



Travis County Commissioners Court Voting Session Agenda Request

Meeting Date: March 24, 2015

Agenda Language:

Consider and take appropriate action on a request from the Travis County Bicycle Safety Task Force to reassign Andrew Willis from Task Force member to Task Force Advisor, and to add Tomasita Louviere-Lignons and Doug Ballew to the Task Force.

Prepared By/Phone Number: Steve Manilla / 512-854-9429

Elected/Appointed Official or Department Head: Steven M. Manilla, P.E.

Commissioners Court Sponsor(s): Judge Sarah Eckhardt
Commissioner Brigid Shea, Precinct Two

Background/Summary of Request and Attachments:

On January 20, 2015 the Court approved the appointment of Andrew Willis, Erick Benz, Joe Gieselman, Laura Dierenfield, and James Murff as the Task Force voting members. At that time they also approved, as the non-voting Task Force Advisors, Preston Tyree, Tom Wald, and Chad Crager. Andrew Willis has advised the Task Force that due to other commitments he will be unable to function as a voting member but he would like to continue his involvement as a non-voting Advisor. Also, after the first Task Force meeting the Task Force received offers from Tomasita Louviere-Lignons (local organizer of Black Girls do Bike Austin Chapter) and Doug Ballew (Injury Prevention Program, Austin/Travis County HHS Department, and Bicycling Advocate of the Violet Crown Sports Association) to participate as volunteers in whatever capacity would best serve the Task Force. The Task Force took up these issues at its March 6 meeting and agreed to recommend reassigning Mr. Willis to a non-voting Advisor role. They also agreed to submit to the Court for its approval a recommendation to bring both Ms. Louviere-Lignons and Mr. Ballew on to the Task Force as voting members.

Task Force Recommendations:

The Task Force recommends reassigning Mr. Willis as a non-voting Advisor. It also recommends refilling Mr. Willis' voting member position with one of the new volunteers and adding the other new volunteer as a voting Task Force member. These actions result in a Task Force comprised of six voting Task Force members and four non-voting Advisors.

Staff Recommendations:

Staff agrees with the Task Force recommendation regarding Mr Willis' reassignment. Staff recommends making Ms. Louviere-Lignons a voting Task Force member (replacing Mr. Willis) and making Mr. Ballew a non-voting Advisor. This will result in a Task Force

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comprised of five voting members (helping avoid voting ties) and five non-voting Advisors.

Issues and Opportunities:

The Bicycle Safety Task Force was established through actions of the Court. As such, TNR has been advised by the County Attorney's Office that changes to the Task Force must be approved by the Court.

Ms. Louviere-Ligons is recommended to the Task Force by the Precinct One Commissioner's office. Having a Precinct One voting member is desired because the Task Force was established largely due to bike safety issues in that precinct.

Fiscal Impact and Source of Funding:

There is no fiscal impact. All Task Force members and Advisors are volunteers. All meeting facilities and administrative support are being provided by TNR.

Required Authorizations: N/A

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