City of Austin Mobility Outcome Report

Presented by Assistant City Manager Gina Fiandaca March 2022



Monthly Highlights

Burnet Road Corridor

This month, crews are expected to begin subsurface utility engineering survey work along Burnet Road between White Horse Trail and Research Blvd (US183). To ensure the work is done safely and efficiently, temporary lane closures may occur at Pasadena Drive and Richcreek Road daily between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. This work is in advance of construction that is anticipated in 2023, which will include upgraded traffic signals with enhanced technology at Koenig Ln. and Romeria Dr.; raised median island from Koenig Ln. to White Horse Trail and bus stop improvements in partnership with Capital Metro.

Austin Leads with Bicycle Mode Share and Growth Over 20 years

Austin was profiled along with peers Boston, Chicago, and Oakland in the recent <u>Benchmarking Bike</u> <u>Networks Report</u> funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and authored by the League of American Bicyclist. Austin has seen a nearly 20% growth in its share of bicycle commuting.

Air Canada Announces New Service: Austin to Vancouver, British Columbia

Starting June 1, 2022, Air Canada will offer new nonstop service between Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) and Vancouver International Airport (YVR). What makes this new route even more significant is that this new route will offer Austinites and Central Texas travelers the opportunity to connect to a trans-Pacific airport hub that provides more nonstop flights to China than any other North American or European airport. Service to Vancouver will be offered four times per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

New Longhorn Dam Bridge Virtual Open House

The New Longhorn Dam Bridge 30% Design Virtual Open House reveals updated plans for the bridge's design with a focus on three areas: the bridge's plaza, a new underpass under Pleasant Valley Road, and parkland improvements near Canterbury Street. The open house and project survey are available in English and Spanish through March 24, 2022.





Vision Zero Art Murals

Three murals painted by local artists were inspired by testimonials provided by crash survivors and families of crash victims. The <u>murals</u> at Odom Pavilion and City Star Foods include stories and quotes from impacted individuals. To date there have been 1,051 crashes in 2022, compared to 1,044 at this time last year, with 6 fatalities and 37 serious injuries. These murals hope to raise awareness around the importance of slowing down and staying focused while driving.

Safety Improvements: Stassney Ln. at Congress Ave.

Austin Transportation is planning safety improvements for several Austin intersections, including at Stassney Ln. at Congress Ave. As part of the 2016 Mobility Bond, the proposed improvements for this intersection include adding a second left turning lane for vehicles travelling on southbound Congress Ave. to eastbound Stassney Ln.; new raised concrete medians on Congress Ave. for improved access management; and a new left turn lane on northbound Congress Ave. to Ainsworth St.

Stassney Ln. at Congress Ave. is one of the first 2018 Vision Zero Bond locations to finalize design and move towards construction later this year. It was selected through an established prioritization process which analyzed crash history, volume, collision types, and more. CapMetro is also a key partner in the project as multiple bus stops will be moved closer to the intersection for enhanced safety. More information on this project, the prioritization process, and other 2018 Vision Zero Bond funded projects, including Stassney Ln./South 1st St. and South Congress/Ramble, can be found at the project webpage.

In addition to the Congress Ave at Stassney Lane Safety project, ATD has completed North Lamar Boulevard at Morrow Street in July 2021. The following additional intersections under design: Cameron Road at Ferguson Lane - Estimated Construction Start Date: March 2022; Congress Ave. at Ramble Ln. 0 Estimated Construction Start Date: Fall 2022; and Stassney Lane at South First Avenue - Estimated Construction Start Date: January 2023.

Airport Expansion & Development Program – We Want to Hear From The Public

Following a scoping phase & public comment period last fall, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport has finalized the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in support of the Airport Expansion and Development Program (AEDP), which guides construction and development at the airport over the next five to seven years. Public comments will be accepted until the comment period closes on April 7, 2022. Comments may be submitted to the airport through the <u>project website</u>, mail or at the upcoming public meetings. Comments and their responses will be included in the final Draft EA that will be presented to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Looking Ahead

RAISE Grant Application

The Public Works Department and the Corridor Program Office have begun working with the Intergovernmental Relations Office to draft an application for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant that would provide funds for the construction of the Southeast Austin Connector Project. This infrastructure modernization and connection project is comprised of the Bergstrom Spur Trail, South Pleasant Valley corridor, and the Country Club Creek Trail extension to



connect to the two trails. Existing projects in these areas have been previously funded by 2016 and 2020 mobility bonds. The grant application would seek \$20M and use 2020 bond funds as a required match. The grant submittal deadline is April 14. Staff will bring a *Request for Council Action* item forward to the April 7 Council meeting to seek approval of match funds.

South by Southwest Preparations

SXSW will be a hybrid event this year, to be held March 11-20, 2022. Austin Transportation staff have met regularly with event organizers to discuss traffic planning. Staff have a combined list of all the parking spaces that SXSW uses for their productions needs and all the spaces that COA uses and have identified areas for Ride Share pick up/drop off, as well as shared mobility and bike parking.

Partner Recap

Project Connect – Orange and Blue Rail Lines

Staff has been actively coordinating with Capital Metro, the Austin Transit Partnership and over 25 City departments on 30% design review and Environmental Impact Statement technical report reviews for the Orange and Blue rail lines. Staff is meeting regularly with City departments, and the Orange and Blue rail line teams to coordinate on a variety of issues including, but not limited to utilities, right-of-way, street design, land use, permitting, water quality, community engagement and equity concerns.

Community Resources

Weekly Mobility Newsletter Sign Up Upcoming Sidewalk Projects

2016 Bond Programs and Projects

Absent Sidewalk Map and Prioritization

<u>Capital Projects Explorer</u> <u>Street Preventative Maintenance</u>

<u>Austin Mobility Data and Performance Hub</u>
<u>Safe Ride Home Resources</u>

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Special Event Road Closures