

Austin Groups Call for Improvements to San Jacinto
Organizations unified in support of a safer street design

Feb. 19, 2019: A number of Austin organizations are calling for changes to San Jacinto Boulevard in response to the tragic death of Anthony Diaz, who was run over by a bus on Jan. 28 while riding his bike on San Jacinto by the University of Texas stadium.

The University of Texas owns and controls San Jacinto between Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Dean Keeton Street. Unlike other parts of San Jacinto, the stretch through campus currently has no bike lanes. Instead, head-in, angled parking spaces line both sides of the street.

UT's own campus master plan, approved in 2013, calls for removing all parking from San Jacinto and installing a separate bike path. More recently, the University has made changes to Speedway, a parallel corridor running through campus, with the expectation of diverting many cyclists to San Jacinto. But the University has not yet made any improvements to San Jacinto.

Austin's 2014 Bicycle Plan identifies this stretch of San Jacinto as part of a core network of bike routes intended to be suitable for riders of all ages and abilities.

The organizations listed below urge the University to consider immediate implementation of protected bike lanes on San Jacinto. This change could be achieved quickly and inexpensively on a temporary basis, and more permanent improvements could then be installed over time. The result would be a far safer street, and a more bike-friendly campus.