

September 24, 2021

Dear Mayor Adler and Councilmembers,

BikeTexas supports the Austin City Council resolution to elevate the Mokan Trail to a Tier 1 project in the Urban Trails plan.

This Mokan trail section, on the south side of the track, parallels the railroad track and goes east and northeast from E. 5th St. at Chicon St. to the connecting trail at the Trailhead Apartments at Airport Blvd. It crosses under E. 7th St. and under Airport Rd, greatly increasing safety and connectivity.

This project will provide a vital connection from downtown Austin to the Southern Walnut Creek Trail, connecting to the existing Eastlink trail, the Crosstown Bikeway, the 183 trail, the Montopolis Bridge, the imminent Wishbone Bridge river crossing at Pleasant Valley Rd, and the Red Line Trail. By linking these existing and planned trails together, Austinites in surrounding neighborhoods, including those whose budgets may be challenged by the necessity for car trips, will have more options for transportation to jobs, shopping and recreation.

The Mokan trail is adjacent to property that will be BikeTexas future home, so we also support this trail as an adjacent landowner.

BikeTexas is a nonprofit organization founded in 1991, located in East Austin since 1999. We represent hundreds of Austinites and thousands of other Texans who ride bicycles and support active transportation. We ask you all to vote yes on this resolution.

Thank you,

Robin Stallings
Executive Director

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BikeTexas