Austin TOD Stories: Bikes & Brownfield Partnerships in Action

Lucy Galbraith
*Capital Metro, TOD Manager*
*Austin, TX*
Austin Sense of Place

World’s largest urban bat colony-
We celebrate our bats!
Austin Place

Live Music Capital and hometown of Willie Nelson
Austin – Growing Downtown on Lady Bird Lake
Austin Economy

Capitol of Texas
University of Texas
Tourism
Tech
Austin Fun Economy
Livability Challenges

- Growth
  - Transportation
  - Air Quality
  - Water Issues
- Affordability & Equity
- LOTS of Jurisdictions & Agencies
- State & University independent planning & action
Austin’s Growth in Context

- Austin: 1990 - 2000 - 2010
- Travis County: 1990 - 2000 - 2010
- Austin MSA: 1990 - 2000 - 2010

Bar chart showing population growth from 1990 to 2010 for Austin, Travis County, and the Austin MSA.

- **Austin**: 31% (1990-2000), 20% (2000-2010)
- **Travis County**: 41% (1990-2000), 26% (2000-2010)
- **Austin MSA**: 48% (1990-2000), 37% (2000-2010)
- **Texas**: 23% (1990-2000), 21% (2000-2010)
• Region
  – $4.7 M HUD Sustainable Places planning grant
  – Project Connect Transit Plan (FTA grant)
  – North Corridor Alternatives Analysis (FTA grant)
• City
  – FTA Bus Livability Bike Shelters (USDOT grant)
  – STP-MM Bike Share (CAMPO grant)
  – Colony Park Community Plan (HUD grant)
  – Green Lane Project (private grant)
• Site- Plaza Saltillo TOD
  – Brownfield Site Assessment (EPA & TCEQ grant)
  – STP-MM Track Relocation (CAMPO grant)
Local Partnerships
Regional HUD Sustainable Places grant

- Align planning of housing, transportation & jobs
- Develop analytic tools to evaluate alternatives for centers
- Plan 5 centers, using the analytic tools in a community-based planning process
Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan

• Grow as a compact, connected city.
• Integrate nature into the city.
• Provide paths to prosperity for all.
• Develop as an affordable and healthy community.
• Sustainably manage water and other environmental resources.
• Think creatively & practice civic creativity.

I imagine Austin...

I imagine Austin...

more lizards

complete neighborhoods connected by transit, bike lanes & sidewalks... embracing diversity
Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan

- Grow as a compact, connected city.
- Integrate nature into the city.
- Provide paths to prosperity for all.
- Develop as an affordable and healthy community.
- Sustainably manage water and other environmental resources.
- Think creatively & practice civic creativity.
Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan
Implementing the plan

• Complete Connected communities
  – Transportation choices
  – Connected transportation modes
  – Transit-friendly places

• Redevelopment
  – Infill increasing density
  – Brownfield to TOD

• Partnerships at all levels
  – Planning transportation
  – Planning places
  – Coordinating housing and transportation planning
Bicycles- City leads

• Cycle tracks, Bike lanes, Bike boxes
  – Green Lane project
  – City of Austin Bicycle Plan
  – NACTO Guide

• Bike Sharing (next spring!)
  – Bike Share grant
  – Co-sponsored, co-planned
• First segment of Rails with Trails grant-funded project
• Planning and funding more connections to MetroRail
• Eventually, connect all stations to bike-sheds.
• Lance Armstrong Bikeway in the Plaza Saltillo TOD
Bicycles & Transit- Capital Metro leads

- Bike racks on buses
- Bike racks at stops & stations
- Bike corrals near stops
Challenge: Bikes on Trains
MetroBike Shelters!

INTRODUCING
THE METROBIKE SHELTER
AT KRAMER STATION

Grand Opening Celebration!
August 24 ~

WE LOVE BIKES.
Federal, State, & Local Brownfield Partnership
Locations along the Red Line

Plaza Saltillo TOD
**Place:** Near Downtown, mix of established neighborhoods, new development, and industrial uses.

**Opportunity:** Redevelopment of industrial sites, adding housing, customers, and jobs

**Challenge:** Track relocation, environmental cleanup, infrastructure needs, community concerns
Brownfield in the neighborhood
Brownfield in the neighborhood
Partnerships and grants

- EPA & TCEQ Brownfield Site Assessment grant
- FHWA STP-MM Track relocation grant
- Grants have all the requirements of DOT-FTA, EPA, and TCEQ
- SCP involvement is key to making both these projects work
More Sampling maps
More Sampling maps
Partnership meets monthly

- Regional EPA, FTA, and FHWA (HUD and EDA soon)
- State TCEQ staff
- City Brownfields office, Planning department, Public Works Department, and Economic Growth office, others as needed
- Capital Metro staff
- Follow up notes and timelines every month
- Side meetings in between monthly meetings
Development ready site planning
Development ready site planning
Soon, not a train through a field
Instead, a neighbor in the community
Questions?

tod@capmetro.org