

Austin Heights Neighborhood Association – General Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes

July 24, 2006 6:15 PM Campbell Elementary

15 members present when meeting was called to order.

Co-Chair Shelby O'Brien called the meeting to order and asked for introductions from the members.

Guests:

Lamont Ross, CapMetro

Roberto Gonzales, CapMetro

I. Capital MetroRail/Manor Road Trolley

- All Systems Go Update
- Capital MetroRail Update

MLK Station Presentation, Thursday, July 20, 2006, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

2211 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Fixed-route ridership is up 9%

Suburban Express Routes up 14%

Overall ridership up 6%

All Systems Go

Double existing system over next 20 years

- Local Bus Service
- Express Bus
- Rapid Bus
 - 20% faster
 - train-like
 - modern
 - traffic engineering
 - starter line in 2007-2008 (North Lamar/South Congress)
 - plan to introduce 10 routes
- Commuter Rail
- Circulator Service

Future Connections Study

- 6.5mi route
- responds to citizen requests for an improved circulator system
- improve connections
- enhance connections to and from rail
- draft alignment has streetcar along Manor Rd.
- www.allsystemsgoconnections.org

Park & Ride

- Tech-Ridge is now open
- Leander to open in early 2007
- S. IH-35/S. Congress in 2008

Urban Commuter Rail

- On time and on budget
- 2008 startup
- 9 stations
- Trains being manufactured
- Track construction is underway
- MLK Station to open early 2008

Circulation Areas

- Local buses and special shuttles
- Streetcar

Rails with Trails

- Conducting a study for bicycling and pedestrian facility along the Red Line
- Results available in early 2007
- Depends on the amount of right of way

Railcar Design

- Light-rail design
- Bi-directional, diesel electric
- Each train holds 200 people
- Purchasing 6 trains
- Initial service every 30 minutes
- Designed to be fully accessible
- Pending schedule 5:30 AM – 6:30 PM
- Runs on dedicated track
- 50 minutes from Leander to Convention Center
- Fares comparable to Express service (\$1 one-way, \$2 24-hour, \$17/mo.)
- Free on Ozone Action Days is controlled by the Board

Station Platform Design

- Same basic shape at all stations, except for Plaza Saltillo & Highland Mall
- All stations will have seating, lighting, ticket vending and security phone
- Public restrooms will not be provided because of safety

CapMetro will receive comments on the project until August 9, 2006.

allsystemsgo@capmetro.org

Public Hearing, CapMetro Headquarters, 5th & Pleasant Valley, July 31, 2006, 6:00 PM

Upper Boggy Creek Streetcar Meeting, Saturday, August 5, 2006

II. Redeemer Update

Emily Wilson, Co-Chair, updated the Association on the Redeemer Presbyterian Church project. The SC has been working with the Rosewood Neighborhood Planning Team and Upper Boggy Creek Planning Team. The church has asked for a variance for their sanctuary height at 60 ft. instead of the 40 ft. mandated by the neighborhood zoning requirements. The NA and Planning Teams have decided that the sanctuary is important to the acoustics of the church and the church is going to become an important part of the community. The church has presented a plan and the NA has asked for some changes. Primarily mixed-use areas on each end (Manor & MLK) and place the parking between the mixed-use developments on either side and the church.

III. Neighborhood Watch/Block Captains

Rosewood NPT is organizing a neighborhood watch training program this Thursday, July 20, 2006, 6:15 PM at the Conley Guerrero Senior Activity Center.

Block Captains are points of contact for their streets/neighborhood.

Shelby O'Brien (Rountree) and Ruby Burton (E. 22nd) volunteered to attend.

We should have a Neighborhood Watch sign at the intersection of Manor Rd. and Rountree.

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 1, 2006 at Kenneth Henry's house – 2814 E. 22nd St.