

Minutes Neighborhood Advisory Commission September 2, 2015

Minutes of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission (NAC) held on September 2, 2015 5:00-6:00 p.m., at 3rd Floor Conference Room of City Hall, 31 East 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present: Karen Adams, Nancy Buell, Matt Korbeck, Kiyomi Kurooka, Nancy Lesko, Candyce Lindsay, Josephine McNamara, Robert Miller, Bill Munch, Scott Smas, Christopher Ware.

(MEMBERS) Absent: Cole Hickman, Julie Ramsey

City Staff Present: Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Services Specialist; Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director

Guests Present: None.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment

No members of the public present.

Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of Minutes: August 22, 2015

Commissioner Lesko made a motion to accept the minutes, Commissioner Ware seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Orbit Saturn Update

Shauna noted that the Orbit Saturn planning area encompasses US 60 to Elliot Road and the eastern to western city borders. During Phases I and II of the Orbit Saturn planning process, community feedback was gathered through public meetings and an online survey which then helped to inform the Phase III recommended route and operating parameters. Option D from Phase II was well received with over 82% of survey respondents indicating they strongly or somewhat support this route. Route D, with some slight modifications, is the recommended route moving forward. Changes include an extension north in order to reach Baseline and McClintock and a minor routing change in the Tempe Royal Estates/Guadalupe and Kyrene area. Option D, the recommended route, will go to the library every trip front and back.

With an annual operating budget of \$1.2 million for the first year, compromises between route length, frequency and hours of service are required. Bus frequency is anticipated to be every 30 minutes with weekday and Saturday hours from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays and holidays. Next process steps will include public meetings on September 9 and 12 followed by a November 10 Transportation Commission meeting and a December 3 City Council meeting with the final recommendation brought forward to Mayor/Council. If the program is approved, Orbit implementation would follow in April 2017 or October 2017 timing being dependent on bus purchases, Valley Metro new service implementation processes and Orbit stop infrastructure/signs timeframes. No changes to other routes are planned at this time.

Commissioners were pleased that the recommended route always connects to the library, connectivity to the Jupiter Orbit route allowing riders to get downtown was also noted. The Orbit Saturn access to shopping destinations along Elliot such as Costco and Walmart as well as to multiple fixed routes was noted as well as the number of multi-family complexes and residents living along Elliot Grove Parkway. They asked if the hours will be extended for football games and special events? Staff noted extended service for all Orbit routes is looked at collectively and this is a possibility looked at and evaluated annually.

Agenda Item 5– Character Areas Update

Elizabeth provided a brief update regarding the August Escalante and Character Area 5 (now named Alameda) meetings. She passed around a master packet of all of the handouts made available at recent Character Areas meetings including detailed agendas, public meetings schedules, historic plant palette sheets featuring trees, vines shrubs and annuals that are in keeping with irrigated and historic neighborhoods, character areas executive summary and common concepts and terms handouts and 2020 and 2040 recommended road improvements maps. Commissioners were also encouraged to visit the robust character areas website at tempe.gov/characterareas to see these items and more online.

Commissioners emphasized the importance of including and engaging retail center owners, commercial site owners and multi-family/apartment owners within the character areas. They requested more specifics about how this is occurring and the results at a future meeting.

Agenda Item 6 –

Proposed Agenda Items for October or Future Meeting

For October:

- McClintock Pool Update
- Neighborhood Park Renovations (TNT)
- Water/Wastewater and Solid Waste Utility Rate Update (if ready for “front end” update)

November/December:

- Joint Gathering/Mtg. with Historic Preservation

Agenda Item 7 –Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.