



Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission July 8, 2014

Minutes of the Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, July 8, 2014, 7:30 a.m., at the Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Pam Goronkin (Chair)
Don Cassano
Ben Goren
Charles Huellmantel
Philip Luna
German Piedrahita
Gary Roberts
Cyndi Streid

Jeremy Browning
Aaron Golub
Sue Lofgren
Kevin Olson
Charles Redman
Peter Schelstraete

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Nikki Gusz

City Staff Present:

Joe Clements, Trans Financial Analyst
Julian Dresang, Traffic Engineer
Eric Iwersen, Principal Planner
Noah Johnson, Lieutenant
Jon King, Sargent
Brigitta Kuiper, City Clerk

Mike Nevarez, Transit Manager
Shelly Seyler, Deputy Public Works Director-
Trans/Traffic
Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist
Kathy Wittenburg, Administrative Assistant
Robert Yabes, Principal Planner

Guests Present:

Donna Lewandowski
Mary O'Brien

Commissioner Pam Goronkin called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

Chair Goronkin introduced the minutes of the June 10, 2014 meeting and asked for a motion.

Motion: Commissioner Huellmantel

Second: Commissioner Luna

Decision: Approved as amended

Agenda Item 3 – Bike Theft Programs – Peer City Analysis

Eric Iwersen and Lieutenant Noah Johnson gave a brief overview of the bike registration and theft prevention programs. Bike registration through the Tempe Police Department is a deterrent to bike theft. The PD operates a bike bait program which also helps deter theft. The Tempe PD also exchanges information with ASU's bike registration program, and manages a bike recovery system for stolen bikes where when they are registered they are returned to owners and unregistered bikes may be sold at auction.

Commission members discussed the importance of educating the public about the bike registration program and using high quality securing devices for bikes. The Commission members also discussed the pros and cons of advertising bike bait programs. Staff provided crime statistics of bike thefts and related crimes.

Agenda Item 4 – Transit Security Program Update

Mike Nevarez and Jon King gave a brief overview of the Pilot Bus Security Program for the Tempe transit system. The pilot program was instituted in July 2013, in response to the 2012 Passenger Satisfaction Survey responses. The 2012 Tempe in Motion Transit Survey recorded an 11% drop in the Very/Somewhat Satisfied category for transit security.

The program is funded to the equivalent of one full-time Tempe police officer. Off-duty officers rode bus routes and patrolled the system north of Baseline Road and on all Orbit units; the transit K-9 unit was employed as warranted. Based on officers' observations, several buses were added to accommodate student ridership, which minimized student related incidents. For the first nine months of the program, over 60 officers volunteered for this special duty. Officers patrolled the system while in uniform and in street clothes.

The program and has been funded \$150,000 to continue in fiscal year 2015, through the Transit budget.

Commission members asked several operational questions and discussed the benefits of police utilizing a daily communication log to document incidents and improve operations. Commission members commended staff for their work and supported police presence as an opportunity for the public to interact with the police in a positive manner.

Agenda Item 5 – Commission Minutes Procedures

Shelly Seyler presented an overview of the current minutes process. The amount of resources devoted to producing one set of minutes is significant and suggested moving towards a more condensed record of Commission meetings. The Commission members discussed the merits of producing summarized minutes and directed staff to move to that format.

Agenda Item 6 – Department and Regional Transportation Updates

- The Alameda Drive grant application will go to the MAG committee for review and ranking next week.
- ASU staff has formed a bike committee to encourage improvements on ASU campus and connections to the City of Tempe system.
- The Broadway Road Streetscape project received environmental clearance and the next step will be to obtain temporary construction easements from properties affected by the program. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2015.
- Public meetings are scheduled for the Transportation Master Plan.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

Shelly Seyler reviewed the current list of proposed agenda items and asked for Commission input.

The following future agenda items have been previously identified by the Commission or staff:

- Passenger Rail Study Follow-up Discussion (August)
- Transportation Master Plan (August)
- Bus Unification Update (August)
- Broadway Road Public Art (August)
- Proposed Short Term Improvements for I-10/I-17 – Broadway Curve (September)
- TIM Market Research Results (November)
- 2015/16 Media Buy (December)
- Bike Hero (January)
- Scottsdale/Rural Road BRT Link Service Study Update (TBD)

Commission members accepted the list above and added:

- SRP Tree Trimming Process and Options
- Bike racks for public art and Broadway Road
- Lake Bridge or other unfunded projects

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27

Prepared by: Kathy Wittenburg

Reviewed by: Sue Taaffe, Eric Iwersen