

**Austin Neighborhoods Council
General Meeting
April 27, 2005**

1. Call to order and review of agenda (7:00 pm)
 2. Roll call of member associations (7:01)
 3. Program (7:10)
 - a. *CAMPO Mobility 2030 Plan* –
Michael Aulick, Executive Director
 - b. *Capital Metro – Key Elements in Transit Plan* –
Rob Smith, Director Strategic Planning
 4. Business Items (8:15)
 - a. ACC ballot initiative
 - b. AMD Move – Colin Clark, SOS
 - c. COA Design Standards charrette – Jeff Jack
 - d. Big box conditional overlays – Jeff Jack
 - e. HB 2833 – Kevin Lewis
 5. Announcements (8:50)
 - a. Austin Energy – Refrigerator recycling program – Jerrel Gustafson
 6. Adjourn (9:00 pm)
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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING OF APRIL 27, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

There was an update on the Galindo Elementary NA issue with tennis center expansion with reference to leaflet and petition by Bobby Nelson.

Roll Call was conducted at 7:07 p.m. There were 17 neighborhood associations in attendance, plus six of the seven officers.

The program featured Mr. Michael Aulick, Executive Director of the Capitol Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) with a presentation on the **CAMPO Mobility 2030 Plan**, which is scheduled for final adoption on Monday, June 6, 2005.

Mr. Aulick provided some history on CAMPO, which is a 23 member board of elected officials, chaired by Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos. They have oversight for Federally funded

projects while working on a long range plan for Williamson, Travis and Hays County. The mobility plans are updated every five years and are a 25 year look ahead.

Toll roads are addressed in the Mobility 2030 Plan and are perceived as the most reasonable solution to solving traffic congestion problems in the shortest period of time. Currently there are 512 miles of toll road plans approved, including SH 130; SH 45 N & SE; and Hwy 183A.

CAMPO projects a cost of \$13 billion to meet the transportation needs of Central Texas. An increase in the gasoline tax of 2.5 cents per gallon would add \$1.1 billion in revenue to the area.

For a look at the CAMPO 2030 Mobility Plan, visit the website of www.campotexas.org.

In addition to Mr. Aulick, Rob Smith, Director of Strategic Planning for Cap Metro addressed *All Systems Go* plan and how closely the CAMPO 2030 plan follows it. Mr. Smith also addressed the Regional Multi-Modal Transit Plans which consist of:

- Commuter Rail Urban Service
- Circulator Service
- Rapid Bus Service
- Express & Local Bus Service
- Commuter Rail Regional Service

The presentations were followed by a question and answer period addressing such issues as:

- impact, if any on Neighborhood Planning process
- Impact on Transit Oriented Design standards.
- Lanes expansion on I-35
- Parkway vs. Freeway designation
- Managed lanes on Loop 1
- Arterials, collectors, and neighborhood streets
- Compliance with Federal environmental standards
- Connection between transportation planning and land use
- Planning with current fuel consumption and also look at increase in fuel cost, with resulting decrease in consumption, may mean not as many roads will be needed as currently planned for.
- Plan is updated every five years and modification can be made.

BUSINESS MEETING

Colin Clark made a presentation representing Save Our Springs Alliance and their position on the proposed AMD expansion in SW Austin over the Edwards Aquifer and Barton Creek recharge zones. SOS is opposed to the move and is seeking ANC support. Jeff Jack commented about the impact of this project moving forward as a “deal breaker”

for water shed protection and the desired development zone. There was a motion by Lorraine Atherton of Zilker NA and she passed out a prepared statement. The resolution was read to the attendees and ANC First Vice President Jeff Jack seconded the motion with a friendly amendment. The vote was in favor of the resolution with 19 yeas, 0 nays and one abstention. (Resolution #1 is included in the Appendix).

The next item as the Austin Community College annexation ballot initiative. A resolution prepared by Barbara Mink of North Acres NA was read by ANC President Susan Pascoe. There was discussion of the pros and cons of the issue with a motion to accept the resolution by ANC First Vice President Jeff Jack and a second by Joan Gibbs of Coronado Hills NA. The motion passed on a vote of 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 9 abstentions. (Resolution #2 is in the Appendix)

Jerrel Gustafson with Austin Energy, provided information regarding recycling of working refrigerators and freezers. There is a \$35 incentive to turn in older, inefficient working refrigerators, which consume 2 – 3 times more energy than an energy star model today. Refrigerators located in garages are even more inefficient. Austin Energy will pick up refrigerators and they have set a goal of recycling 3,500 old units in 2005. It was suggested Austin Energy partner with Solid Waste Services to pull out old non-working units to scrap their usable parts and bleed the Freon from their compressors.

Jeff Jack addressed the meeting with a report on the Design Standards charette. More confusion came out of the meeting than anything else, but still the standards will be heard at City Council Thursday, April 28, 2005.

There was a resolution regarding Conditional Use Permits for Big Box Retail. The motion was made to adopt the resolution by Dale Henry of Brentwood NA with a second by Lorraine Atherton of Zilker NA. The motion passed with no opposition or no abstentions; with fourteen voting in favor at this time of the meeting.

Kevin Lews of South Lamar NA addressed the issue of HB 2833 by Rep. Robby Cook of Eagle Lake. This is a property rights issue with underlying water quality issues. If passed, it could abolish all zoning restrictions. Links to the legislation are at www.sosalliance.org.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

APPENDIX

Austin Neighborhoods Council - Resolution No. 1

April 27, 2005

Advanced Micro Devices Proposed Construction on the Lantana Site

Whereas, The Austin Neighborhoods Council works to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all neighborhoods and residents of Austin, and

Whereas Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) is supporting the construction of 800,000 square feet of office space on the Lantana site on Southwest Parkway, to serve as AMD's new Austin offices, and

Whereas AMD's move to the sensitive Barton Springs watershed would reverse more than 30 years of city policy directing major employers away from that area and toward downtown, the Desired Development Zone, and population centers to the north and east that are in need of jobs and economic revitalization, and

Whereas The move would add more than 2,000 commuters to the traffic and pollution problems already facing Southwest Parkway and South MoPac, simultaneously undermining the existing and future public transit system serving AMD's current locations and increasing the pressure to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on road expansion in the watershed, and

Whereas Austin's neighborhoods and citizens have repeatedly voiced their strong support for the principles of the SOS ordinance and sound urban planning that would be violated by AMD's proposal;

Now, therefore, be it resolved

that the Austin Neighborhoods Council hereby requests that the management of AMD and the City of Austin work together to find a more appropriate site (away from the Aquifer) for AMD's offices.

The motion to adopt the resolution was made by Lorraine Atherton of the Zilker Neighborhood Association. There was a second to the motion by Jeff Jack, First Vice President of ANC. The motion passed with a friendly amendment (in parentheses) on a vote of 19 in favor, 0 opposed and 4 abstentions.

Austin Neighborhoods Council
April 27, 2005

Resolution No. 2

ACC "All-of Austin" Annexation

Whereas each year more than 65,000 credit and continuing education students take advantage of Austin Community College's (ACC) low tuition, small classes, convenient locations and competent instructors; and

Whereas Texas' *Closing the Gaps* initiative goal calls for an increase of 600,000 higher education students by the year 2015. Of which most of those new student will begin their higher education experience at community colleges in the state; and

Whereas ACC will need to grown by 10,000 students over the next decade to meet its goals under the *Closing the Gaps* initiative; and

Whereas ACC is the primary trainer and re-trainer of the Austin area workforce; and

Whereas ACC's tax rate of 10 cents per \$100 assessed property valuation is well below the average rate of 14 cents for community colleges in Texas; and

Whereas taxpayers recover more than \$3 for every dollar invested in community college in Texas, according to regional economic impact research; and

Whereas the Texas Education Code Section 130.071 provides the authority for a community college district already located within part of a city to expand its district to that city's limits;

Resolved that Austin Neighborhood Council (ANC) supports the "All -of- Austin" election to be held May 7, 2005, whereby areas in the City of Austin that are not currently within the ACC taxing district will be annexed into the ACC taxing district, therefore, having all of the residents of the City of Austin then be able to take classes at ACC at the lower in-district rate.

Submitted by

Barbara Mink, President
North Acres NA
April 27, 2005

There was a motion by ANC First Vice President Jeff Jack to adopt the resolution as presented. There was a second to the motion by Joan Gibb of Coronado Hills/Creekside Neighborhood Association. The motion passed on a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposed and 9 abstentions.

Austin Neighborhoods Council – Resolution No. 3
Strength through Unity
April 27, 2005

Resolutions on Conditional Use Permits for Big Box Retail

Whereas, “Big Box” stores and supercenters present an array of problems for neighborhoods, cities and regions including:

- Can operate 24 hours a day disrupting the tranquility and character of surrounding neighborhoods
- Can result in significant truck traffic on local streets which present serious congestion and safety concerns
- Can exceed over 200,000 sq. ft. of retail space and requires extensive parking lots that increase impervious cover

Whereas, “Big Box retailers actually are a drain on local economies due to their Management practices such as:

- Not paying a livable wage to their employees which then requires some form of public assistance so that their employees can afford to live in the community
- Not providing benefits that then shifts health care cost to the community

- Often use predatory pricing which has a negative impact on local small businesses

Whereas, “Big Box” retail does not provide a positive impact on the cost of living in a community due to:

- The growth in tax base is not increased, but is simply shifted from one business to another
- The presence of such super sized retailers actually hinders the ability of a community to move families out of poverty.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Austin Neighborhoods Council urges that the Austin City Council establish requirements that all retailers with more than 100,000 sq. ft. of retail space, in one development or in contiguous developments, be required to have a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and as part of the assessment of a project for the CUP that the developer provide an economic analysis of the net costs and benefits to the community in a form developed by the City. The CUP should also identify what mitigation would be appropriate to offset the negative impact of such large-scale retailers and if such mitigation is not provided, then the City Council should deny the issuance of the CUP or any other building or site development permits for the project.

Be it further resolved that the Austin Neighborhoods Council supports the attached petition that has been endorsed by numerous community and civic organizations.

There was a motion by Dale Henry of Brentwood Neighborhood Association to adopt the resolution as stated. There was a second to the motion by Lorraine Atherton of Zilker Neighborhood Association. There was no opposition to the resolution, passing on a vote of 14 in favor, 0 opposing, and 9 abstentions.

Susan Pascoe
ANC President