



Austin Transit Partnership Board of Directors Resolution
Meeting Date: 5/24/2023
ATP-2023-011
Approval of a resolution accepting a staff-recommended Austin
Light Rail Implementation Plan

Subject: Approval of a resolution to accept the staff-recommended Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan and request that the Austin City Council and Capital Metro Board consider the adoption of the Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan and any corresponding modifications to Project Connect, and the associated Implementation Sequence Plan, consistent with the Contract with the Voters Resolution and Joint Powers Agreement.

Fiscal Impact: Does not apply.

Responsible Department: Executive Director.

Executive Summary: The voters of the City of Austin (the “City”), in recognition of the benefits of Project Connect, approved a ballot measure (“Proposition A”) at the November 3, 2020 election to provide dedicated funding to an independent board (“Austin Transit Partnership”) to oversee the implementation of the Project Connect System Plan, including the financing, design, engineering, and construction of a light rail system (“Austin Light Rail”). Due to a material change in circumstances since the passage of Proposition A, including, but not limited to, increased land values, construction cost escalation, increased labor costs, and increased borrowing costs, Austin Transit Partnership has advised the City and Capital Metro (“CapMetro”) that the development of the light rail plan as proposed as part of Project Connect and associated Implementation Sequence Plan requires modification. This resolution accepts a staff-recommended Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan and directs the Executive Director to propose the staff-recommended Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan to the Austin City Council and CapMetro Board of Directors for consideration and adoption and any corresponding modifications to the Project Connect Implementation Plan referenced in the Contract with the Voters Resolution and Joint Powers Agreement.

Procurement Summary: Does not apply.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Summary: Does not apply.



RESOLUTION OF THE AUSTIN TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

Resolution ID: ATP-2023-011

***Approval of a resolution accepting a staff-
recommended Austin Light Rail
Implementation Plan***

WHEREAS, the voters of the City of Austin (the “City”), in recognition of the benefits of Project Connect, approved a ballot measure (“Proposition A”) at the November 3, 2020 election to provide dedicated funding to an independent board to oversee the implementation of the Project Connect System Plan (“Project Connect”), including the financing, design, engineering, and construction of a light rail system (“Austin Light Rail”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council and Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“CapMetro”) Board of Directors created Austin Transit Partnership (“ATP”) to serve as the independent entity contemplated by Proposition A to implement Project Connect, including Austin Light Rail; and

WHEREAS, concurrently with the adoption of Proposition A, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 20200812-015 (the “Contract with the Voters Resolution”), clarifying and declaring the intent and commitment of City Council to the voters regarding the use of the Prop. A Tax Revenue to invest in Project Connect in accordance with the associated Implementation Sequence Plan described therein; and

WHEREAS, the Contract with the Voters Resolution and the Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) executed by and among ATP, the City, and CapMetro each provide that upon the joint concurrence of the City Council and CapMetro Board, Project Connect and the Investment Map and Associated Implementation Sequence Plan, Exhibit A to the JPA, may be modified; and

WHEREAS, due to a material change in circumstances since the passage of Proposition A, including, but not limited to, increased land values, construction cost escalation, increased labor costs, and increased borrowing costs related to Austin Light Rail, Project Connect and the associated Implementation Sequence Plan require modification; and

WHEREAS, ATP recently conducted an extensive priority-population focused engagement feedback process on potential modifications to Austin Light Rail, connecting with over 7,000 community members regarding the proposed modifications to Project Connect, hosting over 80

community engagement events, and connecting with more than 3,000 core transit riders at 45 unique bus stop locations; and

WHEREAS, the ATP Board of Directors (the “ATP Board”) agrees with the ATP staff recommendation to propose for consideration and adoption by the City Council and CapMetro Board an updated light rail implementation plan for the phased financing, development and construction of Austin Light Rail as depicted in Exhibit A to this resolution (the "Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan");

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the ATP Board of Directors hereby accepts the ATP staff’s Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan and any modifications resulting from such acceptance to Project Connect and the Investment Map and Associated Implementation Sequence Plan described in the Contract with the Voters Resolution and Joint Powers Agreement, and attached thereto as Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ATP Board of Directors hereby directs the ATP Executive Director to present the Austin Light Rail Implementation Plan and any corresponding modifications to Project Connect and the Investment Map and Associated Implementation Sequence Plan to the City Council and CapMetro Board for approval in accordance with the Contract with the Voters Resolution and Joint Powers Agreement.

Brandon Carr
Secretary of the Board

Date