



## North Central I-35 Neighborhood Coalition 2

20 August 2016

El Sapo, 1900 Manor Rd, Austin, TX 78722

### Meeting Notes

Meeting convened (2:00 pm)

Chair calls a quorum (six of eleven Member Neighborhoods represented)

#### *Attendees (\* Delegates):*

Brendan Wittstruck, Delwood II NA (Chair) \*

Rick Krivoniak, Windsor Park NA \*

Mateo Barnstone, Mueller NA \*

Brenda Malik, Holy Cross NA \*

Paul Byars, Mueller NA

Jim Rankin, Hancock NA \*

Girard Kinney, Cherrywood NA \*

Martha Ward

#### Approval of Minutes

**GK moves approval of Minutes from June 18, 2016, seconded by BM; motion carries unanimously with MB abstaining**

#### NCINC2 Response Letter to TxDOT regarding NEPA environmental process

- BW reports on two draft letters, one “hard” stance withholding support of both “build” (Modified Existing, Lowered) options and one “soft” stance of conditional support for Lowered option; process is to get consensus on stance, share with neighborhoods and revise as needed for September vote (TxDOT NEPA open house period will be September 20<sup>th</sup> – October 4<sup>th</sup>)
- All present in favor of “soft” stance; opportunity to work with other allies and continue to present reasonable case for group’s objectives; **GK moves to move forward with conditioned support of Lowered option, seconded by JR; motion carries unanimously**
- Discussion of Environmental Assessment (EA) versus Environmental Impact Study (EIS); what are the implications of both on what TxDOT can do? Discussion of outreach to experts regarding human health, environmental justice and implications of EPA non-attainment

- GK recommends revising order of bullet points, combining similar points; suggestions are accepted by those present; **MB moves to take conversation online to complete wordsmithing, seconded by ???; JR notes that will allow for larger audience to participate; BW notes that delegates should begin outreach to neighborhoods; motion carries unanimously**
- BM asks that position additionally consider City of Austin African-American Quality of Life Initiative

#### Update on TxDOT Aesthetics Working Group

- BW reports that Aesthetics Working Group concluded its last of five group meetings, expressing disappointment in survey and final report; survey results favored “Capitol” concept, but group issued concerns over process, omissions of group feedback from final report and design elements that may require additional funding from City of Austin; No working group vote to approve concepts was taken and BW stated that he cannot support the report as written
- Group of participants is exploring idea of white paper outlining recommendations for improved process regarding IH35 aesthetics/design; BM recommends this paper, when completed, should be shared with media, other sources

#### Structure, Mission and By Laws of Organization

- BW reports tabling effort for now to focus on external objectives, avoid confusion regarding representation; BW has begun outreach to Member Neighborhoods to increase participation

#### City of Austin mobility bond referendum

- BW notes that Council moved bond referendum forward on 7-1-3 vote; group will pick up discussion at a later date

#### Report on TxDOT Dallas CityMAP Report

- MB reports on CityMAP report from Dallas TxDOT; report tested 8 scenarios based variety of metrics, including congestions, capacity, travel times, economic return, quality of life and bike/ped access; report does not offer conclusions but measures outcomes; City of Dallas has not yet acted on report, which is viewed a comprehensive look at options and trade-offs
- Consensus that this is the sort of planning we’d like to see from TxDOT in Austin; possibility of strategic shift from asking City of Austin for corridor study to asking Austin TxDOT undertake study similar to CityMAP

Adjourn (4:00)