



TO: The Honorable Mayor Steve Adler

FROM: Circuit of The Americas (COTA) and
Circuit Events Local Organizing Committee

DATE: March 4, 2022

SUBJECT: First Quarterly Update – COTA Amended Exhibit A – Resolution No. 20211209-008

We are pleased to provide the City of Austin with the first quarterly update for Amended Exhibit A which was passed on December 9, 2021, in Resolution No. 20211209-008. Both COTA and CELOC are committed to working with our elected officials to meet the transportation and safety upgrades needed to hold events at peak performance levels, ensuring the safety of all patrons. Over the past three months, COTA has worked on identifying the key players and stakeholders for each project. COTA has engaged J. L. Powers & Associates (JLPA) to collaborate with respective district elected leaders on mobility and pedestrian safety issues to help identify potential funding sources available through TxDOT, CAMPO, Travis County, State, Federal, City and other avenues.

While the Amended Exhibit A has only been active for three months, this update is intended to satisfy the first report required in the agreement which is due to the City of Austin on March 4, 2022. The report and attachments provided herein will become more refined each quarter as we make progress with capital improvements and community experience.

Progress Update as follows:

REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSES

1. A Traffic management plan that includes project timelines and funding status of the following:

a. Sidewalks and bike lanes

The agency jurisdiction for this project is TxDOT. Per Mr. Willie Semora & Mr. Tommy Abrego the plan package is 90% complete, plans are fluid and expect to begin construction this fall, pending fabrication of materials; projected full signal activation/operation is projected for end of Spring 2022.

Currently, law enforcement officers stand in the middle of the highway during major events to monitor traffic.

It is recommended that County/State roadways install a stop light at intersection of SH-130 & Hwy 812. In addition, COTA has recommended to construct a pedestrian sidewalk on Hwy 812 and consider bike lanes for multimodal options.

Per an email on 11/15/21 from Willie Semora at TxDOT, a signal at FM 812 and SH 130 has completed 90% of the phase of the program called Schematic Design. It is not yet confirmed whether TxDOT has also funded an FM 812 project to overlay the section from FM 973 to Elroy

Road and restripe it to a three-lane section with a continuous two way left turn lane. The center turn lane project was also a safety project targeting at improving operations along the corridor. Regarding the ultimate project to improve FM 812 to a MAD 4 divided highway, there has not yet been funding assigned and the schematic / PS&E are still in the development phases only.

b. Expansion of Farm to Market Road 812 (FM 812)

Included in narrative 1.a. As we understand, TXDOT, State, and County have about 5%-10% remaining to fulfill the engineering requirements for this plan. We are aware that they have received approval on funding but have not received a formal response to the accuracy and timeline of funding.

c. Installation of traffic signals at:

i. State Highway 130 and FM 812

As noted above, per email on 11/15/21 from Austin District Engineer, a signal at FM 812 and SH 130 has undergone 90% of the phase of the program called Schematic Design.

ii. Kellum Road and Elroy Road

Currently under construction.

iii. FM 812 and Circuit of The Americas Boulevard

We have not received a timeline for funding or engineered plans for a traffic signal at this location. It has been suggested by COTA to install a traffic signal at this location during the FM812 widening project.

d. 2-way stops for Elroy Road and Ross Road, and Elroy Road and Heine Farm Road

To be determined, in communications with TxDOT and County.

e. Pre-event signage alerting residents to the dates of the event along with any road closures.

Prior to any major events, electronic message boards are placed on the roadway, alerting the residents of the event dates, possible delays, and road closures if applicable. The next major event is the Texas Grand Prix, NASCAR at COTA (March 25-27), message boards will be placed prior to the event and no road closures are expected for this event.

f. Evaluation of traffic management personnel allocation utilized throughout the event.

This information is included in the traffic control plan (TCP) which is submitted 30 days prior to the event. The next event is NASCAR at COTA taking place March 25-27, 2022. The traffic management plan for this event has been submitted to TxDOT, COA transportation dept., Travis County, and the State. The TCP for the 2022 MotoGP event (April 8-12) is currently in draft form and needs to be stamped and adjusted by the engineer.

Key stakeholders identified for the above projects are:

TxDOT

Tucker Ferguson, Austin District Engineer

TxDOT cont.

William “Willie” Semora, Jr., South Travis Area Engineer
Adam Kaliszewski, Austin District Traffic Engineer
Tommy Abrego, Design Team Lead
Gabriel DeOchoa, Legislative Liaison
Heather Ashley-Nguyen, Director of Transportation Planning & Development

City of Austin: District 2

Council Member Vanessa Fuentes
Jessica Coronado, Chief of Staff
Alicia Ramirez, Executive Assistant/Constituent Liaison

City of Austin

Jerry Rusthoven, Planning & Zoning Department
Andre Lubomudrov, Senior Planner
Alison Mills, South Area Transportation Engineer
Sarah Barge, Policy Director District 2

Travis County: Commissioners & Staff

Commissioner Margaret Gomez, Pct. 4
Walter Muse, Chief of Staff (for Travillion)
Vicki Ashely, Chief of Staff (for Howard)
Micky Long, Policy Advisor (for Howard)
David Salazar, Senior Executive Assistant (for Gomez)
Ricardo Rendon, Executive Assistant (for Gomez)
Andre Betit, Traffic Engineering Division Manager
David Greer, Public Works Director
Brian Burk, Sr. Engineer

Senate District

Senator Judith Zaffarini, District 21
Jorge Ramirez, Chief of Staff
Olivia Lu, Legislative Director

JLPA Consultants

Sylvia O. Praesel
Jeffrey K. Richard

- 2. An expansion of Circuit of The Americas funded youth-focused STEM education programs and internships targeted to Del Valle Independent School District, Akins High School, and other nearby schools.**

Response

COTA facilities, technology, and hospitality departments will be hosting Del Valle students twice a week beginning March 21st and running until the end of the school year. Del Valle will shuttle up to 20 students twice a week for up to 4 hours on said days. Each department will create a schedule of events geared towards their fields. The STEM specific fields will include, Audio/Video, IT, Electrical, HVAC and welding. COTA is in the process of reaching out to other nearby schools.

3. Progress and implementation of improved access to events and parking facilities for people with disabilities as recommended by the Independent Accessibility Compliance Committee.

Response

COTA has formed a Disability Access Task Force. Invitations have been sent out to members of the county, city, and state. Attached is the list of persons who have received an invitation to participate with status of responses. Scheduling of the task force meetings is currently in process, with the first meeting scheduled for March 4, 2022, at the COTA facilities.

Next Steps

1. Continue to work with newly formed COTA Disability Access Task Force.
2. Connect with more school districts to expand existing STEM education programs.
3. Maintain collaboration with key stakeholders regarding capital improvements, construction, and funding of roadways.
4. Next meeting is scheduled for **March 4, 2022**, for status updates on the following:
 - FM 812 Expansion – [90% of Schematics Phase Status](#)
 - Traffic Signal - [FM 812 TO S SH 130 SB RAMP](#), ATX 78617, 22-00064449
 - Traffic Signal - [FM 812 TO S SH 130 NB RAMP](#), ATX 78617, 22-00064458
 - Traffic Signal - [FM 812 RD & CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS BLVD](#), 22-00064493
 - Traffic Signal - [ELROY RD & CIRCUIT OF THE AMERICAS BLVD & KELLUM RD](#), 22-00064498

Thank you for your continued support of Circuit of The Americas and the Circuit Events Local Organizing Committee, including the time and energy that you devote to Austin's economic development. We look forward to ongoing collaboration and communication. Should you have any questions, please contact Geoff Hill, Director of Operations, at 512-655-6227 or geoff.hill@thecircuit.com; or Anna Panossian, CELOC Director, at 512-655-6280 or anna@thecircuit.com.

Attachment(s):

1. Invitation sent to stakeholders to participate in the COTA Disability Access Task Force.
2. List of Disability Task Force invitation recipients.
3. 2022 NASCAR Transportation Plan

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager