



**THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROJECT CONNECT  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 8, 2026  
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  
Susan Somers-Vice Chair  
Michael Gorse  
Jay Blazek Crossley  
Ruven Brooks  
Catalina Berry  
Edgar Handal  
Liz McGehee  
Cutter Gonzales  
Stacey Suites

**Attendees:**

Yannis Banks  
Jennifer Pyne  
Peter Partheymuller  
Melissa Ortiz  
Lindsay Wood

**Members Absent:**

Marcel Garza- Secretary

Lisa Storer  
Katherine Youngbluth  
Jocelyn Vokes  
Zenobia C Joseph  
Lynn Stroud

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Project Connect Community Advisory Committee was convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, January 8th, 2025.

Chair Azhar called the Committee meeting to order at 5:06 PM.

## Land Acknowledgement

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

## Community Communication

Zenobia C. Joseph provided comment during this time which included a request to amend previously approved minutes from February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## Approval of Minutes

- 1. Approve the minutes of the November 13th, 2025, general meeting of the Project Connect Community Advisory Committee.**

The minutes of the November 13, 2025, general meeting was approved on a motion by Vice Chair Somers, seconded by Member Gorse; confirmed unanimously (9-0)

## Action Items

## Discussion Items

- 1. City of Austin Onboarding**

- a. Peter Partheymuller, Strategic Communications Consultant with Project Connect, gave a presentation about the City of Austin's role in Project Connect. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

- 2. CapMetro Onboarding**

- a. Melissa Ortiz, Director of Community Engagement and Katherine Youngbluth, Senior Director of Long-range Planning with CapMetro, gave a presentation on CapMetro's involvement in Project Connect. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

- 3. ATP Onboarding**

- a. Lynn Stroud, Senior Manager of Legal Services and Records Management, Jennifer Pyne, Executive Vice President of Planning, Environmental and Community Partnerships, Lindsay Wood Executive Vice President of Construction and Engineering and Lisa Storer, Senior Vice President of Architecture and Design, gave a presentation on ATPs involvement in Project Connect. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

**4. ATP Light Rail Update**

- a. Jennifer Pyne, Executive Vice President of Planning, Environmental and Community Partnerships, Lisa Storer, Senior Vice President of Architecture and Design and Lindsay Wood Executive Vice President of Construction and Engineering, provided an update on the Austin Light Rail project.

**Staff Updates**

**1. Austin Transit Partnership Update**

No updates were provided at this time.

**2. City of Austin Staff Update**

Peter Partheymuller, Strategic Communications Consultant with Project Connect gave an update on the upcoming open house opportunities.

**3. CapMetro Staff Update**

No updates were provided at this time.

**4. Working Group/TAC Updates**

Chair Azhar gave an update on the anti-displacement funding recommendation and the Governance working group.

**Future Items**

Member Berry requested an update on the business support initiative.

**ADJOURN**

Chair Azhar adjourned the meeting at 6:48 PM without objection.