



**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH, 2019**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, November 20th, 2019 at 301 W. 2nd Street in the Boards & Commissions Room.

Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:

Chair Joel Sher, Vice Chair Jennifer Bristol, Commissioner Andrew Harrison, Commissioner Chris Kanipe, Commissioner Megan Meisenbach, Commissioner Felipe Garza, Commissioner August Harris, Commissioner David Gomez, Commissioner Richard DePalma, Commissioner Jim Schissler
Commissioner Cynthia Weatherby

Downtown Commissioners Not in Attendance:

Commissioner Melissa Henao-Robledo, Commissioner Ben Heimsath, Commissioner Sam Sargent, Commissioner Meghan Skornia, Commissioner Christopher Lehman

City Staff in Attendance:

Christine Maguire and Mona Sanchez, Economic Development Department

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

No citizens were signed up to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16TH, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Vice Chair Bristol motioned to approve the October 16th, 2019 meeting minutes with Commissioner Harris' second on a vote of 6-0 with Commissioner Kanipe, Commissioner Garza and Commissioner Harris off dais.

4. CAPITOL COMPLEX AND NORTH CONGRESS AVENUE

The Commission received a presentation from John Raff, Texas Facilities Commission and Paul Bielamowicz, Page Architects.

No action was taken.

5. PROJECT CONNECT

This item was postponed.

6. DOWNTOWN CRIME AND CLEANUP STATISTICS

This item was postponed.

7. WORKING GROUPS

The Austin Core Transportation Plan (ACTP) Working Group reported that they have compiled an extensive list of stakeholders and will be interviewing five to ten of the key stakeholders prior to the next meeting in December. It is also in process of reviewing transportation staff's stakeholder engagement process through AECOM to ensure that comprehensive input is received from these stakeholders prior to the development of the ACTP. It will present its findings to the Commission in December 2019.

8. ITEMS FROM OTHER COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Weatherby reported that the Urban Transportation Commission met twice in November: a special meeting to discuss comments to the Planning Commission on the new code development plan; and recommendations to the City Council on the Neighborhood University Overlay (UNO) code amendments.
- Commissioner Garza reported that the Arts Commission held a special meeting on November 16th to discuss the \$12 million in funding allocated for creative spaces and said those interested in commenting on the allocation visit www.speakupaustin.org.
- Commissioner DePalma (Parks Commission) reported that the Parks and Recreation Department Long Range Plan went before City Council and passed on first reading November 14th and the Commission continues to discuss the Land Development Code revisions.

9. STAFF UPDATES

Staff Liaison Mona Sanchez reported that the Downtown Commission 2020 meeting calendar had been passed by City Council and documented by the City Clerk's Office.

10. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Impact of Past Housing Bonds: Affordable Units
- Chapter 380 Incentive Location-based Real Estate Incentives
- New Downtown Development
- South Central Water Front
- Ted Eubanks: Austin Stories
- Homeless Camping Update: Chamber of Commerce/ATX Help Update
- Wayfinding Initiative Update
- Small Cell Initiative / Downtown Installation
- Protocols of Media Interaction for the Commission
- Downtown Public Safety
- Shoal Creek Restoration
- North Congress Avenue Corridor
- Palm School Future Recommendations

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

The minutes were approved on this the 18th day of December 2019 on Commissioner Sargent's motion and Commissioner Gomez second on a vote of 7-0 with Commissioner Harris off dais.