:30 to 12noon at the North Austin YMCA.
- Heyden: Participate in and share the Mobility Talks survey at [MobilityTalks.org](https://mobilitytalks.org)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm by Heyden Walker, Vice Chair.