

AUSTIN BAC/PAC JOINT MEETING MONDAY

March 6, 2023

6:00 p.m.

901 South MoPac Expressway

And virtually by WebEx

BAC:

FULL members attending: Les Case (Chair), Spencer Schumacher (Vice Chair), Joshua Collier, Chris Heathcott, Curtis Rogers, Drake Hampton, Ruben Sanchez, Russell Taylor, Tetyana Samiliv, Alejandro de la Vega.

ALTERNATE members attending: Nicole Mwei, Lansing Pugh, Jeff Seiden.

FULL members absent: Kathryn Johanson, Ali Sobhani.

ALTERNATE members absent: Beth Donnelly, Cynthia Fedor, Rhys Rea-Tucker, Faith Reed.

PAC:

FULL members attending: Chris Anderson (Chair), Kimberly Levinson (Vice Chair), Dayna Diven, Garrett Hall, Daniel Kavelman,

ALTERNATE members attending: Anna McAuley, Heyden Black Walker, Priya Patel.

FULL members absent: Jonathan Gros, Patricia Schaub.

ALTERNATE members absent: Jolene Holland, Aditi Ohri.

Call to order: PAC Chair Chris Anderson at 6:05

Public Communication: None.

Local Traffic Fatalites: Spencer read them. February 4, Maria February 21, Aciel Fernandez was killed at the interstection of E Anderson Lane and Cameron Road; February 23, Ivy Ford was killed at the intersection of 620 and Pecan Park Blvd; February 25, an unidentified pedestrian

was killed in the 14100 block of N IH-35; February 28, an unidentified pedestrian was killed at the intersection of Rutland Drive and N Lamar.

Approval of previous minutes (6:10-6:15): Chris Anderson moved passage, Kimberly Levinson seconded. Passed unanimously at 6:06.

Zilker Park Vision Plan (6:15-6:51): Presenter: Greg Montes, Parks and Recreation Dept. starts at 6:07. People gave a lot of mixed input to PARD, planning process started very early for improvements. 54% of people don't visit at least partly because of parking. Also crowding and access issues. Spillway for pool very popular, a lot of erosion in some river areas. Vision Plan meant to enhance and maintain the park, make it sustainable and equitable and accessible. Started planning in February 2021. Over 100 pop-ups, many group discussions, 5 virtual meetings, open house last December. In final stages of planning now. Should take it to Council in late summer.

External shuttle planned, connect to future hubs and external parking garages. Stops at City Hall, Republic Square, One Texas Center. Keeping same number of spaces, but putting in garages. Reduces impervious cover to 27% from 36% and shuttle will serve them. Pedestrian bridges being added too, for easier access.

Statesman ran a report about traffic death toll; planning team intends to slow traffic on Barton Springs road, considering making one lane each way with protected bike lines and sidewalks. Would work with existing pavement. Pedestrian/bike access internal as well. Will add meadow/savanna areas, more woodlands and riparian uplands. Reduce mowed acreage, increase tree canopy, remove impervious cover.

Adding a pedestrian underpass near rowing dock. Change surface parking to a garage, enhance hike & bike trailhead. Landfill will be restored to a savannah/meadow area. No more parking there.

Below ground parking garage near polo field. No more parking on polo field. Playground there as well. Land bridge across Barton Springs Road, as well as maintaining at-grade crossings. Hillside Theater relocates to expanded space near Great Lawn. Stratford turns into bike/ped trail except where it's realigned next to MoPac. Parking lots near great lawn removed. Parking lot near terrace removed. Add playgrounds near Monkey Tree lawn. Maintaining parking lot near pool. Revegetate creek to remediate erosion.

Funding not yet secured for everything, no hard estimates on cost because of the difficulty of estimating inflationary costs.

Joshua Collier asks what planning is there for navigation signage, including digitally and in multiple languages? Greg says wayfinding has been lacking in the park and they are recommending more being added. That would require funding plus community engagement, especially for visual accessibility issues.

Russell Taylor asks if parking garages can be made convertible for the future, i.e. with level decks. Greg says that was in fact discussed, and they hope to see if that is possible. It is part of the plan to do that, so that space can be reclaimed; design phase will address that.

Curtis Rogers says that garages can have pickleball on top, etc. Other uses too. Is City committed to charging at least what street parking costs, so users bear a share of costs. Greg says many people arguing for free parking, lower income people need the space. City still hasn't decided; current parking costs money.

Garrett Hall wants to know how many garages will be underground. Is there a way to limit curb cuts? Greg says one is for sure; one more recommended to be; Azie Morton garage may or may not be. Curb cuts

come in the next phase of design. Garrett asked how many spaces will be there? Greg not sure, will at least maintain the current 2000 spaces. Greg would love a recommendation from us, to City Council.

Mobility Annual Plan (6:51-7:05): Laura Dierenfield presents. Safe routes a big part of it, urban trails. Refiguring streets to be safer, such as the recent work on Springdale Road. Signal work at Barton Springs is an example also. Bike lanes enhanced; corridor program doing work with \$500 million dollars over next ten years. Substandard street upgrades in the works. Regional mobility bonds already paying dividends. Pedestrian crossing plans round out the plans. Not done with meetings; Laura wants our individual and collective feedback once we look at the plans she's linked to.

Chris Anderson asks: Will some funding come from this group for Zilker Park plan, for instance? Can they fund other groups? Laura says yes, absolutely, and they intend to do so. They have flexibility, can leverage more partners.

Spencer Schumacher asks: Can you walk us through what money left in 2016, 2018 and 2020 bonds, and what restrictions are on using the money, and per year? Laura says Bond Oversight Commission has that, they'll link to it in chat. She says also sometimes they can get grant funding to handle a planned project; then they can leverage funds for more projects. No per year spending limit, we are spending on a steep curve to deliver the projects, some almost done. Six year limit after passage and receipt of bonds.

Curtis Rogers wants to know can neighborhood funds be added to leverage the projects in his neighborhood? Laura says yes, they can; they also can leverage fees-in-lieu sometimes, and parking districts.

Alejandro de la Vega asks if fees-in-lieu have to be used in area they were collected. Laura says yes.

ATX Walk Bike Roll Recommendation (7:05-7:33): Facilitator: Chris Anderson, PAC Chair. Chris opens, asks Les Case and Alejandro de la Vega to present their recommendation. Les and Alejandro have done some work on urban trails plan; a little on bike plan. None on sidewalk plan yet. Laura says individual comments needed by 20th; and for Urban Trails and Sidewalks/Shared Streets; the BAC and PAC have a little more time on the Bike Plan. Going to Council in early May, so our feedback needs to be back before then. Spencer proposes BAC meet virtually on Bike Plan on March 21st.

Daniel Kavelman meeting with John Eastman on Urban Trails and Sidewalk plans, he's on the subcommittee. He recommends we endorse the plan. Says they're very well drawn. Les thinks the PAC should comment on Sidewalk Plan; BAC should comment on Bike Plan; and both should comment on Urban Trail plan.

Cycled back to this after comments on I-35. Laura points out we need to weigh in tonight. Kimberly Levinson moves that we conditionally endorse that. Heyden agrees, as does Les Case. Chris: PAC appreciates the Walk Bike Roll and can endorse Sidewalk plan. Kimberly withdraws motion, endorses his. Both PAC and BAC agree to endorse Urban Trails. BAC will do their own Bike Plan comments later.

I-35 recommendation (7:18): Already sent in, Heyden Black-Walker thanks everyone for their hard work.

Google Drive Orientation (7:19-7:30): Facilitator: Chris Anderson, PAC Chair. Chris says only some people should have editor access.

Circled back to Zilker Vision Plan: (7:33-7:42): Chris asks if our support for plan in January counts as the endorsement Greg wanted. Laura says a new general thumbs up would be appreciated. Curtis Rogers says he likes the road diet. Chris Heathcott says he doesn't see the need for another endorsement. Chris Anderson moves general endorsement of appreciation, please see our comments from January on specific feedback. Kimberly Levinson seconds. Everyone agrees unanimously.

Cycled back to Google Drive: Chris Anderson opens it to both groups. Chairs and Vice Chairs will have editing access. Everyone else will have viewing privileges. Subcommittees will have access to necessary sugroups.

Updates and Announcements (7:43-7:44) Chris Parks: BAC only meeting March 21. Will be virtual. Mobility Committee has some updates.

Future Agenda Items (7:45): Project Connect update in April. Alejandro says BAC free to remove anything he put into Bike Plan recommendation. He added everything he can think of because it's easier to remove things than to think of adding them on the fly.

Adjournment of Joint Meeting (7:45): Chris Anderson moves adjournment, Les Case seconds.

The minutes were approved at the April 3rd PAC meeting on Chair Chris Anderson Motion, and Vice-Chair Kimberly Levinson second, on a unanimous vote.

