

AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOODS COUNCIL RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF TXDOT LOGO SIGNS ON AUSTIN'S SCENIC & HILL COUNTRY ROADWAYS

WHEREAS, TxDOT has placed “logo signs” on Austin's designated scenic roadways as permitted by State Transportation Code (Sec. 391.091. ERECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS. (a) The department shall contract with an individual, firm, group, or association in this state to erect and maintain specific information logo signs and major shopping area guide signs at appropriate locations along an **eligible** highway.) and;

WHEREAS, the cities of Austin, Rollingwood and West Lake Hills have specific ordinances prohibiting advertising signs on roads and;

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has designated 25 scenic roadways throughout Austin (CHAPTER 25-10. - SIGN REGULATIONS.) and;

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has designated 5 hill country roadways (CHAPTER 25-11, HILL COUNTRY ROADWAY REQUIREMENTS, AND

WHEREAS, the cities of Austin, Rollingwood and West Lake Hills have continuously enforced their signage regulations, and;

WHEREAS, TxDOT has enforced the regulation of signs in its right of way and;

WHEREAS, the “logo signs” are not directional signs but advertising and;

WHEREAS, the signs provide cheap advertising on public land, to those advertising, to the detriment of nearby competitors who support the signage regulations and the public and;

WHEREAS, the size and placement of the signs make them the equivalent of billboards and;

WHEREAS, over 1,000 people in West Austin, West Lake Hills, Rollingwood and western Travis county in 142 neighborhoods have asked via petition for the removal of the signs and;

WHEREAS, the cities of West Lake Hills and Rollingwood, along with 5 neighborhood organizations have passed resolutions in support of the removal of the signs and;

WHEREAS, the citizens of the areas mentioned above concluded that the signs were ugly, eyesores, unnecessary, unsightly, unneeded and distracting and;

WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Commission is the body designated in the State Transportation Code to determine what roads are eligible for the signs and;

WHEREAS, “The commission shall adopt rules, in accordance with applicable federal law, regulations, and guidelines, for determining **eligible** highways along which specific information logo signs, major shopping area guide signs, and tourist-oriented directional signs may be located. If permitted by federal law, regulations, or guidelines, the commission may establish different highway eligibility criteria for each type of sign.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Austin Neighborhoods Council requests that the “logo” signs erected on Austin's scenic roadways by TxDOT be taken down, and

Furthermore be it resolved, that the Texas Transportation Commission's rule allowing these signs be amended to conform to Austin's ordinances creating scenic and hill country roadways, and other local sign ordinances.

Presented to the ANC Executive Committee: March 8, 2017

Approved and Adopted:

Sponsor Contact: Paul Schumann, ANC Sector Rep. 4, sector4@ancweb.org, (512) 632-6586

Background Materials:

State Transportation Code (Sec. 391.091. ERECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS

Austin Code CHAPTER 25-10. - SIGN REGULATIONS

Scenic Roadways Described (https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT25LADE_CH25-10SIRE_ART1GEPR_S25-10-6SCRODE)

The following are scenic roadways:

Arterial 8 (Adelaide Drive/Forsythia Drive)	RM 2244
Barton Springs Road	Lake Austin Boulevard
Loop 1 (MoPac)	West Cesar Chavez Street
Loop 360 (Capital of Texas Highway), south of US 183	Riverside Drive
RM 620, from SH 71 to Anderson Mill Road (FM 2769)	Spicewood Springs Road, from Mesa Drive to Loop 360
RM 2222, west of MoPac only	William Cannon Drive, from Brodie Lane to Southwest Parkway
US 183 south of SH 71	Escarpment Boulevard, from William Cannon Drive to Arterial 11 (SH 45)
Cameron Road, north of US 183	Arterial 5 (McKinney Falls Parkway) from US 183 to William Cannon Drive
Parmer Lane, except for the area between Loop 1 (MoPac) and IH-35	FM 973 from SH 71 to US 183
Stassney Lane, east of IH-35	SH 71 east of IH-35
Slaughter Lane	Old Spicewood Springs Road, from Loop 360 to Old Lampasas Trail a
	SH 130

Hill Country Roadway Requirements (https://www.municode.com/library/tx/austin/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIT25LADE_CH25-2ZO_SUBCHAPTER_CUSDERE_ART11HICORORE)

Loop 360, from US 290 West to US 183; RM 620, from SH 71 to Anderson Mill Road; RM 2222, from Highland Hills Drive to RM 620; RM 2244, from Loop 360 to SH 71; and Southwest Parkway

Stop TxDOT Billboards on Scenic Roadways Petition Results (<http://lostcreekcivicorganization.ning.com/loop-360/stop-txdot-billboards-on-scenic-roadways-petition-results>)

Stop TxDOT Billboards on Scenic Roadways Video (<http://lostcreekcivicorganization.ning.com/loop-360/stop-txdot-billboards-on-scenic-roadways-video>)