

A Community Vision for University & Austin Avenue Corridors

Georgetown District 6 City Council Member, Rachael Jonrowe, has asked the Georgetown Neighborhood Alliance (GNA) to develop a vision to maximize the potential of University & Austin Avenues Corridors as they pass through downtown Georgetown. This Corridor Vision Study (The Study) will develop conceptual ideas and designs to make these Corridors a facilitator for creating a unique community gateway to downtown Georgetown.

The Vision Study will provide community-based ideas and concepts the City could use in developing future corridor designs for both Avenues.

GNA has agreed to take the lead role in developing the Study for Council Member Jonrowe. GNA has established a multifaceted project team from the community as part of its mission to *“support and enhance the quality and character of the city’s neighborhoods and community life by influencing how and where we grow”*.

GNA will cover all expenses associated with the Corridor Vision Project.

University Avenue Corridor. One of the drivers for looking at University Avenue now is the impact that the new Southwest Bypass will have on Georgetown’s Inner Loop. With the completion of the Bypass, heavy commercial traffic could be required to use the Inner Loop/Southwest Bypass and not University Avenue. This change will have a major impact on east-west traffic flow through downtown. The University Avenue Corridor Project will focus on University Avenue from Southwestern Blvd (East) to Scenic Dr (West).

Austin Avenue Corridor. Currently, Austin Avenue effectively splits downtown Georgetown in half. With the increased civic, commercial and residential development on the west side of Austin Avenue, there is a growing need to better unify the growing west of town and the established east side of town, with the County Courthouse and retail/restaurant businesses along with a vibrant Old Town residential community.

The Austin Avenue Corridor Project will focus on Austin Avenue from 2nd St. (North) to W 18th St. (South).

Approach. GNA has reached out to selected community leaders to build the GNA Project Team. The Project will consist of 3 Phases: Phase 1 – Data Gathering, Phase 2 – Community Survey & Phase 3 – Corridor Design.

Project Schedule. GNA will complete the project in approximately 10 weeks. At the mid-point of the project, GNA will publish an online community survey. The results of the survey will assist the GNA project team in completing the Community Vision for the University and Austin Avenue Corridors.