

The Honorable Lloyd Doggett 2307 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2021

RE: Bergstrom Spur Trail Project (Austin, Texas)

Dear Congressman Doggett:

By unanimous vote of its <u>board of directors</u>, <u>Austin Outside</u> supports the <u>Bergstrom Spur</u> Trail from South 1st Street to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

The Bergstrom Spur Trail is in the City of Austin's Urban Trails Plan, the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan and the CAMPO 2045 Plan.

Not only will this trail be a great asset to the neighborhood, providing opportunities for exercise and healthy activity, but it will also connect low-income communities to jobs, services, and shopping. It will help Austin build its brand as a city that embraces both active transportation and recreation by providing a trail from the airport into the city center.

Additionally, this trail will provide retail, restaurant, and other workers a safe way to get to their airport jobs, saving their households money that would be spent on parking and other transportation costs, while also promoting public health and potentially lowering their employers' health care costs. This facility will enable those who live in the area to make fewer trips by car, helping local efforts to improve air quality.

On behalf of <u>Austin Outside's coalition of member organizations</u> and supporters, we want to thank you for the effort you and your staff are making to secure federal funding for this important project.

Austin Outside is a community-based nonprofit organization founded in 2019, representing hundreds of Austinites who support active transportation as part of its core mission to champion outdoor spaces for all throughout greater Austin. We support this project and look forward to seeing Austin continue to grow as a leader for bicycling in Texas.

Sincerely,

Joanna Wolaver

Austin Outside, Board President

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