



Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission April 14, 2015

Minutes of the Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 7:30 a.m., at the Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E . 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Pam Goronkin (Chair)
Aaron Golub
Nikki Gusz
Jeremy Browning
Ryan Guzy
Bonnie Gerepka
Charles Huellmantel

Philip Luna
Kevin Olson
Charles Redman
Peter Schelstraete
Cyndi Streid
Jonathon Bates
Lloyd Thomas

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Don Cassano

City Staff Present:

Shelly Seyler, Deputy Public Works Director
Mike Nevarez, Transit Manager
Eric Iwersen, Principal Planner
Joe Clements, Transit Financial Analyst
Sue Taaffe, Public Works Supervisor

Amanda Nelson, Public Information Officer
Jason Hartong, Senior Planner
Christine Warren, Senior Civil Engineer
Shauna Warner, Neighbor Program Manager

Guests Present:

Alec More, HDR
JC Porter, ASU
Anne Kurtenbach, HDR

Radu Nan, Kittelson and Associates

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 March 17, 2015 meeting and asked for a motion. A Motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Philip Luna

Second: Commissioner Nikki Gusz

Abstain: Commissioner Charles Huellmantel and Ryan Guzy

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3– Tempe Streetcar

Eric Iwersen introduced Alec Moore, HDR/Valley Metro Project Manager, who presented information regarding the Tempe streetcar project.

Discussion included staff providing an analysis of the pros and cons for two possible street and track configurations for Streetcar along Mill Avenue, from University to Rio Salado Parkway: one in the shared traffic lane and one in what is currently the on-street parking lane on the east side of Mill Avenue, in the northbound direction.

Motion to issue a recommendation to Council to use caution as they consider any changes to the current route and track alignment (share lane) as indicated in the preliminary application.

Motion: Commissioner Kevin Olsen

Second: Commissioner Jeremy Browning

Abstain: Commissioner Charles Huellmantel

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 4 – CIP Discussion

Shelly Seyler, Deputy Public Works Director, presented the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget.

Staff discussed projects recommended to move forward in the Transit CIP process. Staff is waiting on approval of the five year program by Council and there was discussion about whether or not any minor changes will be made by the Council. Staff will present plans to Commission if there are any changes that are made

Motion to recommend to support the CIP Budget that was proposed.

Motion: Commissioner Charles Huellmantel

Second: Commissioner Ryan Guzy

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 5- Orbit Saturn

Jason Hartong, Senior Planner, presented information on the Orbit Saturn bus route.

Discussion included reviewing phase one comments from the community, introducing four draft Orbit routes and phase two planning for the new Orbit route. Phase two consists of soliciting community input and developing the final proposed Orbit route and service scenario. Next steps include: Community and Transportation Commission meetings for phase three of the process from September 2015 to October 2015 with a presentation to the City Council in Dec. 2015

Agenda Item 6- Bus Unification

Mike Nevarez, Transit Manager, presented information regarding the Bus Unification (Scout Program).

Discussion included the results of the second year finding to date of transit service provided by the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) through a transit service contract with First Transit Inc. This month, staff will present an update to City Council with additional transit service performance data and a comprehensive financial report that clearly describes the financial outcome of the Scout Program along with a recommendation on the future of the unification project. The Council will be asked in June 2015 to provide direction regarding the future of unification.

Agenda Item 7 – McClintock Drive Mill and Overlay Project

Julian Dresang, Traffic Engineer, provided information on the McClintock Drive Mill and Overlay Project and proposed addition of bike lanes.

McClintock Drive between Broadway and Guadalupe roads will be repaved as part of Tempe's ongoing preventive maintenance program. As part of this repaving project, McClintock Drive will be reconfigured to include bike lanes on each side of the street, which will require the removal of at least one traffic lane on McClintock Drive. A minimum of two vehicular lanes, northbound and southbound, and a middle turn lane will be maintained. A public meeting will be held May 4.

Consensus of support for the project.

Agenda Item 8 – 8th Street Streetscape Project

Eric Iwersen, Principal Planner, provided an update on the 8th Street Streetscape Project.

Staffed discussed the proposed design changes between McClintock Drive and Rural Road. The project will calm the street and enhance the old creamery railroad. There will be additional on street parking and trees. A 10-foot wide multi-use path from Rural to Dorsey is also included in the project. Enhanced pavement treatment like stamped asphalt to indicate the most congested areas. The two-way cycle track will no longer be part of the project.

Motion to support recommendation to Council.

Motion: Commissioner Charles Huellmantel

Second: Commissioner Cyndi Streid

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 9 – Department and Regional Transportation Updates

None

Agenda Item 10– Future Agenda Items

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

- Streetcar (May)
- Alameda Streetscape Project (May)
- MAG Pedestrian Design Assistance Grants (May)
- Bait Bike Program (May)
- Orbit fleet (May)
- Bus Unification (June)
- City Tentative Fiscal Year 2015-16 Operating Budget (June)
- MAG Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ ITS) (June)
- North/South Railroad Spur Multi-Use Path (June)
- Streetcar (June)
- University Drive and Hardy Drive Streetscape project Pre and Post Traffic Count Analysis (June)
- Bike Boulevards (August)
- Highline Canal Multi-use Path (August)
- Bike Share (August)
- Street Closure Procedures and notification follow-up (August)
- Orbit Saturn & Larger Orbit buses (November)
- Alameda Streetscape Project (November)
- Long-Range Forecast Presentation (November)
- Introduction of CIP Requests (December)
- Long-Range Forecast Update (Operating) & CIP follow-up (March)

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Prepared by: Tammara Evans

Reviewed by: Sue Taaffe, Eric Iwersen