



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

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, October 10, 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  
Catalina Berry  
Ruven Brooks  
Cshamari Reed  
Michael Gorse  
Jay Blazek Crossley  
Jeremy Hendricks  
Marcel Garza

**Members Absent:**

Elisabeth Meyer

**Attendees:**

Brandon Carr  
Courtney Chavez  
Terry Hockens  
Yannis Banks  
Sophie Petkus  
Miguel Lopez  
Rachel Tepper

Tamarind Phinisee  
Peter Partheymuller  
Mandy De Mayo  
Rebecca Giello  
Chloe Maxwell  
Johnathan Lee  
Jordan Feldman

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Project Connect Community Advisory Committee convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2024.

Chair Azhar called the Committee meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Member Berry read the CAC Land Acknowledgement statement, on behalf of the CAC.

### **Community Communication**

One community member provided their comment on the HUD Pro Grant.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- 1. Approve the minutes of the September 12th, 2024, general meeting of the Project Connect Community Advisory Committee.**

The minutes of the September 12th, 2024, general meeting were approved on a motion by Member Berry, seconded by Secretary Somers; confirmed with 10 in favor and one member absent (10-1).

### **Action Items**

1. Working Group Selections
  - a. Chair Azhar led a discussion on the working group selections. On a motion by Chair Azhar, the CAC dissolved the Public Safety working group, created the CapMetro Services and Infrastructure working group, and selected CAC representation for all working groups. The motion was seconded by Member Brooks and passed unanimously (10-0). The member selections are listed below:
    - i. Appointments to Austin Light Rail Design Working Group
      1. Member Blazek Crossley
      2. Secretary Susan Somers
      3. Member Brooks
      4. Chair Azhar
      5. Member Reed
    - ii. Appointments to Governance Working Group
      1. Chair Azhar
      2. Vice Chair Flatau
      3. Member Hendricks
    - iii. Appointments to Anti-Displacement Group

1. Member Berry
2. Vice Chair Flatau
3. Chair Azhar
4. Member Blazek Crossley
- iv. Appointments to ETOD Working Group
  1. Member Garza
  2. Member Blazek Crossley
  3. Member Brooks
  4. Member Gorse
  5. Secretary Somers
- v. Creation and Appointments of CapMetro Services and Infrastructure Working Group
  1. Member Blazek Crossley
  2. Secretary Somers
  3. Member Brooks
  4. Member Berry

## Discussion Items

1. **Federal PRO Housing Grant Application Discussion Change Updates- Rachel Tepper, City of Austin**
  - a. Rachel Tepper, Principal Planner for the City of Austin House Department, gave an overview of the HUD PRO Housing Grant. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer portion.
    - i. Contributions to the conversation were added by Mandy DeMayo, Interim Director for the City of Austin Housing Department and Johnathan Lee, Senior Planner from the City of Austin Housing Department.
2. **Austin Light Rail Advisory Group Update- Chloe Maxwell and Rebecca Giello, ATP**
  - a. Rebecca Giello, Chief of Staff, and Chloe Maxwell, Board Relations Manager, from the Austin Transit Partnership presented on the Austin Light Rail Advisory Group. An overview of the roles and responsibilities of the group and eligible members was presented. The presentation was followed by a question-and-answer portion.

## Staff Updates

### 1. Austin Transit Partnership Update

No updates were provided at this time.

**2. City of Autin Staff Update**

Peter Partheymuller, Strategic Communications Consultant, gave an update on the upcoming ETOD public engagement opportunities.

**3. CapMetro Staff Update**

Chair Azhar gave an update on behalf of CapMetro staff on upcoming engagement opportunities.

**4. Working Group/TAC Updates**

Secretary Somers provided an update on the ETOD working group.

**Future Items**

Member Berry requested information on the strategic housing blueprint.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Azhar adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM without objection.