



***DESIGN COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025***

The Design Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025, located at the Permitting and Development Center, Room 1405, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, in Austin, Texas.

Chair Salinas called the Design Commission meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:

*Jon Salinas, Chair
David Carroll
Conners Ladner
Ben Luckens*

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

*Josue Meiners, Vice Chair
Nkiru Gelles
Kevin Howard
Marissa McKinney – Commissioner McKinney joined the meeting at 6:22 p.m.
Brita Wallace
Brendan Wittsruck*

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Design Commission regular meeting on January 27, 2025.
The minutes from the meeting of 01/27/2025 were approved on Commissioner Ladner’s motion, Chair Salinas’ second on a 9-0 vote. Commissioner McKinney was off the dais. One vacancy on the dais.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

2. Staff briefing regarding the process for corridor planning. Presented by Michelle Marx, Transportation and Public Works. Sponsors: Vice Chair Meiners and Commissioner Carroll.
The presentation was made by Michelle Marx, Transportation and Public Works.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

3. Discussion and action to recommend the Austin Core Transportation Plan to City Council. Presented by Michelle Marx, Transportation and Public Works.
The motion to recommend the Austin Core Transportation Plan to City Council was approved with the following friendly amendments on Commissioner Lucken's motion, Commissioner Carroll's second on a 10-0 vote. One vacancy on the dais.

The friendly amendment from Commissioner Howard was to recommend that street trees be mandatory. This was accepted by the maker of the motion, Commissioner Lukens, and Commissioner Carroll, who seconded the motion.

The friendly amendment from Commissioner Wittstruck was to recommend the implementation plan include the green cost and green infrastructure estimates be part of the base estimates and not a line item. This was accepted by the maker of the motion, Commissioner Lukens, and Commissioner Carroll, who seconded the motion.

The friendly amendment from Commissioner Wittstruck was to recommend coordination with TxDOT to reduce speed limits leading into downtown. This was accepted by the maker of the motion, Commissioner Lukens, and Commissioner Carroll, who seconded the motion.

The friendly amendment from Commissioner Wittstruck was to recommend that the projects in the Austin Core Transportation Plan be brought to the Design Commission. This was accepted by the maker of the motion, Commissioner Lukens, and Commissioner Carroll, who seconded the motion.

The friendly amendment from Vice Chair Meiners was to recommend the inclusion of a multimodal transportation plan in and out of the urban core. This was accepted by the maker of the motion, Commissioner Lukens, and Commissioner Carroll, who seconded the motion.

4. Discussion and action to create a working group on improving sidewalk design. Sponsors: Chair Salinas and Commissioners Howard and Gelles.
No action was taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Discussion of past Downtown Density Bonus Program projects from the past ten years to conduct analysis on outcomes. Sponsors: Chair Salinas and Commissioners Carroll, Howard, Gelles, and McKinney.
No action was taken.

6. Discussion on types of city projects that are required to present to the Design Commission.
Sponsors: Chair Salinas and Commissioner Gelles.
No action was taken.

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

7. Update from the representative of the Urban Design Guidelines Working Group regarding the meeting on February 7, 2025, and February 14, 2025.
Update was given by Commissioner Carroll.
8. Update from the representative of the Downtown Commission regarding the meeting on February 19, 2025.
Update was given by Commissioner Gelles.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Salinas adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the 03/24/2025 meeting on Vice Chair Meiners' motion, Chair Salinas' second on a 6-0 vote. Commissioner Murkes was off the dais. Commissioners Howard, Ladner, Luckens, and Wallace were absent.