

Liveable City Board Resolution Regarding Transit at Mueller and the November 2004 Rail Election

Liveable City has consistently stated that the values expressed in our community surveys show that Austin residents support an "urban village" approach to development, in which cities are made up of neighborhood communities, with strong community involvement, efficient transportation options, and each containing a mixture of housing options and businesses embedded within the community.

The Robert Mueller Municipal Airport (RMMA) Master Plan is an award-winning* example of the urban village approach. Liveable City enthusiastically supports the community vision expressed within the Master Plan. The RMMA redevelopment has the potential to contribute meaningful affordable housing, valuable jobs and opportunities for independent businesses. The density and mixed-use described in the Master Plan is predicated on a highly efficient transit system, such as rail, directly serving the Mueller site. If such a system is not in place in a timely manner at Mueller we fear that the full potential of the Master Plan will be wasted.

Consequently, we endorse the RMMA Plan Implementation Commission's recommendation to establish as a priority the extension of a direct rail connection to Mueller as expeditiously as possible. We understand that Capital Metro must first undergo an extensive federal study to determine the best alignment and technology to serve Mueller. Once that study is complete, we believe Capital Metro should implement the findings as soon as possible in order to realize the full potential of the Mueller Master Plan.

Therefore, in the November, 2004 referendum, the Capital Metro Board should allow itself to provide rail service to a Mueller station, after necessary study, without any additional voter referendum.