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**RECA Board of Directors Passes Resolution Opposing Travis County Bond  
RECA Supports a New Courthouse, but Not on the Last Undeveloped Block in Downtown Austin**

(AUSTIN – October 22, 2015) – On Wednesday, the Real Estate Council of Austin (RECA) Board of Directors passed a [resolution](#) opposing a Travis County bond proposition to build a new civil and family courts facility in downtown Austin.

The proposition calls for the issuance of \$287,275,000 of bonds to construct, improve and equip civil and family courts facilities.

“The proposed courthouse is the right idea, but in the wrong location,” said RECA President Ward Tisdale. “The proposed location is the last undeveloped and unrestricted block in downtown Austin, and this would not be the best use of that land.”

Construction of the proposed courthouse would also require a significant tax increase on residents, further burdening Austin as it suffers through an affordability crisis. The new courthouse facilities would also be off the tax roll, precluding the community from benefitting from hundreds of millions of dollars in property tax receipts for local governments, including the Austin Independent School District.

In the resolution, RECA recommends that the County seek an alternative location to build new facilities. Outside downtown, land and construction costs would be reduced, and a new courthouse could help spur economic activity and mobility options in other parts of the city.

“There are other options available to the County that likely have the infrastructure and ample space for new courthouse facilities,” Tisdale said. “They should, at the very least, look into those and report back to the community.”

If you would like to schedule an interview with Tisdale, please contact Ryan Poulos at (512) 320-4151 or [ryan.poulos@reca.org](mailto:ryan.poulos@reca.org).

*The Real Estate Council of Austin (RECA) addresses issues affecting the commercial real estate community in Central Texas. With more than 1,700 members, the non-profit, advocacy organization represents a broad spectrum of the Central Texas economy, ranging from landowners and developers to the various service professions that facilitate the industry. Commercial real estate development brings new jobs to Central Texas while protecting existing jobs and increasing tax revenue, which is used to fund our public schools, city services, infrastructure and parks.*

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