



**THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROJECT CONNECT  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 11, 2024**

**ATP Office | Conference Room**

**203 Colorado Street, Austin, TX 78701**

**(with some members of the CAC participating via video conference)**

**Members in Attendance:**

Awais Azhar – Chair  
Gretchen Flatau – Vice Chair  
Susan Somers – Secretary  
Ruven Brooks  
Jay Crossley  
Jeremy Hendricks  
Michael Gorse  
Elisabeth Meyer  
Reed Cshamari

**Members Absent:**

J.P. Connolly  
Katherine Fan

**Attendees:**

Yannis Banks  
Brandon Carr  
Greg Canally  
Warner Cook  
Katherine Gonzalez  
Lucy Hall  
Terry Hockens  
Nefertitti Jackmon  
Anna Lan  
Dave Kubacek  
Miguel Lopez

Jamey May  
Sharmila Mukherjee  
Peter Mullan  
Melissa Ortiz  
Jennifer Pyne  
Andy Skaboiwski  
Susan Watkins  
Lindsay Wood

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Project Connect Community Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2024.

Chair Awais Azhar called the Committee meeting to order at 5:07 PM

**Land Acknowledgement**

Miguel Lopez read the Land Acknowledgement statement.

**Citizen Communication**

No citizen provided comment at this time.

**Approval of Minutes**

**1. Approve the minutes of the December 14, 2023 general meeting of the Project Connect Community Advisory Committee.**

The minutes of the December 14, 2023, general meeting were approved on a motion by Vice Chair Flatau, seconded by Chair Azhar; confirmed with a unanimous vote (9-0).

**Action Items**

**1. Introduction of CAC Members**

The CAC members introduced themselves to the general committee and provided background on their interest and involvement in Project Connect and similar initiatives.

**Action Items**

**1. Term Length Selections for CAC members, Yannis Banks**

- a. Yannis Banks, Community Engagement Manager for ATP, lead the CAC in the randomized selection of term lengths. Each member was assigned to a two-year or four-year term. The results of this selection process are listed below.
- b. Four-Year Term Members
  - i. Awais Azhar
  - ii. Katherine Fan
  - iii. J.P. Connolly
  - iv. Gretchen Flatau
  - v. Ruven Brooks
  - vi. Jay Crossley
- c. Two-Year Term Members
  - i. Jeremy Hendricks
  - ii. Mike Gorse
  - iii. Elisabeth Meyer
  - iv. Susan Somers
  - v. Cshamari Reed

**Discussion Items**

**1. ATP Austin Light Rail Update – Jennifer Pyne & Lindsay Wood, ATP**

- a. Greg Canally, CEO for Austin Transit Partnership, provided a welcome to the CAC members, discussing the history, current status, and prospects for the

- future of Project Connect.
- b. Jennifer Pyne, Executive Vice President for Planning, Community, and Federal Programs, and Lindsay Wood, Executive Vice President of Engineering and Construction, for ATP, provided an update on ATP, emphasizing the development and implementation of the Light Rail program. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.
    - i. Contributions to the discussion were made by Peter Mullan, Chief of Architecture and Urban Design for ATP.
- 2. CapMetro Update - Sharmila Mukherjee, Dave Kubacek, and Andy Skaboiwski, CapMetro**
- a. Sharmila Mukherjee, Executive Vice President Chief Strategic Planning and Development Officer, Andy Skaboiwski, Executive Vice President Chief Planning Officer, and Dave Kubacek, Executive Vice President of Capital Construction Engineering Design, for CapMetro, provided an update on CapMetro programs and processes.
    - i. Contributions to the conversation were provided by Melissa Ortiz, Director of Community Engagement and Involvement for CapMetro.
- 3. Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD) Update – Anna Lan, ATP, Warner Cook, City of Austin**
- a. Anna Lan, ETOD Manager for CapMetro, and Warner Cook, Principal Planner for the City of Austin’s Planning Department, provided an update on the ETOD process including the ongoing study, challenges, and community engagement. The discussion was followed by a questions-and-answer session.
    - i. Contributions to the discussion were provided by Lucy Hall, Planner Senior for the City of Austin’s Planning Department.
- 4. City of Austin Program Update – Nefertitti Jackmon & Jamey May, City of Austin**
- a. Nefertitti Jackmon, Displacement Prevention Officer for the City of Austin’s Housing Department, and Jamey May, Housing and Community Development Officer for the City of Austin’s Housing Department, provided an update on the City of Austin’s Project Connect Anti-Displacement Initiatives including the timeline, scope, and focus for the current and future projects and programs.
- 5. Project Connect Office Updates – Annick Beaudet**
- a. Annick Beaudet, Mobility Officer and lead for the City of Austin’s Project Connect Office, provided an update on the office’s coordination efforts and processes for the development and implementation of the necessary policy and administration, operations and planning, design, and service delivery.

## Staff Updates

### 1. CapMetro Staff Updates

No updates were provided at this time.

### 2. City of Austin Updates

No updates were provided at this time.

**3. ATP Staff Updates**

No updates were provided at this time

**4. Working Group/TAC Updates**

Chair Azhar tentatively proposed the following working groups and noted the preliminary interest by CAC members for each.

1. Light Rail and Project Design
  - a. Reed
  - b. Crossley
2. Anti-Displacement Planning
3. Governance
4. ETOD
5. Public Safety
  - a. Meyer
  - b. Flatau
  - c. Connolly

**Future Items**

**ADJOURN**

Chair Azhar adjourned the meeting at 7:04 PM without objection.