



**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Andy Austin
RETIRED UNITED STATES
MAGISTRATE JUDGE
CHAIR

Mike Shaw
R BANK
TREASURER

Tara Shaikh
TARA SHAIKH LAW
SECRETARY

Claire Hempel
DESIGN WORKSHOP
CHAIR ELECT

Zach Hunter
ARTIS
PAST CHAIR

Leah Bojo
DRENNER GROUP

Cara Caulkins
CARA CAULKINS
COMMUNICATIONS

Ryan Coaxum
GUARANTY BANK & TRUST

Alejandro Delgado
TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

Lisa Fritsch
DELL TECHNOLOGIES

Sandra Gonzalez
HID GLOBAL

Matt Harriss
BUTLER FAMILY INTERESTS

Ashley Jones
AQUILA COMMERCIAL

Kevin Lanza
UTHEALTH SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Mike Marin
BOULETTE GOLDEN
& MARIN LLP

Jim Matoushek

Muna Mitchell
FREESE AND NICHOLS

Chris Ragland
RAGLAND HOLDINGS LLC

Brad Stein
INTRACORP

Scott Thomas
CIRRUS LOGIC, INC

Chris Whitaker
HORIZON BANK

March 21, 2023

To: Mayor Watson, Mayor Pro Tem Ellis and Council Members

From: Heidi Anderson, CEO, The Trail Conservancy

Re: Item 56 on the March 23rd Council agenda

On behalf of The Trail Conservancy, I want to express our support of the upcoming resolution regarding dockless micro-mobility devices, sponsored by CM Kelly, CM Vella, CM Qadri and Mayor Watson.

We ask that you support this item, help ensure enforcement and consider adding the requirement of scooter companies to enact their geo-fencing technology that will automatically turn off a scooter when it enters a prohibited zone.

When scooters first descended upon Austin in 2018, they quickly became a fixture on the Butler Hike and Bike Trail. While we support the notion of a safe "last mile" solution these devices became in direct conflict with Trail users and often were abandoned in the middle of the Trail, and often even the lake.

We were able to confirm through Council action that these devices are indeed prohibited on the Butler Trail, and while we posted signs to that effect, there was very little enforcement. The pandemic, obviously, put a quick halt to this issue but it is once again rising.

Second only to encampments in the park, scooters have been the second loudest complaint by Trail users. Not only are they an environmental hazard for the lake, but they present safety hazards for Trail users when abandoned mid-Trail and weaving in and out of other users.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Heidi Anderson

The Trail Conservancy is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Your donation is tax deductible and this letter may serve as your receipt. Tax ID #87-0699956. Your donation will be used towards organizational objectives. You will receive no goods or services required to be valued in consideration of your gift.

P.O. BOX 6332 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78762 | (855)448-7245 | THETRAILCONSERVANCY.ORG

Our mission is to protect, enhance, and connect the Butler Hike-and-Bike Trail at Lady Bird Lake for the benefit of all.