



Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission September 12, 2017

Minutes of the Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 7:30 a.m. at the Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Don Cassano (Chair)
Shana Ellis
Paul Hubbell
Jeremy Browning
Nigel A.L. Brooks

Susan Conklu
Kevin Olson
Shereen Lerner
Bonnie Gerepka
Lloyd Thomas (via phone)

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Brian Fellows
Charles Huellmantel
Ryan Guzy

Cyndi Streid
Charles Redman

City Staff Present:

Shelly Seyler, Deputy Public Works Director
Sue Taaffe, Public Works Supervisor
Eric Iwersen, Principal Planner
Robert Yabes, Principal Planner
Joe Clements, Transportation Financial Analyst
Amanda Nelson, Public Information Officer

Laura Kajfez, Neighborhoods Services Specialist
Mike Nevarez, Transit Manager
Tony Belleau, Senior Planner
Chase Walman, Senior Planner
Rebecca Rothman, Performing Arts Administrator

Guests Present:

John Federico, resident
Alexa Hause, ASU student
Jason Harrington, HP Designs
Dick Yano, Amec Foster Wheeler

John Fleming, Artist
William Selby, ASU student
Madcline Johnson, ASU student

Commission Chair Cassano called the meeting to order at 7:37 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

Chair Cassano introduced the minutes of the August 8, 2017 meeting and asked for a motion. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Nigel Brooks
Second: Commissioner Shereen Lerner
Commissioner Cassano abstained.
Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Transportation Annual Report

Shelly Seyler presented the 2017 annual report for approval which included the mission statement of the Transportation Commission and the Commission's goals for 2018.

A motion was made to approve the 2017 Transportation Commission Annual Report.

Motion: Commissioner Nigel Brooks
Second: Commissioner Susan Conklu
Decision: Approved.

Agenda Item 4 – First Street/Ash Avenue/Rio Salado Pkwy Intersection Update

Eric Iwersen made a presentation about the First Street/Ash Avenue and Rio Salado Parkway intersection. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Outreach and Stakeholder Coordination
- Design Criteria
- May Council Meeting Feedback
- Refined Design
- Next Steps
- Council Action on Sept. 8

The Commissioners asked the following questions and made the following statements.

- Was the City Council aware of the Commission's stance when they moved the roundabout option forward in May? Staff stated that yes, there was information in the packet and in the PowerPoint presentation about Commission recommendation and resident feedback.
- Will the roundabout accommodate semi-trucks and other large vehicles? Staff responded yes.
- Is the curb standard size? Staff said that there will be a mountable apron or paver materials and a vertical curb allowing for two phases of curbing.
- Why is the north/south crosswalk so far away from the roundabout? Staff responded that the crosswalk will be located at the streetcar station which is closer to the Tempe Beach Park entrance. Staff will continue to review the location of the crosswalk as the plans continue through design.
- Are the yellow lines on the map curbs? Staff responded yes.
- The signaling seems complicated and a detailed explanation should be made available to residents.

Agenda Item 5 – Country Club Way Streetscape Design

Robert Yabes and Jason Harrington made a presentation about the Country Club Way Streetscape Project. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Public Comments
- Preliminary Designs
- Node Concept
- Next Steps

The Commissioners asked the following questions.

- Can the area adjacent to parking include 6-foot bike lanes? Jason Harrington said that there is limited space, but that the travel lane width could possibly be changed or adding a buffer in some areas could be an option.
- How is the Tempe Marketplace portion of the plan designed? Jason Harrington stated that representatives from Tempe Marketplace requested that existing infrastructure be utilized for this project.
- Is there a connection to the existing Rio Salado Path? Staff responded that there are two connections.

Agenda Item 6 – Highline Canal Multi-use Path Public Art

Robert Yabes, Rebecca Rothman and John Fleming made a presentation about the Highline Canal Multi-use Path public art concept. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Nodes
- Conceptual Designs for Artwork
- Next Steps

The Commissioners asked the following questions and made the following statements.

- How many people attended the public meeting? Staff said that approximately nine people attended the meeting.
- Water fountains along the path are nice; and it would be good to see other paths have them

Agenda Item 7 – Small Area/Downtown Transportation and Development Fee Impacts

Shelly Seyler made a presentation about the Small Area/Downtown Transportation and Development Fee Impacts. Topics of the presentation included:

- Background
- Development Fees
- Land Use Assumptions
- Need
- Big Idea Analysis and List
- Decision Criteria
- Recommendation
- Next Steps

The Commissioners asked the following questions and made the following statements.

- Does Tempe own the Rural Road bridge? Staff said yes.
- The pedestrian crossings above ground feel safer.

Agenda Item 8 – Department & Regional Transportation Updates

Shelly Seyler announced that the City Council agreed to move forward with a plan that includes keeping bicycle facilities and adding vehicle capacity to a 3-mile stretch of McClintock Drive. Specifics include:

- Apache to Broadway: Alternative 3, Add third southbound travel lane. Remove planter boxes along southbound UPRR underpass to accommodate wider sidewalk. Bicycles share widened southbound sidewalk. Add standard northbound bike lane by narrowing northbound travel lanes.
- Broadway to Southern: Alternative 1, Add third southbound travel lane. Northbound & Southbound: Standard bike lanes. Requires widening roadway 4-feet along major portions of corridor.

- Southern to Baseline: Alternative 1, Add third southbound travel lane. Northbound & Southbound: Buffered bike lanes. Southbound bike lane would be standard at US60.
- Baseline to Guadalupe and Guadalupe to Elliot: No changes.

Construction will take between one and a half to two years.

Agenda Item 9 - Future Agenda Items

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

- October 10
 - Fifth Street Streetscape Design
 - Annual Report
 - Autonomous Vehicles
- November 12
 - Plan for Expansion of Bicycle/Pedestrian Paths
 - Bike Share
 - Streetcar
 - Maintenance Procedures for Sidewalk Shade Trees near Overhead Power Lines
- December 12
- January 9
 - Commission Business
 - Speed Limits
 - North/South Railroad Spur MUP
 - Crash Data, Enforcement and Texting
 - Western Canal Expansion MUP Final Design
- February 13
 - FY 18/19 Paid Media Plan
 - Prop 500
 - Bike Hero Award
- March 13
 - Capital Improvement Project Update
 - Alameda Drive Streetscape
 - Upstream Dam Bridge
- April 10
- May 8
 - MAG Design Assistance Grants
- TBD: Bicycle/Pedestrian Signal Activate Operations Update

The next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Prepared by: Sue Taaffe

Reviewed by: Eric Iwersen and Shelly Seyler