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**Minutes**  
**Rio Salado Enhanced Services Commission**  
**October 17, 2023**

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Minutes of the Enhanced Services Commission meeting was held on October 17, 2023 at 8:30 am in person at 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281 in the CD – Conference Lobby Room and with a hybrid option through Microsoft Teams.

**Members Present:**

Patrick Panetta, Chairman, ASU Member  
Tom Duensing, Treasurer, Financial Svcs Director  
Jarett Brock, Vice President Commission/Area 1 Rep  
Shelly Seyler, President, Interim Director - Eng/Trans  
Craig Hayton, Com Svcs. Director  
Michael Martin, Downtown Tempe Authority Member  
Mark Clouch, At-Large Residential Property Owner

**City Staff Present:**

Ryan Levesque, Dep. Comm. Dev. Dir. of Planning  
Mike Baxley, Dep. Comm Dev. Dir of Building Safety  
Craig Caggiano, Dep. Mun Util Dir – Water Util  
Shawn Wagner, Dep. Com. Svcs. Dir Parks & Rec  
Alex Jovanovic, Dep Com Svcs Dir Parks & Rec.  
Roger Hallsted, Rio Salado Fin. Analyst Comm. Dev.  
Sarah Adame, Executive Assistant, Comm. Dev.

**Members Absent:**

Jeff Tamulevich, Sec. of the Commission/CD Director  
Nick Wood, Landowner Member 2  
Ted Rabban, Landowner Member/Area 3 Rep  
Barbara Haris, Public Member

**Guests Present:**

None

**Meeting convened at 8:31 am**

**Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes:**

Regular meeting minutes for August 15, 2023

Mr. Patrick Panetta called for a motion to vote on approval of the regular meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** Craig Hayton, Com Svcs. Director., motioned to approve.

**SECOND:** Tom Duensing, Treasurer, Financial Svcs Director, seconded the motion.

**VOTE:** Approved 5-0, 4 absent

**AYES:** Patrick Panetta, Chairman, ASU Member  
Tom Duensing, Treasurer, Financial Svcs Director  
Jarett Brock, Vice President Commission/Area 1 Rep  
Shelly Seyler, President, Interim Director - Eng/Trans  
Craig Hayton, Com Svcs. Director

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** Jeff Tamulevich, Sec. of the Commission/CD Director  
Nick Wood, Landowner Member 2  
Ted Rabban, Landowner Member/Area 3 Rep

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances**

None.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Budget Update – Roger Hallsted**

The current CFD budget was presented, which was for the first quarter of the 2023/24 fiscal year. The year-end of 2022/23 was also presented. Although the audited year will be completed in December, this was a good indication of how the recently closed year will end up. A savings of \$145,945 is anticipated, and this number will be the basis for the annual true-up that is reflected in the spring assessment. For the current year Patrick suggested using actual number to date, rather than year-end estimates.

### **Agenda Item 4 - Town Lake Operations – Craig Caggiano**

Water quantity has been good. We have not had to use any replacement water. Water quality balance with the upstream flow has been good. The Town Lake staff is preparing for upcoming water events. A couple of projects are on the way. The trench covers in the spilling basin - the concrete area below the dam - were made of fiber glass and installed in 2016 and staff was unsure how long those would last. Staff programmed replacing them into the budget. These trench covers provide safety to the dam and to the workers below the dam. However, they had started to fail. The trench covers have been replaced and installed by staff and are working well at this time. Another project that staff is working on is the buoy line. The permanent buoy line is back to being full with all its links. Staff is working on relocating the center buoy. There is some damage to that buoy from all the weather we had during the last season. There is a lot of material below the basin of the dam that is sacrificial material and is intended to be washed away by large flows. A contractor has been hired to clear this up and move things back to where they belong. Staff advised that the pedestrian bridge is not a CFD item or Tempe Town Lake funded item. Questions regarding this bridge would be addressed by the engineering department.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Community Services & Special Events – Craig Hayton, Alex Jovanovic and Shawn Wagner**

Special Events: Fall 2023

#### **October**

10/18 Splash & Dash - Town Lake Marina  
10/22 Ironman 70.3 - Tempe Beach Park  
10/27 ASU Lantern Walk - Hayden Butte Preserve  
10/28 ASU Homecoming - Downtown  
10/28 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk - Tempe Beach Park  
10/29 Yes Day for Autism - Tempe Beach Park  
10/29 DTA Halloween Stroll

#### **November**

11/4 Walk to Save Animals - Tempe Beach Park  
11/11 Sun Devil Classic Triathlon - RS North Linear Park  
11/11 Veterans Day Parade - Tempe Beach Park  
11/12 DTA 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Mills Ave  
11/12 Splash & Dash - Town Lake Marina  
11/14 Tempe Night Market - CenterPoint Plaza  
11/19 Ironman AZ - Tempe Beach Park  
11/24 DTA Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade - Mill Ave  
11/25 Fat Turkey Trail Run - RS North Linear Park

#### **December**

12/1-3 DTA Festival of the Arts - Mill Ave  
12/7 DTA Menorah Lighting – Ragsdale - MLK Park  
12/9 DTA Fantasy of lights Boat Parade - Town Lake  
12/9 Tempe Night Market - CenterPoint Plaza  
12/10 DTA 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Mill Ave  
12/16 Caribbean Christmas 5K - Tempe Beach Park

#### **Update on the Parks & Recreation**

The Park Ranger program is almost done filling their 17 positions. Currently 15 of those positions have been filled and there are two vacancies that will be filled soon. Most of the new hires will start on Monday, October 23, 2023, with

onboarding and followed by several weeks of training. Park Rangers will be out in the parks by November 27, 2023. They will have a full uniform with their personal equipment, computer that they will have access to, and vehicles. Staff is looking at purchasing a boat.

Staff talked about the event called Barefoot in the Park that starts on October 20, 2023, through November 5, 2023. The home theater presented by the TCA will present Scrooged the musical and will be starting on November 9, 2023, through the November 12, 2023. This show starts in Tucson then will come to Tempe. The TCA received a really good response from the public for this event last year. Recently, the TCA team with multiple departments hosted President Biden September 28, 2023, on extremely short notice. He announced the opening of John McCain Library in partnership with ASU. Enhancements to the outside area of the library are being planned which will include tying in trail routes from the John McCain Library to ASU property and the Tempe Town Lake.

#### **Agenda Item 6 – Downtown Tempe Update – Michael Martin**

Second Sundays are on their way and will begin on the second Sunday of the month starting in November and run until April 2023. On November 12, 2023, second Sunday will feature Native Heritage celebration. December 12, 2023, second Sunday will be the Holiday market.

Halloween stroll will be October 29, 2023.

Fantasy of Lights Opening Night Parade on Mill Ave will be November 24, 2023

Menorah Lighting – Ragsdale - MLK Park will be on December 7, 2023

A new event will be starting on January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> called Tempe Bloom.

Holiday tree lights on Mill Ave will begin being installed this month.

The holiday tree will go up on November 16, 2023.

The DTA won a façade improvement grant from the Morrow Group. This grant helps business make holiday façade improvements. This grant is a 50% matching grant so, the total amount could be as high as \$30,000.00. The DTA has received a total of ten applications for the year.

There is the downtown retail tenant improvement grant which helps business bridge the financial gap between business and their property owners by providing financial assistant up to \$100,000.00. This would help improve permanent improvement to the tenant space.

The PF Chang's site has recently been leased out by Wren & Wolf.

There are currently 178 street level retail business and 17 vacancies.

#### **Agenda Item 7 – ASU Updates – Patrick Panetta**

The McCain Library update:

Planning to send out additional plans to expand in this area. An RFQ is planned to be out in the spring and have a building built out by late 2027. This site area is planned out in phases with multiple buildings. Because this is partially federally funded, the library is required to have educational centers associated with it. There may be a museum of the late senator a building with the studies of regular war fare; competitive state craft; subjects around national policy and other items that make sense to have there.

ASU's community services building is outdated but the building itself is in good condition. ASU may pull it down and start something new there with possible extended stay hotel and conference space.

Novus Projects are proceeding as planned; the three FOX restaurants will be located on Rural and Packard.

The Mill Avenue parking structure has been completed and the RAP building will have additional retail along the ground floor which is under construction and is estimated to be completed next spring.

#### **Agenda Item 8 - Engineering and Transportation – Shelly Seyler**

The Mill Avenue Refresh project is under way and Engineering has received 60% plans. Staff will be presenting to City Council this Thursday on the topic of trees for this project. There will be new irrigation and electrical systems in place. This refresh will provide better opportunities for events on Mill Avenue.

#### **Agenda Item 9 – Public and Private Development Update – Ryan Levesque and Mike Baxley**

Current Activities:

- Formal Review for South Pier Lot 1 has been received by staff.

- Formal Review for South Pier Lot 6 has been received by staff and is being processed.
- Pre-application for a high scale restaurant building at Ferry Hayden Lakeside at the west end of the parking structure.
- Council approved a development agreement for the Flour Mill.

Building Permits project:

- South Pier – Obtained permits for phase one and will start construction now. They have set up 2 tower cranes.

Announcements

Next meeting January 16, 2024.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am**

Prepared by Sarah Adame

Reviewed by: Roger Hallsted and Ambika Adhikari



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Jeff Tamulevich

Community Development Director

Secretary of the Commission