

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE October 23, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **City of Dallas Sidewalk Master Plan – Public Engagement**

Background

On July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into Federal Law. Title II of the ADA specifically applies to state and local governments and stipulates that no qualified individual with a disability shall, by such disability be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination by any public entity. Public entities with fifty or more employees are required to develop a transition plan that complies with all requirements of the law.

To ensure the City of Dallas' compliance with the regulations of the ADA:

1. On January 26, 1993, the City of Dallas completed the first ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan,
2. On September 25, 2019, the Dallas City Council authorized a professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., through an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Addison, to conduct Phase I of the Americans with Disabilities Act Self Evaluation and Transition Plan,
3. On August 26, 2020, City Council authorized a Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to the professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., through an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Addison, to conduct Phase II of the Americans with Disabilities Act Self Evaluation and Transition Plan, which includes the development of the Sidewalk Master Plan; the Sidewalk Master Plan is scheduled for completion in March 2021.

Public Engagement and Request of the Mayor and City Council for Nominees for a Sidewalk Advisory Committee

Since City Council's approval of the supplemental agreement in August 2020, the Department of Public Works has been working with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. on the preliminary steps, such as data gathering and review, to develop the Sidewalk Master Plan (SWMP). While relying heavily on quantitative data, development of the SWMP will also include a focus on community engagement and input from a Sidewalk Advisory Committee, ADA Focus Group, local stakeholders, and the public at large.

Given the need for public input in the development of the SWMP, and as a current Sidewalk Advisory Committee does not exist, over the next two weeks, Public Works is requesting that the Mayor and each Council Member select one member for the Sidewalk Advisory Committee. Through March 2021, members of the Sidewalk Advisory Committee will engage in monthly virtual meetings to provide project input and provide

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project updates. Upon completion of the SWMP, quarterly meetings will be held with the Sidewalk Advisory Committee to discuss future projects and provide updates.

Public Engagement Goals and Objectives

Through input from the Sidewalk Advisory Committee, the Department of Public Works and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. will work to provide an engaging, meaningful, and effective public involvement process for the SWMP. The goals and objectives of the public engagement process are to:

- Create public awareness of the SWMP and facilitate active and collaborative participation by the public,
- Maintain an open and transparent process throughout the engagement effort,
- Provide project information to the public in a clear and easy to access format,
- Use public input and comments in the development and refinement of the SWMP,
- Inform and engage a broad range of diverse stakeholders in the process,
- Develop a process with convenient, accessible, and exciting opportunities to get involved,
- Streamline the public engagement and input collection efforts.

Over the next two weeks, staff from the Department of Public Works will be reaching out to your respective offices to discuss this SWMP and potential nominees for the Sidewalk Advisory Committee. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Robert M. Perez, Director of Public Works.



Majed A. Al-Ghafry, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors