



**THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PROJECT CONNECT
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 9, 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
Cutter Gonzalez
Stacey Suits
Liz McGehee

Attendees:

Yannis Banks
Jennifer Pyne
Frances Jordan
Peter Partheymuller
Melissa Ortiz
Margaret Shaw

Members Absent:

Marcel Garza- Secretary

Lucy Hall
Warner Cook
Brian Carroll
Jocelyn Vokes
Christine Freundl
Shaw Vallier

CALL TO ORDER

The Project Connect Community Advisory Committee was convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, April 9th, 2026.

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

No presentations during this time.

Approval of Minutes

- 1. Approve the minutes of the March 12th, 2026, general meeting of the Project Connect Community Advisory Committee.**

The minutes of the March 12, 2026, general meeting was approved, on a motion by Member Handal, seconded by Member Crossley; confirmed unanimously (10-0)

Action Items

- 1. Working Group Appointments**
This item was postponed to the next meeting.
- 2. Drawing by lots to determine terms of newly-appointed members of the Community Advisor Committee**
This item was postponed to the next meeting.

Discussion Items

- 1. City of Austin ETOD Citywide Density Bonus Program**
 - Lucy Hall, City of Austin Planner, presented on the ETOD Citywide Density Bonus Program. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.
 - Contributions to the conversation were added by Warner Cook, City of Austin Planner.
- 2. ATP Business Support & Needs Assessment Update**
 - Frances Jordan, Business Support Public Involvement Manager, and Kelly Phelps, Business Support Subject Matter Expert, gave a presentation on the ATP Business

Support Program. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.

3. City of Austin Grove-Riverside Site Update

- a. Christine Freundl, Redevelopment Project Manager, and Brian Carroll, of JLL, gave a presentation on the Grove-Riverside. This presentation was followed by a question-and-answer session.
 - i. Contributions to the conversation were added by Margaret Shaw, Project Manager, and Shaw Vallier, Senior Planner.

Staff Updates

1. Austin Transit Partnership Update

No updates were provided at this time.

2. City of Austin Staff Update

Peter Partheymuller, Project Connect Office Strategic Communications Consultant, gave an update on the housing affordability fair.

3. CapMetro Staff Update

Melissa Ortiz, Director of Community Engagement and Public Involvement, gave an update on the CapMetro service changes.

4. Working Group Updates

No updates were provided at this time.

Future Items

Vice Chair Somers requested a presentation on the strategic housing blueprint.

ADJOURN

Chair Azhar adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM without objection.