



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Urban Transportation Commission

Recommendation Number 2020911-02D: Healthy Streets Initiative

WHEREAS, City of Austin staff and the citizens of Austin have piloted a Healthy Streets initiative which prioritizes the safety, comfort and space for People, not just cars, on our publicly maintained streets;

WHEREAS, Healthy Streets are supported by about 3 out of 4 people;

WHEREAS Pandemic or not, The City of Austin has a direct benefit in providing more accessible opportunities for climate-friendly exercise and multiple modes of active transportation, including bikes, walking, strollers, wheelchairs, scooters and more;

WHEREAS Pandemic or not, the City of Austin has an opportunity to reclaim public space for essential activities that benefit from social distancing such as education, outdoor dining, and entertainment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Urban Transportation Commission recommends City Council make the Healthy Streets Program permanent, with the understanding that the exact streets, and legal and physical mechanisms for prioritizing people while allowing local traffic and public transportation, can be adjusted by the Administrators in the appropriate departments.

Date of Approval: September 11, 2020

Record of the vote: 8-0 with Franco, Runas, and Wilfley absent

Attest:

Emily Smith, staff liaison