

**To:** Mayor Adler; Council Members Harper-Madison, Garza, Renteria, Casar, Kitchen, Flannigan, Pool, Ellis, Tovo, and Alter

**Re:** Adding a Safe Mobility Bond to the November ballot

**Date:** July 16, 2020

Dear Mayor Adler and Austin City Council Members,

Austin is on the cusp of transformational change in the ways we get around. Austinites new and old are looking for safer, healthier, more pleasant transportation options besides being stuck in traffic behind a steering wheel. The pandemic has laid bare both the clear need and the public appetite for a more equitable transportation system. **That's why we urge you to seize this historic opportunity and, in addition to Project Connect, approve a \$750 million Safe Mobility Bond for public vote this November to fund a citywide network of sidewalks, bikeways, urban trails, and safe streets for all.**

Such a bond will be Austin's chance to achieve its progressive mobility goals and transform our city into one where everyone is safe on our streets and is free to choose how they move around. Walking, bicycling, and using a mobility device such as a wheelchair should be enjoyable, convenient, safe ways for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to get where they need to go, whether commuting to work, taking a safe route to school, running errands, visiting a friend, or enjoying nature.

Austin has already set bold goals to achieve these visions. The Austin Strategic Mobility Plan aims for 50 percent of trips to be made in ways other than driving alone by 2039. Through its Vision Zero program, Austin has committed to eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2025. And the Community Climate Plan calls for reducing carbon emissions to net-zero by 2050. Now we must fund these goals.

This is the moment to act. November's likely high-turnout election will be a generational opportunity to advance transformational, safe, and sustainable mobility choices at the ballot. City Council and staff have worked diligently to make Austin's streets safer and more accessible for all and it's working; people are moving around differently, and they're ready to take the next big step forward, **as is evidenced by more than 3,100 members of the public who have signed [our public petition](#) and by over 80 organizations and businesses who have signed onto this letter, support that will continue to grow moving forward.**

With your leadership, we look forward to a \$750 million Safe Mobility Bond on this November's ballot. Our organizations and citywide volunteer networks are ready to engage the public to support this bond and to embrace a new transportation future for generations to enjoy.

Thank you for your service to the people of Austin.

**AUSTIN**

**OUTSIDE**

Sincerely,

Joanna Wolaver, Board President, [Austin Outside](#)

Ted Siff, Principal, Creating Common Ground

Jim Wick, Executive Director, MoveATX

Shelby Massey, Government Relations Director - Texas, American Heart Association

Delia Jervier, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association, Capital of Texas

Sarah Ortiz Shields, Executive Director, Austin Tech Alliance

Heidi Anderson, CEO, The Trail Foundation

Colin Wallis, CEO, Austin Parks Foundation

Chris Riley, Board President, Bike Austin

Adam Greenfield, Board President, Walk Austin

Jay Blazek Crossley, Executive Director, Farm&City

Kathy Sokolic, Chair, Vision Zero ATX and Central Texas Families For Safe Streets

Steve McKee, Executive Director, Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility

Luke Metzger, Executive Director, Environment Texas

Ronda Rutledge, Executive Director, Sustainable Food Center

Charli Krause, Program Director, Generation SERVE

Amy McGeady, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer, It's Time Texas

Bay Scoggin, Director, TexPIRG

Mateo Barnstone, Executive Director, Congress For the New Urbanism Central Texas

Cesar Acosta, President, AURA

Heyden Black Walker, Chair, Board of Directors, Reconnect Austin

Sarah Tober, Executive Director, Scenic Austin

Gaby Benitez, Education Programs Coordinator, Keep Austin Beautiful

Ivey Kaiser, Executive Director, Shoal Creek Conservancy

Tom Wald, Executive Director, Red Line Parkway Initiative

Heath Riddles, CEO, Pease Park Conservancy

David Todd, Co-founder, Blunn Creek Partnership

Kelly Davis, Senior Staff Attorney, Save Our Springs Alliance

Garry Merritt, Chief Executive Officer, Great Springs Project

George Cofer, CEO, Hill Country Conservancy

Sarah Story, Executive Director, UMLAUF Sculpture Garden and Museum

Pete Gilcrease, Board President, Friends of Hyde Park

Melinda Chow, Executive Director, Austin Youth River Watch

Racae Meyer, Owner, Archery Training Center, Inc.

Katherine Mason, Executive Director, Public Green & Wild

Robyn Ramos, Director, Little Angels Learning Center

Charlton Perry, Director Outdoor Education, St. Stephen's Episcopal School

Jim Crosby, Founder, Nonviolent Austin

Eileen McPhillips Portner, Board President, Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association

Alyson Beaton, Communications Director, Highland Neighborhood Association

John Wooding, Chair, Mueller Neighborhood Association

Ted Siff, President, Old Austin Neighborhood Association

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Jen Massing Harris, Co-Founder/President, Parque Zaragoza Neighborhood Association  
Nora Julianna Wilcoxson, Managing Member, Front Yard Gardens  
Alicia Roth Weigel, Executive Board, Austin Young Democrats  
Timothy Bray, President, Austin Environmental Democrats  
Hill Abell, CEO, Bicycle Sport Shop  
Nico Probst, Director of Government Relations, Lime  
Caroline Samponaro, Head of Micromobility & Transit Public Policy, Lyft  
Volunteer Collective, Yellow Bike Project  
Dor Korngold, Founder and CEO, Mod Bikes  
Brad Wimberly, Owner, Bikealot  
Frank Prior, CEO, ATX Bikes  
Mike Librik, Owner, Easy Street Recumbents  
Will Black, General Manager, Mellow Johnny's  
Daniel Kasprzak, Business Process Analyst, Woom Bikes USA  
Sinclair Black, Principal, Black + Vernooy Architects  
Clinton Sayers, Partner, Sayers Real Estate Advisors, Inc.  
Jonathan Ogren, Principal, Siglo Group  
William Schroeder, LPC, Founder & Co-Director, Just Mind Counselling  
Litsy Witkowski, Co-Founder, Rivet Education  
Kristy Sprott, CEO, The Format Group  
Catina Voellinger, Board of Directors, Collective Campaigns  
Christopher Migliorini, CEO, Pronova Designs  
Eric Hills CEO, WrangleWorks  
Cody McLain, CEO, SupportNinja  
Joshua Brito, Captic Media  
Justin Petro, CEO, Thinktiv  
Abigail Schaefer, Director Of Operations, Best Ring POS  
Scott Magic, Principal, Magic Architecture  
Matt Lewis, CEO, Simplecity Design  
Christopher Karlin, Chief Investment Officer, Aquitania Capital Management  
Gabriel Rojas, President, Rojas Planning  
Jessica Alexander, CEO, JEALExphoto  
Russell J. Chalk, Attorney-at-Law  
Jesse Devlyn, CEO, Devlyn Optical  
Michael Fogel, Vice President, Trinity Housing Development  
Steven Ascherl, Owner, Red Dot Building Co.  
Lucy Begg, Owner, Thoughtbarn  
Mark Lind, Owner, Sun+Stone Design  
Dillon Moody, Founder, Odopac  
Heather Yu, Co-Owner, Sweet Chive  
Ambrose Austin, Chief Operating Officer, ED311  
Daniel Woodroffe, President, dwg  
Perry Lorenz  
Margaret Robinson, Founding Principal, Asakura Robinson