

**DRAFT FOR APPROVAL - Minutes for the Travis County  
Citizens Bond Advisory Committee  
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING  
Thursday, June 23, 2011, at 6:30 P.M.  
Del Valle ISD Opportunity Center  
5301 Ross Road, Del Valle**

**Attendees:**

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Committee Member:	Representing:	Travis County Staff:	Affiliation:
John Williams	Precinct 1	Steve Manilla	TNR Staff
Thomas Fritzinger	Precinct 1	Wendy Scaperotta	TNR Staff
Larry Graham	Precinct 2	Charlie Watts	TNR Staff
Carolyn Vogel	Precinct 3	Stacey Scheffel	TNR Staff
Joe Gieselman	Precinct 4	Randy Nicholson	TNR Staff
Rosa Rios Valdez	Precinct 4	Laura Seaton	TNR Staff
Frank Fuentes	Precinct 4	Robert Armistead	TNR Staff

**Guests:**

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Pam Madere	Karen Ford	Scott Swearingem
Leticia Garcia	Tamara Trager	Marilynn Dierschke
Juan Garcia	Scott Rogers	Jessica Braun
Tom West	Pat King	

**Commencement of Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 6:40 P.M.

**Presentations by TNR Staff**

Mr. Charlie Watts, Roadway, Safety and Bike/Pedestrian Projects  
Ms. Stacey Scheffel, Drainage and Bridge Safety Projects  
Ms. Wendy Scaperotta, Parks and Land Conservation Projects

**Citizen Communication**

Ms. Pam Madere, RE: William Cannon

Spoke in support of the extension of William Cannon to SH183. Area is growing residentially and commercially, Governor Perry approved a new MUD (Pilot Knob, Rio Davida?) area and it is a needed element in support of this "desired

development zone." She also answered a question from Joe Gieselman regarding the future work anticipated for SH 812.

Ms. Leticia M. Garcia, RE:

She would like to see more parks in the Del Valle area. She is also concerned with the condition of Jacobson Road and Mesa Drive especially with the big trucks coming in and out of the Formula 1 construction area off SH 183. She also is in favor of projects to expand and improve the Onion Creek parkway.

Mr. Tom West, RE: Precinct 1 recommendations

Past president of the Park Springs Neighborhood Association in Precinct 1, currently their secretary. Referred to a letter submitted to the CBAC last week, recommendations are centered around the "package" of projects that will improve the flow around the Manor area: Wildhorse Connector, Blake Manor Road improvements, improvement to the Old Highway 20 Bridge and the FM 933-Blake Manor Road connector. Improvements needed due to the continuous population increases due to growth and development. Whisper Valley PUD status recently granted, ten thousand residences on line to be built. Also emphasized the dangerous conditions on Blake-Manor Road. Is in favor of conservation easement projects, particularly in the Wilbarger Creek area and many landowners, small and large, are very interested in participating. Quality of life issues equal economic issues (growth); businesses will be attracted to Austin as long we as continue to embrace green development.

Mr. Scott Rogers, RE: William Cannon

Spoke in favor of the William Canon Drive extension project, representing Brookfield Residential, a major developer in the area (Pilot Knob). A MUD was recently approved by the State Legislature for their development area. He brought three maps emphasizing the extension and its impact: 1) larger view showing the how the extension of William Cannon and the realignment/extension of FM 812 by the State will create a significant and safe east-west corridor in southwest Travis County; 2) a closer view of the development area showing the proposed future extension of William Cannon Drive and Slaughter Lane as it related to US 183 to the west and to the east including the future FM 812. His company has been meeting with TxDOT for several years on this project and he is hopeful that the Formula 1 Track construction will encourage the State to move forward on FM 812, and; 3) an even closer view focusing on the McKinney Falls and William Cannon Drive intersection with a more detailed conception of the proposed future development in the area. He also emphasized many other development projects that are in the works in this area of the County. Several questions were asked by the Committee members present about the details of development area and their specific development plans. He also spoke of their contribution to right-of-way commitments, including working with the other

landowners involved, and their intention to assist with roadway construction costs. He also spoke of their long range plans for redevelopment for their flood plain land including improvements for usage and drainage of the areas, dedication for park land, green space and a trail system. His company also owns the land adjacent to the potential El Mercado site.

Ms. Marilyn Dierchke, RE Greenways on Onion Creek, Conservation Easements

Ms. Dierchke started by saying she leases the land that is currently the dead end of William Cannon and McKinney Falls Parkway and is looking forward to releasing the lease for development. She mentioned that she believes the proposed development is very innovative. She has been a resident of the area off US 183 near Onion Creek for forty years and three months. She spoke in support of Onion Creek greenways. At last count she had 83 native Texas palm trees on her property between her house and the Creek. She feels very strongly that the natural areas need to be kept for future generations to be able to experience. She is also involved with landowners in the Wilbarger Creek area and they also feel the need to keep greenways. Also spoke in favor of the El Mercado farmer's market proposal. Also expressed her concern of developing the very fertile black land prairie in southern Travis County as well as protecting the vital waterways.

Mr. Scott Swearingem, Sierra Club recommendations for bonds

One of the co-chairs of the Austin regional group of the Conversation Committee of the local Austin Sierra Club. Spoke about priorities on spending money on land; conservation land and his belief that money proposed to be used to purchase Pedernales River corridor land in eastern Travis County should be used in East Travis County in better alignment with the Travis County Green Print Plan. He expressed concern that the focus should be on the "priority" land of the black land prairie that helps pull carbon out of the air. Also mentioned that in the 1970s, bond money was approved to purchase 13 miles of eastern river corridor; purchase was delayed, land prices tripled, and the opportunity to buy and protect river corridor was greatly diminished. He also believes that the money will have more buying power in the eastern County rather than the more expensive western County. Also believes the County should use money designated for park improvements to buy land; believes purchase of easements are relatively equal to buying land out right, although there is no public access. He said priority of purchase vs. easement is important; is the land to be saved (as easements in the best interest of) for the public or to be used (physically as parkland) by the public.

## **Action Items**

### **Discussion on Other Items and Next Steps:**

No Discussion. Next meeting will be held Monday, June 27, 2011, at the Wells Branch Community Center at 7:00 p.m. The Chairman thanked all citizens who presented testimony and emphasized this was the main purpose of this evening's meeting.

### **Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at approximately at 8:07 P.M.

Note: Above items summarized from the verbatim minutes. Due to the background noise, audience comments, and the levels at which constituents/representatives were speaking into the microphone, verbatim minutes of the meeting are transcribed as best as possible. Please refer to the tapes of the meeting for specific questions regarding the contents in this document. You can call TNR's open records request line at (512) 854-7683.

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