



## **DOWNTOWN COMMISSION MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020**

The Downtown Commission convened in a meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 via videoconferencing.

### **Downtown Commissioners in Attendance:**

Vice Chair Jennifer Bristol, Commissioner Meghan Skornia, Commissioner Sam Sargent, Commissioner Chris Kanipe, Commissioner David Gomez, Commissioner Christopher Lehman, Commissioner Megan Meisenbach, Commissioner Ben Heimsath, Commissioner August Harris, Commissioner Cynthia Weatherby, Commissioner Kim Taylor

### **Downtown Commissioners Not in Attendance:**

Chair Joel Sher, Commissioner Andrew Harris, Commissioner Jim Schissler, Commissioner Felipe Garza, Commissioner Melissa Henao-Robledo

### **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 10:00 a.m.

#### **2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

No citizens were signed up to speak.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 19, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner August Harris motioned to approve the February 19, 2020 meeting minutes with Commissioner Sargent's second on a vote of 7-0.

#### **4. PROJECT CONNECT**

The Commission received a presentation from Jacob Calhoun with Capital Metro. No action was taken.

#### **5. APD DOWNTOWN ACTIVITY**

The Commission received a briefing from Chief Joseph Chacon and Commander Ryan Adam with the Austin Police Department.

Commissioner Meghan Skornia motioned to recommend that the Austin Police Department (APD) provide a monthly Safety and Policing Report at every Downtown Commission meeting on the following items:

- Downtown use of force incidents by race
- Downtown officer-involved shootings by race

- Downtown loitering citations by race with Commissioner August Harris seconding on a vote of 7-0.

Commissioner Meghan Skornia motioned the Downtown Commission create a Safety and Policing working group to make recommendations and review data on police brutality specific to downtown. This group will:

- Work with APD on information contained in the monthly Safety and Policing Report
- Make recommendations regarding APD leadership and staffing
- Make recommendations regarding APD funding

with Commissioner David Gomez second on a vote of 7-0.

## 6. WORKING GROUPS

B. Austin Core Transportation Plan (ACTP) Working Group  
No progress to report.

## 7. ITEMS FROM OTHER COMMISSIONERS

No items from Commissioners.

## 8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice Chair Jennifer Bristol motioned to nominate Commissioner August Harris as the Downtown Commission Chair with Commissioner Megan Meisenbach's second on a vote of 7-0.

Commissioner August Harris motioned to nominate Vice Chair Jennifer Bristol to a second term of the Downtown Commission Vice Chair with Commissioner Meghan Skornia's second on a vote of 7-0.

## 9. STAFF UPDATES

- Annual Internal Review Report and Discussion  
Staff Liaison Mona Sanchez reported that the 2019/2020 Annual Internal Review Report is due to the City Clerk's Office on July 31, 2020.
- Discussion of pending future agenda items

Impact of Past Housing Bonds: Affordable Units

- i. Wayfinding Initiative Update
- ii. Small Cell Initiative / Downtown Installation
- iii. Shoal Creek Restoration
- iv. Palm School Future Recommendations
- v. South Central Waterfront
- vi. Rezoning and Redevelopment of the Townlake YMCA
- vii. Overview of historic resources
- viii. Rainey Street Coalition and Proposed Future Development
- ix. Red Line Parkway and Potential Biking Pathway
- x. Brackenridge Campus and Future Development Plans
- xi. Micro Mobility Ordinance
- xii. Pecan Streets Merchant Association and Activity on East Sixth Street

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**The minutes were approved on this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020 on Commissioner Meisenbach's motion and Commissioner Schissler's second on a vote of 6-0 with Commissioner Skornia off dais.**