



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: May 6, 2014

Prepared By: Laura Seaton **Phone #:** (512) 854-4237

Division Director/Manager: Carol B. Joseph, Assistant Director, TNR

Department Head: Steven M. Manilla, P.E., County Executive-TNR

Sponsoring Court Member: Commissioner Todd, Precinct Two

AGENDA LANGUAGE: Consider and take appropriate action for a proclamation in recognition of the work of Lauren Bennett, Program Director for Movability Austin.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Movability Austin is a non-profit transportation management association (TMA) funded through partnership agreements with Travis County, Capital Metro, the City of Austin, the Downtown Austin Alliance, as well as, other interested businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals. Movability Austin helps commuters to downtown choose and use existing transportation options by working with employers and their employees to understand their transportation challenges, then tailoring commute, parking, and promotional options that meet their needs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends approval.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

This proclamation is an opportunity to thank Lauren Bennett, Program Director of Movability Austin, for her outstanding efforts in assisting, educating, and securing many transportation benefits for Travis County employees. She has accepted a new position creating a similar program at the University of California, Berkeley.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

None

ATTACHMENTS/EXHIBITS:

Proclamation

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

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|-------------------|-------------------|-----|----------------|
| Cynthia McDonald | Financial Manager | TNR | (512) 854-4239 |
| Steven M. Manilla | County Executive | TNR | (512) 854-9429 |
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| Mark Gilbert | Sr Planner | PBO | (512) 854-1161 |
| Adele Nole | Air Quality PM - NREQ | TNR | (512) 854-7211 |
| Shannon Steele | Benefits Administrator | HRMD | (512) 854-6046 |
| Laura Seaton | Executive Assistant | TNR | (512) 854-4237 |

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GENERAL LANGUAGE: Consider and take appropriate action for a program in the region of the work of the program. Program Director for Mobility Austin.

BACKGROUND SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Mobility Austin is a non-profit transportation management association (TMA) funded through partnership agreements with Travis County Council Metro, the City of Austin, the Downtown Austin Alliance, as well as other interested businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals. Mobility Austin helps commuters to downtown choose and use existing transportation options by working with employers and their employees to understand their transportation challenges, their commuting patterns, and practical options that meet their needs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends approval.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

This position is an opportunity to work with the Program Director of Mobility Austin for her outstanding efforts in assisting, educating, and securing many transportation benefits for Travis County employees. She has accepted a new position creating a similar program at the University of California, Berkeley.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

None

ATTACHMENTS/EXHIBITS:

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REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

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| Cynthia McDonald | Financial Manager | TNR | (512) 854-4339 |
| Steven M. Manilla | County Executive | TNR | (512) 854-9428 |
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Travis County Commissioners Court



Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Travis County Commissioners Court recognizes that 60,000 employees and thousands of visitors come to Downtown Austin every day — and that number continues to grow as Central Texas grows;

WHEREAS, Transportation is a complex issue influenced by decisions we all make and no single government agency, service provider or private-sector interest can create real improvement in mobility working alone and ideas will be more effective if they're part of a coordinated strategy;

WHEREAS, Travis County is dedicated to proactively reduce ozone and improve air quality so that our citizens and visitors can continue to enjoy a clean environment, a healthy quality of life and a healthy economy;

WHEREAS, Movability Austin is a non-profit association whose members are public and private sector employers and is funded through partnership agreements with Travis County, Capital Metro, City of Austin, Downtown Austin Alliance as well as other interested businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals, with Travis County represented with a seat on their Board of Directors;

WHEREAS, Movability Austin helps commuters to downtown choose and use existing transportation options and implement new ideas for keeping the central city moving by working with employers and their employees to understand their transportation challenges and needs, then tailoring commute, parking and promotional options that can help meet their needs and solve problems;

WHEREAS, an integral member of the Movability Austin team, program Director Lauren Bennett, has been a vital contributor by personally working with Travis County employees to understand their transportation challenges and helping them find solutions that improve mobility and their daily commute;

WHEREAS, Ms. Bennett has also contributed to overall education and benefit of Travis County employees, by building relationships with staff and local transportation providers by securing discounted employee memberships and through extensive education and employee benefits development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the members of the Travis County Commissioners Court, on behalf of the Employees of Travis County, would like to express gratitude to Ms. Lauren Bennett, Program Director of Movability Austin, for her service and extend best wishes to her in her future endeavors.

Introduced, read, and passed on this 6th day of May, 2014.

SAMUEL T. BISCOE
County Judge

RON DAVIS
Commissioner, Precinct One

BRUCE TODD
Commissioner, Precinct Two

GERALD DAUGHERTY
Commissioner, Precinct Three

MARGARET J. GÓMEZ
Commissioner, Precinct Four