Position Letter on Project Connect from Bill McCamley, Executive Director, Transit Forward

<u>Transit Forward</u>'s mission is to inform the Austin metro community about the benefits of an accessible regional public transit system and to advance the implementation of transit-supportive programs and policies.

Our fellow Austinites voted overwhelmingly in favor of Project Connect in 2020 because of the benefits it will bring to our community, including reduced traffic congestion, more affordable transportation options, increased job growth, less greenhouse gas emissions, and safer streets. Therefore, Transit Forward sincerely appreciates the City's Project Connect office for proposing these foundational modifications, and we strongly believe that these changes would prudently and appropriately expedite the construction of light rail and MetroRapid bus lines, making sure our friends and neighbors get what they voted for sooner rather than later.