City of Austin Mobility Report

February 2025



Monthly Highlights

CITY OF AUSTIN SEEKS FEEDBACK ON AUSTIN CORE TRANSPORTATION PLAN



Finalization of the Austin Core Transportation Plan (ACT Plan) is now underway, with the plan being presented to various City Boards and Commissions for review. This presentation process provides an important opportunity for public input, which will be considered as part of the final adoption process. The public is encouraged to participate by <u>providing feedback on the SpeakUp Austin website</u> or by attending these public meetings.

The ACT Plan is a long-term vision for enhancing transportation and mobility options in and around Downtown Austin. The plan builds on prior efforts and anticipates major upcoming changes from projects such as I-35 Capital Express Central and Project Connect, offering a forward-looking transportation framework. This framework includes major capital improvement projects, near-term strategies and actionable steps to realize the plan's vision.

The ACT Plan is anticipated to go to City Council for adoption in Spring 2025.



CITY OF AUSTIN STAFF PARTICIPATE IN STATEWIDE EQUIPMENT ROADEO



Members of the City of Austin's Street and Bridge Operations team recently competed in the Texas APWA chapter's annual Equipment Roadeo in College Station.

An equipment rodeo is a competitive event where operators showcase their skills in handling heavy machinery and equipment. These events are common in industries like construction, utilities, public works and agriculture. Participants compete in various challenges that test their precision, speed and efficiency using equipment such as backhoes, excavators, forklifts and loaders.

The competition often includes tasks like:

- Maneuvering through obstacle courses
- · Performing precision digs or lifts
- · Parking or positioning equipment accurately
- Transporting materials efficiently

Equipment rodeos serve multiple purposes, including training, team-building, safety awareness and recognizing skilled operators. Some organizations use them as a fun way to engage employees while reinforcing best practices in equipment operation.



TPW staff member finishes Third in Texas APWA Equipment Roadeo

This year, three Transportation and Public Works staff members participated in the annual Equipment Roadeo, demonstrating their expertise and professionalism.

Sonny Riojas finished 3rd overall in the competition, showcasing his outstanding skills in the competition.

Riojas is currently a member of the Utilities and Structures division within the City of Austin's Street and Bridge Operations.



CITY OF AUSTIN BREAKS GROUND ON BERGSTROM SPUR TRAIL



Construction of the **Bergstrom Spur Trail** has begun.

On January 31, local officials including Congressman Lloyd Doggett, Mayor Kirk Watson, Austin City Council Members Vanessa Fuentes, Jose Velasquez, Ryan Alter and Paige Ellis, CapMetro President and CEO Dottie Watkins and Austin Transportation and Public Works Director Richard Mendoza broke ground on an urban trail that will provide a much-needed bicycle and pedestrian connection across South Austin.



When complete, the Bergstrom Spur Trail will reach from Vinson Drive in the South Manchaca neighborhood, traveling along the former Union Pacific Railroad track, all the way to East Riverside Drive and US 183 — and eventually to Austin Bergstrom International Airport.

The Bergstrom Spur Trail will eventually link with north-south routes in the Urban Trail Network, helping Austin achieve its goal of citywide trail connectivity. The trail will also connect with CapMetro transit stops and Bikeshare stations for seamless multimodal travel.

Funding for the Bergstrom Spur Trail comes from the 2018 and 2020 Mobility Bonds as well as federal funding procured by Rep. Doggett.

The project, identified as a high-priority project in the 2014 Urban Trails Plan, will be constructed in three segments:

- Western: Vinson Drive to South Congress Avenue, Fall 2025-Fall 2027
- Central: South Congress Avenue to Todd Lane, Spring 2026-Spring 2027
- Eastern: Todd Lane to US 183, Summer 2026-Summer 2027.

VISION ZERO INTERSECTION PROJECT COMPLETE AT SOUTH FIRST STREET AND STASSNEY LANE





Crews have finished construction on a project to improve safety and mobility at Stassney Lane and South First Street. The City of Austin identified this as a high-crash intersection to be prioritized for safety improvements under the 2018 Mobility Bond Vision Zero Intersection Safety program, with partner funding coming from the Bikeways, Sidewalks and Transit Enhancement Programs.

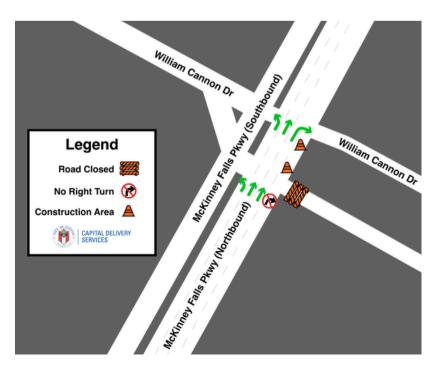
This project is designed to reduce crashes, lower the risk of severe injuries and fatalities and improve mobility and access for those walking, riding bicycles or using transit.

Improvements include:

- New separated bikeways and shared-use paths to enhance bicyclist and micromobility safety
- Sidewalk upgrades, including restriped high-visibility crosswalks and new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant curb ramps.
- New or extended medians on intersection approaches to reduce conflict points.
- Driveway reconfigurations to provide safer access points.
- Relocated bus stops on eastbound Stassney Lane, serving high-frequency bus route 311

Recent analysis shows that Vision Zero major intersection safety projects are seeing a 22% reduction in serious injury and fatal crashes and a \$28.5 million reduction in the comprehensive cost of crashes every year.

MCKINNEY FALLS PARKWAY LANE REDUCTION





Beginning today, February 13, 2025, the right turn lane heading northbound on McKinney Falls Parkway at William Cannon Drive will be closed for several weeks, allowing crews to install a waterline gate valve. Right turns will still be able to be made through the adjacent lane. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience as we continue to enhance safety and improve our roadways during this period.

This closure is related to ongoing work with the William Cannon Corridor project, funded from the 2016 Mobility Bonds.

SLAUGHTER LANE CORRIDOR PROGRESSING TOWARDS CONSTRUCTION

Bids for the 'C2' segment of the Slaughter Lane corridor, from Loop 1 to east of Brodie Lane, have been received and are currently being vetted, with an official award of the lowest qualified bidder expected in late April.

Construction is anticipated to begin in Summer 2025.

Capital Delivery Services will oversee the numerous enhancements including expanded six-lane divided roadway from Mopac to Brodie Lane.

Modernized signals and pedestrian improvements at intersections like Brodie Ln. and Bowie High School. The Zuniga Drive intersection will also feature a new Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon and safety-focused changes.

Shared-use paths for pedestrians and cyclists; curb extensions for safer crossings, and drainage upgrades including storm water detention and water quality structures.

AUS REPORTS SECOND-BUSIEST YEAR EVER IN 2024, SERVING 21.7 MILLION PASSENGERS

On February 4, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) released its December 2024 Passenger Traffic and Year-End Report, highlighting 21.7 million passengers for the year, making it the second-busiest year on record. In 2024, AUS expanded connectivity with eight new nonstop destinations, welcomed Viva Aerobus, and celebrated 10 years of British Airways' London Heathrow service.



The airport's concessions and entertainment also flourished, with over 1.1 million tacos sold, 1,351 live music performances, and 19 rotating art exhibits showcasing local talent.



Additionally, AUS made significant progress on its Journey With AUS expansion program in 2024, with major project groundbreakings and procurement milestones, advancing an estimated \$4 billion investment in the airport's future.

AUS EXPANDS TERMINAL OFFERINGS WITH NEW DINING, MUSIC, AND SHOPPING EXPERIENCES





On January 29, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (AUS) announced the addition of three exciting new concessions to the Barbara Jordan Terminal, enhancing the traveler experience with new dining, music, and shopping options.

Half Moon Empanadas, a Miami-based eatery known for its handcrafted empanadas, opened as the first new sit-down hot food concession on the non-secure side of the airport since COVID-19. The restaurant celebrated its official ribbon-cutting ceremony on January 29.

In addition to new dining, travelers can now enjoy Antone's, a satellite location of Austin's legendary blues club, bringing live music history and memorabilia to the airport in celebration of its 50th anniversary. Antone's is located in the concession space formerly occupied by Haymaker. For shoppers, HKG Duty Free is set to enhance AUS's retail experience with a curated selection of international and local brands. The store is currently working toward its official opening date.

These new additions reflect AUS's commitment to delivering a dynamic and engaging travel experience, with even more shopping and dining options set to debut as part of the Journey With AUS expansion program.

Community Resources

<u>Weekly Mobility Newsletter Sign Up</u> <u>Upcoming Sidewalk Projects</u>

<u>Capital Projects Explorer</u> <u>Street Preventative Maintenance</u>

<u>Austin Mobility Data and Performance Hub</u>
<u>Special Event Road Closures</u>

<u>Austin-Bergstrom International Airport</u>