

Joint Bicycle Advisory Council and Pedestrian Advisory Council Recommendation
Project Connect Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure
Recommendation 20231106-003

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Advisory Council (BAC) advises the City of Austin and other jurisdictions on all matters relating to the use of the bicycle, bicycle infrastructure, and individuals of all ages and abilities who utilize bicycles; and

WHEREAS, the Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) advises the City of Austin and other government entities on planning, policy, design, funding, education, and enforcement regarding creating, maintaining, and operating pedestrian facilities; and

WHEREAS, the ballot language for Proposition A of the November 3rd, 2020 election noted that Project Connect would include “associated road, sidewalk, bike, and street lighting improvements;” and

WHEREAS, the [Project Connect Contract with the Voters](#) defines project connect as “a high-capacity transit system, to address the City's transit needs for safer, faster, and more reliable transportation that will improve access to essential services, such as education, health care, grocery stores, childcare, and jobs, especially in historically underserved and underrepresented communities;” and

WHEREAS, the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) oversees the design, construction, and implementation of Project Connect, Austin’s transit expansion plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Project Connect Office provides technical support to aid in the design and construction of Project Connect infrastructure projects, including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure upgrades; and

WHEREAS, on May 2nd, 2023 the City of Austin Urban Transportation Commission (UTC) [recommended](#) that the City of Austin and ATP engage “in a scoping project for multimodal investments to ensure light rail integrates with and expands Austin's existing and future pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connections;”.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BAC and PAC affirm that, in keeping with the Contract with the Voters, ATP should prioritize right-of-way for pedestrians, bicyclists, micro-mobility users, and other transit options over preserving access for private auto traffic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BAC and PAC recommend that the City of Austin Project Connect Office and ATP take a network-wide approach to upcoming public engagement on multimodal investments to ensure light rail and Metro Rapid improvements prioritize connectivity, integration, and expansion of Austin's existing and future pedestrian, bicycle, and transit connections.

Date of Approval: 11/6/2023

Vote: 12-0

Attest: Natalie Leone, Staff Liaison

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