# **City of Austin Mobility Outcome Report** Presented by Assistant City Manager Gina Fiandaca February 2022



## Monthly Highlights

## **City Safety Lighting**

Austin Transportation is working with Austin Energy to upgrade street lighting this year in West Campus to increase the amount and quality of light in the area as part of a plan to improve overall safety for residents and visitors. More than 500 additional streetlights will be retrofitted with LED inserts by the end of 2022. The 're-lamping' process is part of a multi-year plan to increase pedestrian safety in the area.

## **Dynamic Speed Displays**

Austin Transportation has installed 14 Dynamic Speed Display Devices (DSDDs) at seven key locations across Austin with a history of severe crashes (Dessau/Parmer; E. Riverside/Pleasant Valley; S. Congress/Stassney; Menchaca/ between S. Lamar & Ben White; N. Lamar/Anderson Ln.; Cesar Chavez EB from MoPac; N. IH-35 frontage Rd./S of Tech Ridge Blvd.). The displays show vehicle speeds in real-time and record the speed data, which can inform additional speed management strategies.

Austin Transportation's <u>Speed Management Program</u> reduces egregious speeding through speed limit changes and traffic calming treatments. These efforts support the City's <u>Vision Zero goal</u> of reaching zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.

## KLM Royal Dutch Airlines Announces New Service: Austin to Amsterdam

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is expanding its network to Austin starting March 28, 2022. KLM will operate a direct service between Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (AMS) and Austin–Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) three times a week on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday.

## Movability Celebrates 10-year Anniversary

Movability is Central Texas' transportation management association (TMA) and works with employers all over Central Texas to help them make connections and learn best practices, and to develop and implement custom mobility plans. Over the past 10 years, Movability has partnered with businesses small and large to improve the region through commuter options that save time and money.

## Safe Routes to School: Gorzycki Middle School & Mills Elementary School

Streets surrounding Gorzycki Middle School and Mills Elementary School are in the process of being evaluated for new bikeway connections and improved pedestrian crossings as part of Safe Routes to School project.

Proposed improvements include an all ages and abilities bikeways between both schools paired with shorter, safer pedestrian crossings designed to increase yielding, slow turns, and shorten the distance people have to cross the street.

## **Violet Crown Trail North**

In partnership with the <u>Hill Country Conservancy</u> (HCC), Austin Public Work's <u>Urban Trails Program</u> will begin construction on the <u>Violet Crown Trail North</u> on Monday, February 14. The new one-mile section of the Violet Crown Trail will extend from Home Depot Boulevard to MoPac, just north of William Cannon Drive.



The trail will be 10-feet wide, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, and composed of both concrete and stabilized granite. Construction is expected to take 12 months. Funding for the project comes from the Austin <u>Mobility Bonds</u>, as well as a <u>Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization</u> (CAMPO) grant.

#### Looking Ahead

## South by Southwest Preparations

SXSW will be a hybrid event this year, to be held March 11-20, 2022. Austin Transportation staff have been meeting regularly with event organizers to discuss traffic planning. The Right of Way Management Division and the Office of Special Events meet every week to review waivers requests from construction sites in and around the affected SXSW/Spring Festival Season (SFS) impact area. Staff have combined list of all the parking spaces that SXSW uses for their productions needs and all the spaces that COA uses and will start identifying areas for Ride Share pick up/drop off, and shared mobility and bike parking.

#### Partner Recap

## **TxDOT Modifies I-35 Design**

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) presented design changes to its I-35 Capital Express Central project to the community on January 25 after making modifications in response to feedback from the community and the City.

The modified design will be carried forward along with another alternative and the no-build option as TxDOT develops its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), a federally required step under the National Environmental Protection Act. Another official public comment period will be open when TxDOT presents its locally preferred alternative in the DEIS, expected in late 2022.

Meanwhile, the City is working with TxDOT and the Downtown Austin Alliance to develop plans for caps and stitches, or lids and widened bridges over I-35. Community engagement will continue through 2022 as locations and funding strategies are developed.

Community Resources	
Weekly Mobility Newsletter Sign Up	Upcoming Sidewalk Projects
2016 Bond Programs and Projects	Absent Sidewalk Map and Prioritization
Capital Projects Explorer	Street Preventative Maintenance
Austin Mobility Data and Performance Hub	Safe Ride Home Resources
Austin-Bergstrom International Airport	Special Event Road Closures