

Houston City Council Member At-Large, Position 5

July 24, 2023

Mr. Tom Lambert President/ Chief Executive Officer Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas 1900 Main Street P.O. Box 61429 Houston, Texas 77208-1429

Re: METRO 5310 Call for Projects – East Downtown Sidewalk Improvement Project

Dear President Lambert,

I am pleased to support the East Downtown Redevelopment Authority / Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone 15 (Zone) applications seeking funding through Houston METRO's 5310 program. The funding would support proposed pedestrian infrastructure – upgrading existing or installing new sidewalks and curb ramps to support the walkable development of the Zone. These proposed improvements will increase comfort and safety for all roadway users, particularly senior citizens and people with limited mobility.

While the street grid should support walkability, large portions of the Zone have missing sidewalks or sidewalks that are in poor condition and not traversable by someone using a wheelchair or stroller. Safe, accessible sidewalks are necessary to navigate to and from several key establishments in the neighborhood, including Shell Energy Stadium, Bastrop Promenade, and Columbia Tap Trail, as well as stops on METRO Bus Routes 40 and 41 and the Green and Purple METRORail Lines.

The improvements are consistent with Houston METRO's and the Federal Transit Administration's goal of improving mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sallie Alcorn