

# Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 18, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

Austin City Hall – Room 1027 301 W. Second St. Austin, Texas

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair Kathryn Flowers.

**Full Members in Attendance:**

Kathryn Flowers (Chair)	Michelle LeBlanc	James Lentz
Tristan Heinen (Vice Chair)	Lori Merlino	Patricia Schaub

**Full Members Absent:**

Louis Alcorn	Raquel Marie Ortega
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**Alternate Members in Attendance:**

Christopher Heathcott	Carol Fraser
John Koonz	Curtis Rogers

**Alternate Members Absent:**

David Barrientos	Matthew McGee	Daniel Alvarado
Nils Brown	Eryn Moris	Tom Wald

**City Staff in Attendance:**

Emily Smith, Austin Transportation	Janae Spence, Public Works
Nathan Wilkes, Austin Transportation	Ella Ryan, Austin Transportation

**Guests in Attendance:**

Tommy Eden	Jason VanFickell	Randy Linder
Adam Greenfield	David Walker	

## 1. Introductions

**2. Public Communication:** No attendees signed up to address the BAC regarding topics not on the agenda.

**3. Approval of May 2019 Meeting Minutes:** The May 21, 2019 [meeting minutes](#) were approved on a 6-0 vote with Alcorn and Ortega absent.

**4. Traffic Fatalities Reported Since Last BAC Meeting:** Patricia Schaub read aloud the names and ages of six people whose deaths due to traffic crashes on Austin streets were reported since the BAC last met as well as the locations at which the crashes occurred:

1. *Halbert Hendricks, 40 – 2700 block of S. Congress Avenue, S of Oltorf*
2. *Luis Fernando Martinez-Vertiz, 25 – N. Lamar and Morrow St.*
3. *Lance Christopher Smith, 35 – Bundyhill Drive and East MLK Blvd*
4. *Cecil Wade Walker, 49 – 12000 block of S IH 35 SB*
5. *Guadalupe Padilla Palacios, 42 – 8900 block of N Capital of Texas Highway*
6. *Matthew Waters, 53 – 400 East Oltorf St*

Schaub noted that there have been 38 traffic fatalities this year and that at this time in 2018 there had been 29.

**5. Longhorn Dam Multimodal Improvements – Review of Alternatives:** Janae Spence, Public Works, and Nathan Wilkes, Austin Transportation, reviewed the [open house boards](#) from a public meeting held on June 10, 2019, which outlined alternatives for the final design of a new pedestrian and bicycle bridge over

Lady Bird Lake and proposed interim improvements to the existing Longhorn Bridge. BAC members drafted a recommendation from scratch which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) recommends immediate implementation of the interim improvements proposed at the June 10<sup>th</sup> public engagement meeting;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that Austin Transportation Department and the Public Works Department prioritize rapid implementation of any of the draft alternatives presented at the June 10<sup>th</sup> public engagement meeting.*

The [recommendation](#) was approved on a 6-0 vote with Alcorn and Ortega absent.

To receive project updates on the [Longhorn Dam Multimodal Improvements](#) preliminary engineering report, please sign up for the [mailing list](#).

**6. Recommendation regarding Travis County projects, including the draft Travis County Transportation Blueprint document:** John Koonz presented draft recommendation language which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) generally supports the recommendations made by the Travis County Bicycle Safety Task Force;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County approve the remaining Bicycle Safety Task Force Recommendations presented to the Travis County Commissioners Court on 5/3/2016, as listed on the Status of Bicycle Safety Task Force Recommendations dated May 22, 2019 ([May 2019 Status of Bicycle Safety Task Force Recommendations](#)). These recommendations include:*

- *approving the Task Force's Freewheel and Spoke bicycle route system*
- *approving a Bicycle/Pedestrian planning position*
- *developing a Travis County Bicycle Master Plan*
- *adopting policies that put bicycle and pedestrian transportation "on par" with vehicular transportation*
- *amending the subdivision design standards and the CIP design standards to include standards for the design of bicycle facilities, and*
- *developing a "Vision Zero" policy;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County continue to integrate bicycle/pedestrian facilities into design and budget of all new and improved county roadways and county capital improvements projects, and to continue to integrate bicycle safety into the County's traffic safety program*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County adopt National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) design guidance;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County put an emphasis on building separated and/or protected bicycle facilities;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County addresses the top transportation*

*concerns, as identified during the public engagement phase, by prioritizing solutions that emphasize increasing transportation options (bus service, shared use paths, etc.) and including and improving multimodal road accommodations;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that Travis County require that all new subdivisions and developments are designed to include connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods and developments for bicyclists and pedestrians;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that road widening projects add capacity only for bicycling, walking, and transit-only lanes, and that no project adds new lanes for automobile use;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BAC recommends that all projects are reviewed based on fiscal sustainability analysis that determines whether an area's tax base can meet long term infrastructure maintenance costs.*

The [recommendation](#) was adopted on a 6-0 vote with Alcorn and Ortega absent.

- 7. Motion of support for Pedestrian Advisory Council Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative recommendations:** Adam Greenfield, Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) Vice Chair, presented a template for a letter in support for [proposals made by the PAC](#) regarding the [Congress Avenue Urban Design Initiative](#). A motion to approve of the BAC signing on to the [letter](#) as a body was approved on a 6-0 vote with Alcorn and Ortega absent.
- 8. Updates/Announcements:** Patricia Schaub and Tristan Heinen, BAC and Project Connect Ambassador Network (PCAN) members, encouraged attendees to participate in upcoming [Project Connect](#) workshops and virtual open houses.
- 9. Future Agenda Items:** Commercial and vehicle-for-hire parking in bike lanes and E. 7th Street were added to the BAC's running list of future items.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. by Chair Kathryn Flowers.