



**RESOLUTION OF THE AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOODS COUNCIL REGARDING SIMPLE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR HOMEOWNERS UTILIZING BIKELANES**

Resolution urging the City of Austin to implement a simple permitting process for homeowner loading/unloading utilizing bikelanes

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin is developing bicycle lanes between the portion of the street dedicated to automotive traffic and the curb along many streets, and will continue to do so; and,

**WHEREAS**, Cyclists and others using the bicycle lanes need safe passage along the bikeways to their destinations; and,

**WHEREAS**, Homeowners, trades persons, and city staff need safe access to properties from the street for loading, unloading, and access to tools and materials; and,

**WHEREAS**, Increasing population and increasing diversity of transportation modes require all travelers to respect the needs of other travelers, homeowners, and business owners as they navigate our streets; and,

**WHEREAS**, The City of Austin needs a way to control long-term blocking of the right-of-way through the streets while accommodating the short-term needs of property owners, tradespeople, and city staff for safe and convenient access to properties; and,

**WHEREAS**, The existing process for permit applications for blockage of the right-of-way is intended for long-term construction projects, and in respect of both cost and lead time required, this process is not suitable for short-term loading, unloading, and work on a property.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Austin Neighborhood Council strongly urges the City of Austin to develop a program to manage these concerns that includes:

A public information campaign integrated with the city cycling program explaining to cyclists that their use of the bikeways is not exclusive of other uses, and their cooperation with other proper uses is required; and,

A clear set of rules providing for short-term use of the right-of-way communicated to 311 operators and other officials who may be asked to respond to alleged violations: and,

A system for registering a short-term blockage to the right-of-way for property owners, tradespeople including contractors working for the city, and city staff that notifies 311 operators of the planned blockage within a few minutes, allows them to respond appropriately to claimed violations by reporting the registration, and that allows records to be kept so that abuse may be addressed. The system should be free or very low-cost to use.

Compliance with state law requirements concerning authorized stopping, standing, and parking of vehicles, and authority granted by state law for municipal enforcement by the governing body of the municipality regarding unauthorized stopping, standing and parking of vehicles.

**Presented to ANC Membership:** July 27,2022

**ANC Membership Approved:**

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