



Minutes
City of Tempe Meeting of the Transportation Commission
October 12, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 7:30 a.m. via Cisco Webex.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jeremy Browning
John Federico
Brian Fellows
Pam Goronkin
David Sokolowski
JC Porter

Peter Schelstraete
Bobbie Cassano
Susan Conklu
Dawn Hocking
Paul Hubbell
Alice Bimrose

(MEMBERS) Absent:

John Christoph
David A. King

Alana Chavez Langdon

City Staff Present:

Abel Gunn, Transportation Financial Analyst
Laura Kajfez, Neighborhood Services Specialist
Marilyn DeRosa, Engineering & Transportation Director
Eric Iwersen, Interim Deputy Engineering & Transportation Director
Cathy Hollow, Traffic Engineer
Julian Dresang, Deputy Engineering & Transportation Director
Braden Kay, Sustainability Director
Katrina Trejo, Civil Engineer

Brenda Clark, Neighborhood Services Specialist
TaiAnna Yee, Public Information Officer
Sue Taaffe, Senior Management Assistant
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Program Manager
Chase Walman, Senior Transportation Planner
Bonnie Richardson, Principal Planner
Mitchell Willard, Intern

Guests Present:

Mike James

Randy Dittberner

Commission Chair JC Porter called the meeting to order at 7:30a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

JC Porter introduced the minutes of the September 14 meeting of the Transportation Commission and asked for a motion for approval.

Motion: Commissioner David Sokolowski

Second: Commissioner Brian Fellows

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

John Federico
Brian Fellows
Pam Goronkin
David Sokolowski
JC Porter

Peter Schelstraete
Bobbie Cassano
Susan Conklu
Paul Hubbell
Alice Bimrose

Abstained: Dawn Hocking

Agenda Item 3 – Open Mobility Data Standards

This agenda item was removed for the agenda.

Agenda Item 4 – Regional Transit Fare Collection System

Commissioners asked staff follow-up questions from the Sept. 14 regional transit fare collection system presentation as listed below.

1. My question from this morning's meeting around fare collection is a concern for the low income, disabled, elderly (probably all Title VI?) who don't have access to, or the understanding of smart cell phones and loading apps. Will this group just be expected to use cash? I understand the majority of ridership on all the forms of mobility might have access to the media cards without a problem, but I'm still concerned we not neglect this group of riders who are left with no alternative forms of transportation.
2. How easy is the application process to get certified/set up an account for reduced fares? I am glad to hear that they are not going to just mobile because many of the people we support do not have a cell phone.
3. Phoenix City Councilmember Ansari has recently announced she wants to make public transit fare-free in Phoenix. I can see a scenario where other cities in the Valley Metro system may not necessarily do the same thing even if Phoenix does. How would the new fare system accommodate different cities instituting different fare policies?
4. Valley Metro is required to provide a 50% reduce fare, do you know any reason (other than politically) that we can't provide a 100% reduced fare? the regulation seems to indicate we cannot charge more than 50% but doesn't seem to exclude 0% as an option.
5. Are you able to determine how much fare revenue was collected in 2019 and how much total was reduced fare passes?
6. Also, would you have information about how much it will cost to install TVMs? I was hoping at some point you might have seen a break down of the costs to install and maintain the TVMs.

Agenda Item 5 - Climate Action Plan

Commissioners asked staff follow-up questions from the Sept. 14 regional Climate Action Plan presentation as listed below.

1. Can alleys be used for native landscaping and natural walkways / cool corridors? Can the city create a demonstration area and potentially reduce dumping and reclaim the alley as public space?
2. Can the city work to build community consensus on an urban density bonus program? Potentially with a focus on affordable housing, resiliency hubs and mobility hubs.
3. In regard to 100% bus stop shelter coverage, can we add "sufficient" or other language to mean that it should protect riders throughout most of the day?
4. "Install buttons for emergency services and on-demand transportation at bus shelters" is listed twice, what was the second option? Could cold water refill stations be an alternative?

Agenda Item 6 - Annual Report

Eric Iwersen presented the 2021 Transportation Commission Annual Report including the 2022 Transportation Commission goals.

A motion was made for approval of the 2021 Annual Report.

Motion: Commissioner Brian Fellows

Second: Commissioner Paul Hubble

Yes Votes:

JC Porter

David Sokolowski

Bobbie Cassano

John Federico

No Votes:

Pam Goronkin

Brian Fellows

Paul Hubble

Dawn Hocking

Jeremy Browning

Peter Schelstraete

Alice Bimrose

Susan Conklu

Decision: Motion did not pass.

A motion was made for approval of the 2021 Annual Report with the goals for 2022 rearranged with the Bike Hero goal moving down the list.

Motion: Commissioner Pam Goronkin

Second: Commissioner Paul Hubble

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

John Federico

Brian Fellows

Pam Goronkin

David Sokolowski

JC Porter

Dawn Hocking

Peter Schelstraete

Bobbie Cassano

Susan Conklu

Paul Hubbell

Alice Bimrose

Jeremy Browning

Agenda Item 7- Transit Program Update

Eric Iwersen and Bonnie Richardson made a presentation about the transit program. Topics included:

- Transit Fund Update
- Oct 2021 Transit Service Changes
- Public Process & Feedback
- Equity
- Transit Asset Advertising
- Fare Collection System
- Streetcar Update
- New Bus Shelter Designs
- Bus Service Scenarios Contract Study
- Next Steps

Discussion included how many stops will have shelters, how the shelters are prioritized and the usage of 3M materials.

Agenda Item 8- Streetscape Transportation Enhancement Program

Cathy Hollow and Randy Dittberner presented the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Guide. Topics included:

- Updated process
- Pros and cons of existing manual
- Key changes
 - Inclusion of speed cushions
 - Qualifying thresholds
 - Outside funding
 - Petition thresholds
 - Online petitions
 - City outreach
 - Non-responsive households
 - Rental p[roperties
 - Professional judgement

Discussion included providing petitions in Spanish, the definition of complete streets and bike boulevards and status of funding for the backlog of existing projects.

A motion was made for approval of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Guide.

Motion: Commission Chair JC Porter

Second: Commissioner Brian Fellows

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

John Federico
Brian Fellows
Pam Goronkin
David Sokolowski
JC Porter
Dawn Hocking

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Paul Hubbell
Alice Bimrose
Jeremy Browning

Agenda Item 9- Scottsdale Road Bike Lanes

Chase Walman made a presentation about the Scottsdale Road Bike Lane project. Topics included:

- Project overview
- Other projects in the area
- Existing conditions
- Proposed improvements
- Next steps

Discussion included educational outreach to increase bicycle safety.

Agenda Item 10- Upcoming Transportation Public Meetings & Announcements

Eric Iwersen informed the Commission of new hire Karina Trejo as a Civil Engineer in the Traffic Engineering team.

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items

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

- November 30
 1. Annual Report
 2. Tempe Adaptive Streets Implementation Design Guide
 3. Mobility Hubs
 4. Transportation Demand Management Plan/Transportation Management Association
 5. Transit Program Update & Bus Service Governance Study /Transit Security Update
- January 11
 1. Commission Business
 2. Crosswalk Signal Countdown & Signal Detection for Bicycles
 3. Ash/University Intersection & 1st/Ash/Rio Roundabout Traffic Data Counts Update
 4. Climate Action Plan 2021 Update
- February 8
 1. Personal Delivery Devices
 2. Transit Fund & Program Update
 3. MAG Values Mapping
 4. North/South Rail Spur MUP
- March 8
 1. Mobility Hubs
 2. Transportation Demand Management Plan/Transportation Management Association
 3. Mobility Hubs
 4. All Aboard Arizona (requested by David Solokowski.)
- April 12
- May 10
 1. Bike Hero
- June 14
- TBD: BRT Study – MAG
- TBD: Bike Bait (once program resumes)
- TBD: Commuter Rail Study/MAG Commuter Rail Plan – MAG
- TBD: AZ State Rail Plan/AZDOT Phoenix-Tucson Corridor Plan – ADOT

The next meeting is scheduled for November 30.

The meeting was adjourned 9:16 a.m.

Prepared by: Sue Taaffe
Reviewed by: Eric Iwersen