

RESOLUTION OF THE AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOODS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONCERNING THE TRANSPORTATION BOND PROPOSAL

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2016, the Austin City Council voted 7-1-3 to place the \$720 million transportation bond proposal on the November 8, 2016, ballot; and,

WHEREAS, the **limited public process** has provided neighborhoods will insufficient time to understand and consider the transportation bond proposal; and,

WHEREAS, residents of neighborhoods have expressed the following important concerns about the transportation bond proposal:

- 1. The inextricable interdependencies, coordination, and timing of the transportation bond proposal with CodeNEXT, Corridor Plans, Capital Metro's Connect 2020 Master Plan, and Neighborhood Plans have not been sufficiently analyzed, considered, and explained; and
- 2. The improvements to the corridors are likely to facilitate displacement of low- and moderate income families, expedite the elimination of single-family homes within ¼-mile of the corridors, and permanently alter the character of single-family neighborhoods adjacent to the corridors; and
- 3. The bond proposal will effectively shift tens of millions of dollars in traffic mitigation costs from developers to taxpayers; and
- 4. Many citizens have little trust and confidence in City's ability to effectively and efficiently implement within 8 years one of the largest bond proposals in Austin's history; and
- 5. The total costs to fully implement each of the corridor master plans have not been determined combined with the lack of details for the proposed improvements to the corridors makes it impossible for taxpayers to determine the benefits versus the increased tax burden; and
- 6. The bond proposal fails to demonstrate meaningful traffic congestion relief, while the citizens of Austin expect traffic congestion alleviation with only piecemeal application of the monies; and
- 7. The bond proposal will consume excessive borrowing capacity at a time of more pressing needs such as effective traffic congestion relief, construction of fire stations identified in the AFD 2016 Service Delivery Analysis and flood control measures; and,
- 8. The \$420 million allocated for corridor projects represents just 51% of the \$820 million estimate referenced by staff and a mere 28% of the \$1.5 billion estimate by the city manager's office, leaving doubt as to its efficacy and illustrates a need for continued borrowing and taxation to complete the projects; and,
- 9. The bond proposal is not applied to all districts in an equitable manner; and
- 10. The single-item bond proposal intentionally forestalls citizens' ability to vote on individual items.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Austin Neighborhoods Council (ANC) Executive Committee hereby urges the City Council to:

- 1. Address the concerns listed above on or before absentee voting starts on October 24, 2016, and
- 2. On or before October 24, 2016, enact a policy that the corridor improvements will not be utilized to override neighborhood plans or facilitate the elimination of single-family homes or upzoning of single-family zoned properties immediately adjacent to the corridors.

Presented to the ANC Executive Committee: September 13, 2016

Approved and Adopted: September 13, 2016

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