
Resolution to request Capital Metro action

WHEREAS, in early 2003 the Oak Hill Association of Neighborhoods (OHAN) Board Of Directors (BOD) recognized there was significant unplanned development in Oak Hill and continuing pressure for even more construction; and

WHEREAS, in early 2003 the OHAN BOD recognized the need for better mass transit and Park & Ride facilities; and

WHEREAS, in August 2003 OHAN wanted to initiate a planning effort (Envision Oak Hill) to address traffic mobility, business diversity, development, education, employment, ecology, health and public safety in Oak Hill; and

WHEREAS, in March 2004 OHAN members asked the Board to initiate contact with the Capital Metropolitan Transit Authority (Cap Metro) to express the need for public transit in Oak Hill and Southwest Austin and include Cap Metro in our planning process to make mass transit a practical reality; and

WHEREAS, in April 2004 at a public meeting, the Cap Metro Chairman requested OHAN make a presentation to the Board of Cap Metro about Oak Hill's desire to improve mass transit services to suburban communities (and Oak Hill in particular); and

WHEREAS, in September of 2004 Cap Metro presented All Systems Go at the OHAN meeting that included an enhanced Transit Center and improved rapid bus and express bus service to Oak Hill; and

WHEREAS, currently planned TxDOT Highway projects extending SH 71 and US 290 threaten retail centers at the "Y", and threaten local mobility, thus forcing local residents to drive further in traffic; and

WHEREAS, failing retail centers would encourage additional, unregulated development in western Travis and Hays Counties, leading to sprawl and degradation of the Central Texas Hill Country and Edwards Aquifer; and

WHEREAS, commercial development west of Oak Hill on US 290 outside the jurisdiction of the City of Austin will reduce sales tax revenue and funding for public services including transportation services for Austin, and Oak Hill; and

WHEREAS, failing commercial centers reduce property values having a direct financial impact on neighborhood residents, and reducing property tax revenue which funds City services, AISD Schools and Travis County services; and

WHEREAS, members of the Oak Hill community have been meeting regularly since January 2005 to develop goals and a vision for (re)development of the "Y" supporting a local identity, a center for the community and environmentally sound policies in a bike and pedestrian friendly "Downtown Oak Hill"; and

WHEREAS, projections from the State, City of Austin, and others, suggest significant population growth in Oak Hill and Southwest Austin over the next 25 years; and



WHEREAS, the Cap Metro Transit Center in Oak Hill contemplated under the All Systems Go project and approved by Austin voters in November of 2004 could reduce congestion and environmental degradation over the Edwards Aquifer recharge and contributing zone; and

WHEREAS, "Downtown Oak Hill" creates the opportunity for Cap Metro to be the Central Texas and National leader in suburban Transit Oriented Development; and

WHEREAS, the Cap Metro Transit Center could anchor and improve commercial and retail services desired by local residents, business people, medical professionals, ACC students and faculty otherwise threatened by TxDOT highway construction; and

WHEREAS, urban development in Oak Hill combining mass transit, employment centers, retail, academic, medical and commercial services with opportunities for walkable and bike friendly residential housing serving all income levels could create a vital downtown center, civic pride, local employment, economic opportunity and improve the health and well being of our citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Oak Hill Association of Neighborhoods (OHAN) requests that Cap Metro explore the feasibility of augmenting the scale and scope of the Oak Hill Transit Center sanctioned under All Systems Go to incorporate the design, features and benefits accruing to a Transit Oriented Development (TOD).

Adopted July 13, 2005

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Bruce Perrin, President

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Sandra Baldrige, Secretary