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## Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission March 17, 2015

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Minutes of the Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 7:31 a.m., at the Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Pam Goronkin (Chair)  
Don Cassano  
Aaron Golub  
Nikki Gusz  
Jeremy Browning

Philip Luna  
Kevin Olson  
Charles Redman  
Peter Schelstraete  
Cyndi Streid

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Ryan Guzy  
Bonnie Gerepka  
Charles Huellmantel

**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  
Ken Jones, Chief Financial Officer  
Robert Yabes, Principal Planner  
Maja Aurora, Art Coordinator

**Guests Present:**

Alec More, HDR  
Robert Forrest, Valley Metro  
Scott Walters, Tempe Bicycle Action Group  
Krystal Bittner

Mathew Elliott  
JC Porter, ASU  
Radu Nan, Kittelson and Associates

Commissioner Pam Goronkin called the meeting to order at 7:31 a.m.

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**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances**

None

**Agenda Item 2 – Minutes**

Chair Goronkin introduced the minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting and asked for a motion. A Motion was made to approve the minutes.

**Motion:** Commissioner Kevin Olson

**Second:** Commissioner Peter Schelstraete

**Abstain:** Commissioner Nikki Gusz

**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 proposing median running with mixed traffic street configuration along Apache Boulevard. Staff also discussed City Council's preference for a smaller to medium-sized streetcar vehicle. In addition to the items addressed above, staff also recapped the street configurations for Mill Avenue and downtown Tempe (including Mill Avenue north of University Drive, Rio Salado, Ash Avenue, and University Drive) previously adopted by the Commission and the City Council.

**Agenda Item 4 – City Budget Long-Range Financial Forecast and CIP Update**

Ken Jones, Deputy City Manager-Chief Financial Officer, Presented

Staff discussed the City long-range city budget. Staff will ask City Council for initial recommendations and feedback for the 5-year CIP at their March 26 Council meeting. Prior to the March 26 meeting, staff provided the City Council with public input on proposed CIP projects. The CIP budget includes a requested re-appropriation of previously-budgeted amounts that have not been spent and are anticipated to be spent in FY 2015-16, along with the requests for new appropriations.

**Agenda Item 5- Arts Master Plan**

Maja Aurora, City of Tempe Art Coordinator, presented information on the City's Arts Master Plan.

Discussion included an update on the City's Arts Master Plan, current city programs (Municipal Art fund and performing arts fund), arts planning goals, and the planning process (which includes three phases: preparation, community engagement, and the plan). The draft plan is due to be released in May for public feedback.

**Agenda Item 6- 2015 Tempe Bike Count**

Eric Iwersen introduced Scott Walters, Tempe Bicycle Action Group Bike Count Coordinator, who presented information on the city's current Bike count program.

Discussion included the process of collecting bike count data (researchers, volunteers and neighborhood groups to recruit count volunteers). The bike counts are conducted annually and help measure progress of number of riders in Tempe and to identify problem areas and help guide the City on what is working and where improvements can be made for facilities.

### **Agenda Item 7 – Department and Regional Transportation Updates**

There is a resolution going to Council for acceptance of a state wide bicycle route. The US Department of Transportation has developed a designated route through every state. The Arizona route connects through Tempe from Mesa along Rio Salado through to Mill Avenue north along Mill Avenue to Curry Road, Curry Road to College Avenue and then north into Scottsdale. This project could affect funding eventually with signage. There will be no physical change to roadways or pathways, and the route highlight some features in the city.

### **Agenda Item 9– Future Agenda Items**

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

Bicycle/pedestrian signal activation operations (April)

- City Budget Long-Range Forecast Update (Operating) & CIP follow-up (April)
- Streetcar (April)
- Orbit Saturn (April)
- Bus Unification (May)
- Alameda Streetscape Project (May)
- Bike Boulevards (May)
- MAG Pedestrian Design Assistance Grants (May)
- City Tentative Fiscal Year 2015-16 Operating Budget (June)
- MAG Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ ITS) (June)
- Highline Canal Multi-use Path Project (June)
- North/South Railroad Spur Multi-Use Path (June)
- Highline Canal Multi-use Path Project (September)
- Orbit Saturn & Larger Orbit buses (November)
- Alameda Streetscape Project (November)

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2015.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 a.m.**

Prepared by: Tammara Evans

Reviewed by: Eric Iwersen