

**Meeting started at 7:01pm****1. Travis County Airport Boulevard campus update:**

- a. Mark Gilbert with Travis County gave us an update on the campus and the architects presented the architectural drawing in the meeting.
- b. Travis Flats is the name of a project that will transform about three acres at Airport Boulevard and 53rd ½ Street and it was approved by Travis County commissioners. The mixed-use development will include retail, office space for the county along with affordable housing. The county says this will help with the growing need for affordable housing in the area through a combination of studio, 1 to -3 bedroom apartments on four levels.
- c. Wildflower Terrace and Aldridge 21 both located in Mueller were done by the same team if anyone wants to look at the work they done in Austin as an example.
- d. Construction is tentatively planned to begin in spring of 2018.
- e. There was discussion on traffic along 53 ½ and adding to the current problem by introducing additional vehicles to already overly congested area. We need to work with and push the team to help our neighborhood with ideas to improve this situation.
- f. There was a request to look at the traffic median and what purpose it serves and either work with the city of removing or improving the purpose and aesthetics for our neighborhood
- g. The project is required to have a traffic analysis done and will work with a team on the issue. Ridgetop will continue to monitor and push this issue from our end.
- h. Finance and tax credit being worked currently
- i. This project is under the 3 star Austin green energy program:
  - i. <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=236051>
- j. Support team of architects and developers on this project.
  - i. *Nelson Partners: Architects and Planners are Local Austin Firm*
  - ii. <http://www.nelsenpartners.com/>
  - iii. *DMA Companies: Developer for Multifamily, Affordable Housing, local Austin firm*
  - iv. <http://www.dmacompanies.com/>
  - v. *Southwest Strategies Group: Tenant & Owner representation for commercial real estate, local Austin group*
  - vi. <http://www.swsg.com/>
- k. **Ridgetop neighborhood voted to support Travis County in this project and will send a letter of support requested by the team.**
  - i. <https://ridgetopaustin.org/travis-county-project/>

**2. Nomination was held to bring Jonathan Lewis of 54<sup>th</sup> & Harman on the neighborhood leadership team as a Sector VP in Morningside.**

- a. Nomination was approved unanimously

**3. 49<sup>th</sup> Street Residential Parking Permit Approval**

- a. Team has been working with business owners and residents to resolve the issue since 2015.
  - i. City requires 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of all residents on the street to sign with agreement to initiate process of residential permit parking
    1. 50<sup>th</sup> Street did not get enough signatures to move forward
    2. 49<sup>th</sup> Street worked together and had necessary support from residents
  - ii. Parking permit for 49<sup>th</sup> street will be from 4pm to 8pm
  - iii. Kome has been very cooperative
  - iv. Bullfight also been cooperative and neighborhood friendly

1. Valet are not using lots for parking but parking on 49<sup>th</sup> Street
  - v. Neighbors on the street have numerous issues with being blocked in their own driveways unable to leave with cars blocking them in
- b. Ridgetop Neighborhood voted to support parking permit on 49<sup>th</sup> Street with 18 in support and 1 abstained from the vote**
  - i. Leadership team signed the necessary form for neighborhood to move forward with the city on parking permits for 49<sup>th</sup>

#### 4. 311 App

- a. The City of Austin has created a smartphone app (compatible for iPhone and Android) that allows you to report any of the following issues below in less than a minute and be able to keep track of your open issues.
  - i. <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/311/smart-phone-app>

#### 5. Ridgetop Elementary Neighborhood Closure

- a. AISD wants to consolidate the Ridgetop Elementary School with the nearby Reilly Elementary School. AISD says the option being considered is to modernize, expand, and convert Reilly into a World Languages/Culture school in the next 12 years. AISD says that it would be a first of its kind school in Austin that would teach many different languages including English, Spanish, Chinese, and/or Arabic with a multicultural focus. AISD says that Ridgetop isn't large enough to expand in the future and maintenance costs would be lower with 1 modern facility vs. multiple small, ageing facilities. AISD says Reilly has more land for expansion, easier access, further removed from busy streets, which make it a better candidate for expansion, even going up. The current Ridgetop School could be repurposed as a district facility - offices, flex space, etc. AISD staff affirms that when, or IF, a transition happens, it will be thoughtful, slow and intentional for the benefit of the kids, families, staff and teachers/admin
- b. Ridgetop Neighborhood needs to review this proposal and respond back to AISD**

#### 6. Ridgetop Sidewalk & Mosaic Wall Project

- a. Project is intended to install approximately 200 feet of sidewalk in front of Ridgetop Elementary near the swing sets facing Caswell Av
- b. RNA sent endorsement of the proposed "Ridgetop Elementary Sidewalk" project to Neighborhood Partnering Program of the City of Austin

~~Parents located city program "Neighborhood Partnering Program" which can facilitate the project with the city and match funds at 70%. Unmatched funds (the remaining 30%) may be contributed via volunteer hours.~~

~~Parents have successfully engaged Creative Action group for initial planning of mural wall. Creative Action group may be able to facilitate donated items for mural wall (Creative/Artistic plus materials: Tiles/Glass)~~

~~Approximate Official Budget: (VERY initial / budgetary)~~  
~~Sidewalk (225ft x 5' wide): \$20250~~  
~~Mural wall (approx. 3' x 20') and associated: \$13493~~

~~ACTUAL costs to be contributed (what the 30% amounts to for parents)~~  
~~Note: Volunteer hours are valued by the city at \$25.11/hr~~

~~Fundraiser: \$700~~  
~~Mosaic wall construction: \$1500 (could be added to fundraiser or donated)~~  
~~Glass / Tile Materials for Mosaic: Donation tentatively secured (value \$1200)~~  
~~Labor hours to install mosaic: 120 hrs~~  
~~Labor hours additional: Ship Park Clean up day: 40 people for 2 hours~~

7. Highland Update

- a. During the Airport Boulevard planning initiative, a lot (owned by Austin Community College) at the SE corner of the intersection of Airport Boulevard and Koenig was identified for a regional storm water management amenity.
- b. The Highland redevelopment team (ACC and RedLeaf Properties) have worked with the City of Austin over the last few years about realizing the vision and practical needs for both the Highland project and greater region.
- c. In January, the Highland project submitted plans to the City of Austin for a water quality pond on this site. A rendering of the proposed pond design that was submitted to the City has been shared by the Highland redevelopment team. This design might change during the City's review.
- d. The proposed design is for a regional water quality pond, meaning that it can serve more than the Highland project in cooperation with the City and consistent with the vision for Airport Boulevard.
- e. Preliminary Schedule/Timing: Plans are under review at the City of Austin as of mid-January 2017. Plan review is expected to take 6 to 8 months. Construction of the improvements will begin as soon as a permit is issued by the City. The pond and improvements should take 4 to 6 months to complete once construction starts.
- f. [www.highlandatx.com](http://www.highlandatx.com)

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm