

Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting Minutes
Monday May 18th, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Via Videoconferencing

Full Members in Attendance: Briana Cohen, Jake Boone, Stephanie Webb, Kelly Braun, Patricia Schaub, Christopher Heathcott **Full Members Absent:**, Tommy Eden , GP Selvaggio, Kain Smith. **Alternate Members in Attendance:** Curtis Rogers, Kathryn Flowers, Meghan Otoupalik, Greg Go, Russel Taylor, Daniel Riegel **Alternate Members Absent:** Alice Maz, Marsha Fatino, Leslie Case, Brian Anderson.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Briana Cohen.

- 1. Approval of previous meeting minutes:** The April 20th 2021 BAC meeting [minutes](#) were approved, as amended, on a 6-0 vote with Eden, Smith and Salvaggio, were absent.
- 2. Traffic fatalities reported since previous BAC meeting:** BAC Chair Briana Cohen read aloud the names of nine people whose deaths due to traffic crashes on Austin streets were reported since the BAC last met: Arlen Jameson, Duston Theron Harrison, Haley Frances Womack, John Doe, Joseph Harrell Hayman III, Richard May, Alexis Enrique Aguirre Torres, Jose Doe, William Hernandez, Vivian Love Garcia, Shreyansh Pasala, Caleb Hernandez, Michael Elton Holt.
- 3. Update on Argo:** Sam Dreiman [presented](#) on Argo AI in Austin. No action taken.
- 4. Update on I-35 South Project Environmental Assessment:** BAC Chair Briana Cohen presented draft recommendation language which, after discussion, was moved by Heathcott, seconded by Rogers and unanimously approved 6-0, with Eden, Selvaggio, and Smith absent. The [recommendation](#) reads:

Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) Recommendations in response to the I-35 Capital Express South Project and I-35 Capital Express North Project Recommendation 20210518-001

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that TxDOT prioritize bicycle and pedestrian connectivity across and along the I-35 corridor for all ages and abilities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that TxDOT include 12' wide or greater shared-use paths along all frontage roads, with a physical barrier constructed or organic, for expected high volumes of bicycle and pedestrian traffic and per the city of Austin Transportation guidance, and that any design exceptions (i.e. less than 12' SUP width) be specified by location and be posted publicly and shared directly with the BAC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that in order to provide local access to destinations and not create additional barriers to bicycling and walking, TxDOT create dedicated pedestrian and bicycle at-grade crossings along i-35 (Level 5 Street) to reduce crossing density below ½ mile in accordance with the city's proposed guidelines to the [Transportation Criteria Manual update](#) (Section 4).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that TxDOT perform more in-depth studies on the impacts of construction to the four creeks within the project area and establish protections against pollution impacts from infrastructure improvements;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that TxDOT release detailed plans for construction and implementation regarding east-west at-grade crossings, including accessible infrastructure for individuals biking or walking, throughout the project area;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that TxDOT not move forward with the elevated sections for the managed lanes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that all creek crossings include a shared-use path underpass, connecting across I-35;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that any improvements in the vicinity of the Bergstrom Spur support and allow for a future grade-separated crossing for bicycle and pedestrian traffic, connecting across I-35;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BAC recommends that any new lanes be dynamically tolled, which will allow all drivers the freedom to travel in lanes with less traffic, and help fund ongoing maintenance for this project. Tolloed lanes will also result in higher utilization than HOV lanes, as well as fewer law enforcement officers needed to monitor compliance.

5. Update on Shoal Creek Conservancy's Cyprus and Shoal Project Briefing: Nina Rinaldi, of the Shoal Creek Conservancy provided a [presentation](#) on the Cyprus and Shoal Project. No action taken.

6. Updates and Announcements: Members provided updates on recent actions taken by the Urban Transportation Commission, Pedestrian Advisory Council and Council Mobility Committee.

7. Future Agenda Items

Future Traffic Safety Strategies (Cohen; June)

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. by Chair Briana Cohen.