

**To:** Austin City Council  
Austin Transit Partnership Board of Directors  
CapMetro Board of Directors

**From:** Project Connect Community Advisory Committee Nominating Committee  
-Paige Ellis, Austin City Council Member; Mobility Committee, Chair  
-José “Chito” Vela, Austin City Council Member; CapMetro Operations, Planning and Safety Committee, Chair  
-Kammy Horne, Austin Transit Partnership Board of Directors  
-Awais Azhar, Community Advisory Committee, Chair

**Date:** November 12, 2025

**Subject:** Recommended Appointments for the Community Advisory Committee

This memorandum serves to inform the Austin City Council, the Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) Board of Directors, and the CapMetro Board of Directors of the Nominating Committee’s recommended appointments for six positions on the Project Connect Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

The CAC assists the three bodies by engaging the community and advising on anti-displacement matters as it relates to Project Connect. Per the CAC Bylaws, the CAC is composed of eleven members. Members are appointed by the CapMetro Board, ATP Board and Austin City Council, utilizing a Nominating Committee process. The Nominating Committee includes the Chair of the City’s Mobility Committee; the Chair of the CapMetro Operation, Planning and Safety Committee; the Community Expert Director for Community Planning or Sustainability on the ATP Board; and a member of the CAC.

The 30-day application intake process produced 57 applications. The CAC Bylaws indicate criteria for membership eligibility, which are as follows:

- Member Eligibility
1. Must be residents of the City of Austin or CapMetro’s Service Area
  2. Not be a person who is registered or required to register as a lobbyist under City Code Chapter 4-8 or who is employed by a person registered or required to register under City Code Chapter 4-8.
  3. Not be an employee of the City of Austin, CapMetro, or Austin Transit Partnership
  4. Not have a Contract for real property, goods, or services with the City of Austin, CapMetro or ATP, or be employed by such a contractor
  5. Shall abide by the ATP Ethics, Conflicts and Nondisclosure Policy

Based on guidance in the CAC Bylaws and a review of the eligible applications, the Nominating Committee recommends the following community members for appointments to the CAC with terms to begin January 2026:

1. Edgardo Alexander Handal
2. Cutter González
3. Mike Gorse\*
4. Liz McGehee
5. Susan Somers\*
6. Stacy Suits

\*Denotes current CAC members seeking reappointment.

**Next Steps**

Each entity will have an opportunity to consider an item for action at an upcoming 2025 public meeting. The Austin Transit Partnership Board is expected to vote on this matter at its meeting on November 19, 2025, followed by Austin City Council on December 11, 2025, and the CapMetro Board of Directors on December 17, 2025. Additional information is available on the CAC web page at: <https://www.projectconnect.com/community-advisory-committee/>.

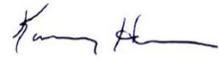
Thank you,



Paige Ellis  
City Council Member  
Mobility Committee, Chair



José "Chito" Vela  
City Council Member  
CapMetro Operations, Planning and Safety Committee, Chair



Kammy Horne  
ATP Board of Directors



Awais Azhar  
Community Advisory Committee, Chair