



*We are advocates for a reduction in drunk driving through improved transportation and parking options.*

ATXSaferStreets.org

## **ATX SAFER STREETS ANNOUNCES CROWDFUNDING CAMPAIGN, NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP**

In less than eight weeks since its inception, ATX Safer Streets has influenced a pronounced and proactive approach to DWI prevention, by the City of Austin. The group drafted a comprehensive proposal regarding changes in Austin's transit structure. This proposal was presented to City Council members, candidates, city officials and, the Urban Transportation Commission. Portions of the proposal have influenced city policy: the city approved a public campaign to increase awareness of parking laws, and offer multiple options when seeking a sober ride. Following the city's decision to implement the TNC (Lyft, Uber, SideCar, etc) pilot program, ATX Safer Streets is now actively working with Austin's taxi industry regarding the city's cab shortage. On Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> the city announced that towing will not be enforced at the parking lot under I-35, from Thursday through Saturday during peak hours. ATX Safer Streets counts this as yet another triumph. Sara Levine, Founder of ATX Safer Streets said, "Our success is really about the people that we help, and the deaths that may be prevented."

This momentum continues as ATX Safer Streets has been asked to address TxDOT's Traffic Operations Division. ATX Safer Streets will discuss their research methodology and its results, including those from their petitions. TxDOT is also interested in hearing about the organization's accomplishments and future planning. This will take place on Thursday, July the 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30a.m. - 11:30a.m. at Austin Transportation Department at 7901 N. I-35. While continuing to maintain their current agenda, ATX Safer Streets has prioritized long-term goals to secure their longevity. This includes the launch of a membership and fundraising campaign, and the initial steps in order to develop as a formal non-profit organization. Furthermore, ATX Safer Streets is actively assembling a team of volunteers. Any interested parties should contact the organization at [atxssoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:atxssoutreach@gmail.com)

ATX Safer Streets is proud to welcome Neil Diaz as the organization's Business Development Manager. While their project continues to grow into a defined, long-term organization, ATX Safer Streets felt that this partnership coincided with their goals.

Shortly after SXSW, Sara LeVine started an online petition, lobbying for smarter use of the city's transit and parking structures, as a way to reduce drunk driving. She along with two co-founders did not anticipate the overwhelming response received by the community. Today they continue to make their presence felt through social media, public campaigns, letter writing, meetings, and presentations at city hearings and commissions. The organization will continue to use its influence to expand public transit, mobilize voters for November's election, and create a fund to help DWI victims. More on this fund and their current crowdfunding campaign can be found at <https://atxsaferstreets.crowdfunder.com/atx-safer-streets>

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