



## Minutes City of Tempe Sustainability Commission June 17, 2019

Minutes of the Tempe Sustainability Commission meeting held on Monday, June 17, 2019, 4:30 p.m., at the Engineering & Transportation Conference Room, City Hall, 31 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Kendon Jung (Chair)  
Ryan Mores (Vice Chair)  
Barbie Burke  
Steven Russell

Stephanie Milam-Edwards  
John F. Kane  
Serita Sulzman

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Reyna Olvey  
Sukki Jahnke  
Gretchen Reinhardt

**City Staff Present:**

Marilyn DeRosa, Engineering & Transportation Director  
Braden Kay, Sustainability Director  
Grace DelMonte Kelly, Energy Management Coordinator  
Barrett Jurgemeyer, City of Tempe - Engineering  
Gregg Kent, City of Tempe - Engineering  
Bonnie Richardson, City of Tempe - Transportation  
Santos Reyes, City of Tempe intern  
Vanessa Villalobos, City of Tempe intern

**Guests Present:**

Dan Zavaleta  
BJ Pennington, CORE Construction  
John Dick, DFDG Architecture

Chair Jung called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearance**

Chair Jung asked the guests to introduce themselves.

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chair Jung introduced the minutes of the May 20, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Milam-Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Burke seconded.

**Motion:** Commissioner Milam-Edwards

**Second:** Commissioner Burke

**Decision:** Approved 7-0, all present approved

Voted to Approve:

Kendon Jung (Chair)

Ryan Mores (Vice Chair)

Barbie Burke

Steven Russell

Stephanie Milam-Edwards

John Kane

Serita Sulzman

All present approved.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Council Chamber Remodel & Municipal Complex Modernization Plan**

Senior Civil Engineer Barrett Jurgemeyer, project manager for the Municipal Complex modernization plan, said the modernization plan is a 5 – 10 year plan. Guiding principles were defined with stakeholders. He introduced John Dick of DFDG architecture to talk about the remodel.

John Dick said the campus is 50 years old and is going to be here for another 50. He said:

- Phase 1 is remodel of the council chambers
- Guiding principles for the remodel are:
  - Iconic
  - Functional/efficient
  - Modern / vibrant
  - Welcoming/inviting
- Michael Godwin's vision was to create a beacon for the city One thing is to restore awareness of its iconic nature.
- Sustainability in Phase 1:
  - Carpet tile- cradle-to-cradle certified material
  - Side wall acoustic absorption – felt/wool panels absorbs sound
  - LED lighting
  - Paint is low VOC
  - Seating – fixed seating is comfortable and certified, won't emit toxic materials into atmosphere
  - New restrooms – low water use
  - Bring façade further out
  - Insulated glass and insulated metal panels
  - Interior materials – walnut veneer inside
- Construction phase -DJ Benninton of CORE Construction said they will:
  - Use local equipment and crews
  - Reduce paper use through digital construction
  - Compost plant material
  - Tree removal with sensitivity to wildlife
  - Waste stream responsibility – recycling during construction
  - 23 tons of recycles material – we'll coordinator with COT and recycle
  - We isolate construction area – CO2 sensors

- Energy efficiency
- Material disposal

The commission asked and commented as follows:

- Is there a plan for the trees to be replaced?
- Yes, with something that fits the climate. Logan Simpson is the landscape architect
- Kendon thanked John Dick. John said along with the remodel, next year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city hall complex and earth day, so it would be good to tell the story of the council chambers remodel's sustainable finishes and LED lights to the public.
- Marilyn DeRosa said we are going to do a 50-year event, so those are good suggestions. We will communicate this internally with our public information staff.

#### **Agenda Item 4 – Alameda Drive Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements**

Transportation Planner Bonnie Richardson said this project is looking at quality of life and sustainable growth and development.

This will be a premier bike boulevard and walkable corridor on 3 miles of Alameda Drive from Rural Road to 48<sup>th</sup> street. Bonnie said:

- We are pursuing federal construction funding
- Low vehicle counts make it narrow and cool
- Alameda provides connectivity to catch north-south bike traffic
- Concept plan using Tempe transit tax funds
- Process continued from 2015 concept development
- We are Identifying constraints and opportunities
- Re-engage stakeholders
- We had a lot of involvement
- People appreciated more shade
- We want to reduce blacktop and add trees and shrubs
- We want to do a stormwater management project and use new LID handbook
- There are multiple types of users and needs
- Challenges/constraints include utilities, bus stops
- Held public meetings in winter and spring
- Most input in the area from the railroad to Mill Avenue
- Tried to include buffered bike lanes, traffic calming and improvements to driveway ramps

The project will go to City Council on June 20<sup>th</sup> with anticipated construction documents completed in late August. Construction is set to begin in January 2020.

The commission asked and commented as follows:

- I like how you're branding it to be a bike-it boulevard
- Is it meeting the urban forestry percentage? Bonnie said she will ask them to calculate it.
- That area is a great area. This will enhance their neighborhood.
- What is the volume of traffic along Alameda? The goal is to increase bike and pedestrian alternatives. Density has negatively impacted traffic in the neighborhood.

The Chair thanked Bonnie for coming to present. Bonnie asked if the commission supported this plan. The Commission unanimously said yes.

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**Agenda Item 5 - Grants update**

Sustainability Director Braden Kay told the commission he attended an International Climate Action Conference in Germany and met with the Mayor of Heidelberg. Their goal is to have 90% mode share in the next 5-10 years. Our mode share in this state is 5%. He said the youth was very engaged and we need to figure out how to get the youth here more engaged.

Braden gave an update of the grants received by the city including: Bright Cities, Health Impact Project, Equity in Action, Marketing in Action, & Transform. He said we are also working on the green business certification program with Local First Arizona and working with the Watershed management group.

Grants pending include: EPA grant for green infrastructure, Partners for places, and USDN peer-to-peer lending. There are two pending National Science foundation grants, one for smart and connected communities and one for city & university partnerships.

**Agenda Item 6 - Climate Action Plan Approval Timeline**

Sustainability Director Braden Kay said we hired three interns and are working on a draft plan. The draft will be released in August and the tentative timeline is as follows:

- August 2019 – proposed youth action event
- August 2019 – Climate Action Neighborhood event
- September 5 – Work Study session presentation
- September 10 – Open house
- September 30 plan comment period closes
- November 2019 – council adoption

**Agenda Item 7 - Climate Action Plan 2.0**

Sustainability Director Braden Kay talked about the ideas that came out of the commission working meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>. As we think about Climate Action Plan 2.0, we want to have a plan you can touch and feel, so we added a 5<sup>th</sup> guiding principle.

The commission asked and commented as follows:

- We could collaborate with neighborhood advisory commission on Climate Action Plan 2.0 guiding principles.
- Are effectiveness and evidence going to be one? Braden said yes.
- Is there going to be a monitoring process to ensure we are following through?
- Only monitoring will be redoing greenhouse gas inventory every few years.
- We should think about the role of monitoring /building into actions
- What data do you collect at public forums? Worksheets that ask residents questions about their interests and ideas.
- How do we measure diversity of those involved?
- Equity and engagement – how do we continue to broaden diversity?

The Chair thanked everyone at the table. Having these guiding principles helps to guide future planning. We will continue to work with Portland State university and ASU on how we develop city – university partnerships. The clearer you are about the partnerships, we can really build these ideas out.

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**Agenda Item 8 - Climate Action Plan 1.0 Actions**

Chair Jung said all of you got an email asking for preparation of a document as a reminder to continue galvanizing the contacts of your specific area or action for the climate action plan.

In the Resilient energy hubs group, we created a draft invitation to talk about:

- who you represent
- what you're trying to accomplish
- the way you're trying to change it
- the way stakeholders can impact change
- we want to provide emergency centers and places of refuge during extreme heat events
- in email invitation there is specific action we'd like them to take
- make sure your invite letter is general enough
- we listed the current policy vs. proposed and why it's a problem

Each group gave a report-out of where they are with their work:

- Transportation Demand Management Association (TDMA) report out – Commissioner Russell said we are planning a meeting with DTA and Robert. Once we meet, we'll have the next step. We hope to engage businesses and have a voluntary presence. We are a supporting branch for DTA, so we're trying to better define the problem and then try to answer it. We will set up meetings with businesses and council members to figure out preliminary benefits and how to entice people.
- Extreme Heat report out – Commissioners Kane and Mores said they will get together and complete the template to reach out to their stakeholders.

Chair Jung said you now have a timeline. September 5<sup>th</sup> is the work study session and the comment period for CAP closes on September 20. Please continue working on it and we'll connect in August. We are not having a meeting in July so you can meet independently to advance this work. Send your draft in 2 weeks so we can carry our message forward to a meeting with council members. We have 2-1/2 months to get this done.

Braden said we are working on posters for your action to function as an information sheet. The next step is to have your timelines for stakeholder engagement. You figure out stakeholder engagement, who the stakeholders are and where to send them the request with information. We want to present solutions to lower carbon intensity to stakeholders; for the energy group, it is to change SRP policy, for TDMA group, it is to encourage multi-modal transportation, for extreme heat, it is changing codes.

**Agenda Item 9 – Housekeeping Items**

There is no meeting in July. You can facilitate your own meeting with your group.

**Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items**

Draft of Climate Action Plan; I'll let you know when posters will be available for engagement letters.

A motion was made to adjourn.

All approved 7 – 0

**Motion:** Commissioner Russell

**Second:** Vice Chair Mores

**Decision:** Approved

Kendon Jung (Chair)

Ryan Mores (Vice Chair)  
Barbie Burke  
Steven Russell  
Stephanie Milam-Edwards  
John Kane  
Serita Sulzman

All present approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Prepared by: Grace DelMonte Kelly  
Reviewed by: Braden Kay