

PRECINCT 1 NEWSLETTER

FINAL EDITION

July 2016

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT APPROVES STEERING COMMITTEE WORKING GROUPS TO IMPLEMENT ENFORCEABLE HUB PROGRAM

On May 17, 2016, the Travis County Commissioners Court approved on a 4 to 1 vote to create a steering committee and three task force working groups to begin a “phasing in” process to implement an enforceable Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program. Over the past 20 years, Travis County has worked under a “good faith effort” based program.

The Disparity Study results were presented to the Com-

missioners Court on February 2, 2016, resulting in nineteen recommendations. At the May 17 voting session, Commissioner Davis stated, “minority and women-owned businesses are not getting opportunities with Travis County... the facts are in our face... time to move forward and implement a program.” Commissioner Davis made the motion to move forward with the creation of the steering committees and task force working groups. Commis-

sioner Gomez seconded his motion to continue the cooperation between other governmental entities such as the City of Austin (COA) and Austin Independent School District (AISD), Judge Eckhardt requested an additional group be added, called the “Intergovernmental Operability Working Group.” This fourth working group would be composed of the County’s Intergovernmental Relations Office (IGR), County Attorney, COA, and AISD.



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SUMMER’S CAREER ACADEMIES & TRAVIS COUNTY ITS INTERNSHIP COLLABORATION



In the summer of 2015 Commissioner Davis began the work of initiating a new venture between Travis County Information Technology Services (ITS) and ACC Career Academies. At the beginning of June ITS welcomed six high school students from LBJ, Reagan and Del Valle High schools to our offices for a 10-week paid internship program. The students are interning 20 hours a week with the Service Desk, Train-

ing, Site Operations and Applications Departments while also attending a weekly ACC class. This is the largest and youngest class of interns ITS has employed at one time and we are excited about continuing internship collaborations in the future. Thank you to Commissioner Davis for his encouragement and support, as well as the reminder of the importance of not just serving our community, but also giving back.



2016 ITS Interns

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Austin Community College Health Sciences Academy

Former Pct 1. Justice of the Peace Building to be used For Education

Austin Community College District is committed to providing a strong, knowledgeable healthcare workforce that benefits the entire community. The Austin Community College Health Sciences Academy will allow high school students to take dual-credit courses leading to certificates in a health care field that will enable them to immediately enter the medical industry upon graduation from high school. Many employers are looking for people who have the skills for immediate employment following high school. Students who have completed these certifications will have the skills for immediate employment and they will also have the ability to continue their education in a higher level ACC Health Sciences program should they so choose. The Travis County Commissioners partnering with ACC for the use of the Springdale Road Building to house ACC's High School Health Sciences Academy allows ACC to expand opportunities to high school students who could not otherwise participate in the Health Sciences Academy. The Travis County building is located 2 miles from ACC's Eastview Campus, a primary ACC health science campus, making access to the full spectrum of campus resources easily available to students participating in the Academy.

The three Health Science career pathways that will be initially offered are:

- Phlebotomy (1 year)-senior year
- Pharmacy Technician (2 year)-begin junior year
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) (1 year)-senior year

The students will come to the new site for one or two years depending on the pathway chosen. In the fall semester, students will take Student Success for Health Professionals and Medical Terminology. These courses will provide the foundation for success in the program courses. In the spring semester, the phlebotomy and EMT students will do the classroom/lab portion of the program and in the summer, will complete the practicum portion. The Pharmacy Technician students will take the same foundation courses in the fall of their junior year and in spring, will attend the classroom portion of the program. In their senior year, the pharmacy technician students will also attend laboratory classes at the nearby Eastview campus; these students will do their practicum the summer after their senior year.

The Health Sciences faculty is ready to welcome the High School Health Sciences Academy. The phlebotomy program has many years of working with high school students and has been "piloting" the academy on the Eastview campus. The availability of the Travis County building will enable the division to expand the number of students we can serve, thereby providing great value to the community. The three programs will initially serve 80 students. That number will increase over time.

- ACC Academy faculty and staff will provide a high-touch level of support to the students and the high schools served to ensure success.
- The ACC faculty and staff, in collaboration with the participating school districts, will identify students through an application/screening process.
- Faculty will provide a detailed orientation to students and parents related to the expectations for students in the health sciences programs.
- ACC staff will work with faculty through the Early Alert System to track student progress and behavior.
- ACC staff will regularly communicate with faculty and high school representatives regarding students, scheduling, and performance.
- ACC Academy staff will require each Academy student to submit a Mid-Term Grade Self Report each semester
- ACC Academy staff will meet with students each semester and one-on-one with students who are not showing success in the program at the mid-term mark.

PID – Wildhorse Ranch

The Travis County Commissioners Court has given staff direction to focus economic development efforts in eastern Travis County. The proposed Wildhorse Ranch PID is located within an activity center as

defined within the Travis County Land, Water and Transportation Plan and

as defined by the City of Austin in its Imagine Austin plan. On October 13, 2015, the County received a petition to create the Wildhorse Ranch PID in eastern Travis County to enable the financing of public

improvements within the proposed district. The creation of a PID is governed by Local Government Code Chapter 372.

The Commissioners Court held a public hearing on the advisability of the proposed improvements on July 12, 2016.

The general nature of the proposed public improvements as follows:

- Acquisition, construction, and improvement of streets, roadways,

rights-of-way, and related facilities;

- The establishment of parks and open space or amenities such as trails, public art, pavilions, community facilities,

irrigation, multi-use paths, lighting, benches, swimming pools, other

recreational facilities, trash receptacles, and any similar items;

- Landscaping improvements;

- Acquisition, construction, and improvement of water, wastewater, and drainage facilities;

- Payment of the costs associated with constructing and financing the public improvements including costs of

establishing, administering, and operating the District.

The estimated cost of the proposed public improvements totals \$65 million plus the costs of bond issuance, costs incurred in the establishment, administration, and operation of the PID, and improvements funded from other sources of funds. The County PID policy and state statute allow for all costs incurred by the County to be paid by the petitioners and the owners of land within the PID. Petitioners paid a \$10,000 application fee intended to cover in-house staff review of the petition. In addition, the petitioners deposited \$25,000 under a contribution agreement to pay for the direct costs of advertising and other related costs incurred by the County.

WEISS LANE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF PFLUGERVILLE

Weiss Lane Safety Improvements is a 2011 voter approved bond project. The project scope includes widening existing travel lanes, adding paved shoulders, dedicated turn lanes and roadside drainage improvements from East Pecan Street to Cele Road. Approximately 4,300 linear feet of the roadway is located within the corporate limits of the City of Pflugerville and approximately 11,700 linear feet located within the unincorporated area of the County. On December 16, 2014, Travis County and City of Pflugerville entered into an interlocal agreement to jointly implement the project and to share the project costs.

In November 2015, City of Pflugerville voters approved additional

bond funds for additional improvements to Weiss Lane. The City of Pflugerville desires to revise the agreement to expand the project scope from it's original 2-lane safety improvements to a 4-lane arterial roadway from north of Wilbarger Creek to Kelly Lane and to improve the existing one-lane bridge over Wilbarger Creek to a new two-lane bridge.

The City of Pflugerville will continue to manage the project including the expanded project scope. Travis County's cost share will not be increased for the new 4-lane arterial roadway project except that the County will contribute a maximum not-to-exceed amount of \$304,920 for right-of-way costs related to

Weiss Lane Roadway Improvements located in the unincorporated area of the County. Travis County will also contribute a maximum not-to-exceed amount of \$700,000 for the construction of the new bridge.

Travis County and the City of Pflugerville also agree to coordinate on the Hodde

Lane and Cele Road Improvements



HOWARD LANE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

This roadway extension is a four-lane divided road with sidewalks and bike lanes from Harris Branch Parkway to SH 130. The project was made possible by multiple agencies, property owners, developers, and the tax payers of Travis County. A lot of individuals contributed to the success of this project and we would like to acknowledge them. Please extend this invitation to members of your community, and to others that you believe may be interested in this information.

A summary description and project limits of the individual projects under this \$20,000,000 construction contract are listed below:

Howard Lane extension is a 4-lane divided 8400 feet long extension with bicycle lanes and sidewalk from Harris Branch to SH 130. This also includes the addition of two new bridges over the Gilleland

Creek and some water quality and detention facilities.

Harris Branch is a 2200 feet reconstruction and expansion from two lanes to a 4-lane divided road with bicycle lanes and sidewalk from Gregg Lane to 1000 feet south of Howard Lane.

Hill Lane extension is a 500 feet construction of a two lane section of roadway extension from the current dead end terminus of Hill Lane to the new Howard Lane. This section of Hill Lane is not currently planned to be opened to traffic.

Titanium Drive improvement is a 100 feet construction to convert the dead end street to connect to the new Howard Lane.

A 2000 feet long 12" waterline and a 1600 feet long 16" Waterline were constructed along the West and East sides respectively, of the

newly expanded Harris Branch Parkway.



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DECKER LANE SIDEWALK PROJECT GROUNDBREAKING

The Decker Lane Sidewalk - Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on June 15, 2016 at the Decker Lane Elementary School.

The Partners for this project are Travis County, TxDOT, City of Austin. Travis County is the sponsoring agency for the project and

Through an interlocal agreement, the City of Austin agreed to jointly share in the costs.

The Project letting and construction administration and management will be provided by TxDOT. TxDOT and the City of Austin will provide for sidewalk maintenance.

This project is part of the Transportation Enhancement Program. There will be a five foot wide concrete sidewalk along the west side of Decker Lane from Loyola Lane to Daffan Lane. The sidewalk will connect two existing schools, Decker Elementary School and Decker Middle School to existing neighborhoods, provide connectivity to the Travis County Exposition Center, provide for connectivity to the Austin to Manor Trail that was constructed by the City of Austin, provide connectivity to two existing CapMetro transit stops and increase connectivity to a local retail/convenience store at the intersection of Loyola Lane and Decker Lane. The project also addresses improvements to help alleviate potential automobile and pedestrian/bicycle conflicts along Decker Lane.

The project is scheduled to last from the Summer 2016 to Summer 2017.

Construction Bid Amount: \$2,045,353

Fund sources are : Federal funds: \$1,529,977, with a 20% grant match plus engineering and design costs: \$879,538 (to be paid by Travis County and City of Austin at 50% each)

Travis County's portion came from Precinct One 2001 bond savings.



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183 South Construction

The Mobility Authority broke ground on April 6th on the 183 South Expressway Project, which will triple capacity along an 8-mile section of US 183 between US 290 and SH 71. The project involves constructing three tolled lanes in each direction in the middle of US 183 as well as reconstructing up to three non-tolled general purpose lanes in each direction. For construction and work activity schedules or for the latest, most up-to-date information, please visit 183South.com to view our construction alerts, call our project hotline at 1-855-245-4272.

- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent
- Dress in Long sleeves and pants when outdoors (especially at dawn and dusk)
- Drain standing water around your home
Such as flower pots, pet dishes, and bird baths,
so mosquitoes don't have a place to breed.

Mosquito bites may cause illness. Most people that get a mosquito disease will not feel sick, but some cases can cause illness or death. Children, elderly, and those with certain health conditions may be at a higher risk of getting sick if they become infected.



TRAVIS COUNTY JUSTICE PLANNING

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Travis County has an Employment Program for individuals living in the Austin Metropolitan area who may have barriers to employment.

- Assessment for Job-Readiness
- Assistance with developing work plans.
- Assistance connecting with basic needs, employment resources & service providers.

Orientation takes place on the first and last Tuesday of every month from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Travis County Counseling and Education Services, 5501 Airport Boulevard # 102; Austin, Texas 78751

For more information please contact

Sandra Trevino (512) 854-7996 or

Chris Fortune (512) 854-6050

ROAD TO SUCCESS

VETERANS JOB FAIR

Wednesday July 27, 2016

10:00am—12:00

Travis County Suites

700 Lavaca St.; 1st Floor

Hall of Government