



Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission September 13, 2016

Minutes of the Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, 7:30 a.m., at the Tempe Transportation Center, Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Ryan Guzy	Kevin Olson
Bonnie Gerepka	Cyndi Streid
Don Cassano (Chair)	Lloyd Thomas
Philip Luna	Susan Conklu
Jeremy Browning	Charles Huellmantel
Brian Fellows	Shereen Lerner
Peter Schelstraete	Charles Redman
Pam Goronkin	

(MEMBERS) Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Eric Iwersen, Principal Planner	Mike Nevarez, Transit Manager
Sue Taaffe, Public Works Supervisor	Laura Kajfez, Neighborhoods Services Specialist
Tony Belleau, Transportation Planner	Robert Yabes, Principal Planner
Julian Dresang, City Traffic Engineer	Megan Erwin, Police Officer
Dave Humble, Commander	

Guests Present:

Nicholas Smart, resident
JC Porter, ASU

Commission Chair Don Cassano called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

Chair Cassano introduced the minutes of the August 9, 2016 meeting and asked for a motion. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Pam Goronkin

Second: Commissioner Charles Huellmantel

Decision: Approved

Agenda Item 3 – Bike Bait and Bike Registration Programs

Dave Humble with the Tempe Police Department handed out a brochure about a national bike registry program, Bike Guard, which Tempe residents may join. Tempe PD requested data on how many Tempe residents are in the program, but Bike Guard has not been able to provide staff with that information. There is also a Tempe only program that currently has approximately 1,200 people registered. Tempe PD staff work closely with ASU as they have their own separate bike registry program.

The Commission asked the following questions, and staff responded as follows:

- What is the possibility of combining the ASU and Tempe registration programs? Dave Humble said that is ASU's decision. JC Porter with ASU stated that they work closely with Tempe PD, and the reason that there is a separate program is because ASU wants to be able to contact the 8,000 students in the program about a variety of bike related issues on campus.
- Is there a bike ordinance requiring Tempe residents to register their bike? Staff is unsure, but will find out and email the Commission.
- If someone registers for the Tempe program, does that information go into the national program? No.
- What outreach is conducted to promote the program? Tempe PD has the information on its web site and participates in a variety of community events including ASU orientation. Transportation also promotes bike registry through social media, online ads, Pandora, Tempe Today, in the bike map and Tempe 11.
- Is the plan was to keep all the programs separate? If PD cannot legally move the data to the national program, then yes.
- How do residents find out if their bike is registered in the Tempe program? Call or visit the Tempe Police Station on Fifth Street.
- What was done to notify residents whose data was lost when the program transferred from Fire to PD? The program started from scratch and notification was done city-wide.

Dave Humble also presented information about Tempe's bike bait program. The program has been in place since 2011 and 80 arrests have been made during that time. Bike theft has been trending downward for three years. Staff is applying for a grant for \$10,000 to \$20,000 to get three more bait bikes. Most of the problems with stealing bikes are in the downtown area and between Apache and University from Rural to McClintock.

The Commission asked the following questions, and staff responded as follows:

- Where are people taking the bikes after they steal them? Every incident is different and bikes can end up at a house, apt., etc. Investigative methods vary.
- Does PD look for stolen property on web sites like Craigslist and letgo? Yes. The Criminal Investigation Unit does look for stolen property on web sites, but oftentimes it's faster for the bike owner to locate their bike online and contact the police if they find it.
- How does Tempe coordinate with other cities? Staff spends the majority of time and efforts in Tempe, but may work closely with ASU PD or other cities depending on an incident, trends, etc.
- What is the percentage of recovery? We do not know at this time.

Agenda Item 4 – Transportation Commission Annual Report

Sue Taaffe presented the draft 2016 annual report and explained the rationale for creating an annual report. The Commission reviewed the mission statement and added the word "accessibility" to the statement. Don Cassano asked for a motion to approve the mission statement.

Motion: Commissioner Kevin Olson

Second: Commissioner Susan Conklu

Decision: Approved

The Commission also discussed the 2017 goals, and the changes are reflected below.

- Recommend 2017 bike hero
- Recommend FY 2017/18 paid media plan
- Recommend project(s) to be submitted for MAG Design Assistance Grants
- Monitor and provide feedback for Tempe Streetcar project, bus and light rail operations, bicycle and pedestrian projects and bike share program
- Oversee strategic development of transportation systems and use of transit funds
- Monitor progress and provide feedback of Transportation Master Plan and the transportation chapter of the General Plan

The annual report will be presented to the Commission in October for possible approval.

Agenda Item 5 – Western Canal Extension Multi-use Path

Robert Yabes updated the Commission of the next steps and design concept for the Western Canal Extension Multi-use Path Project. The path extension is a missing link in a regional path system near Kyrene Road and Ken McDonald Golf Course. The project will involve designing a half-mile, shared-use path and street improvements including lighting, water fountains and landscaping, a signalized crossing across a 45 mph major arterial and access across railroad tracks. The project is part of the regional canal path system, the Maricopa County Sun Circle trail and is a corridor for the Brake bike boulevard route. It will also link to the regional Highline and Kyrene multi-use paths.

Robert also provided information on the funding and design team. A CMAQ grant has been secured for \$55,000 in preliminary design, \$155,000 for final design and \$793,000 for construction.

Meetings are being set by staff with stakeholders, including Salt River Project, Union Pacific Railroad, and the public. Staff is scheduled to present the preliminary plans for review and comments to the Tempe Parks Board on Sept.21. A public meeting will be held Oct. 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the club house at Ken McDonald Golf Course. Public comment will be available online at www.tempe.gov/westerncanalexension Oct. 17 to Nov. 2.

Robert also mentioned a similar project along the El Paso Multi-use Path in which new lights are being tested to replace the existing bollards along with the addition of landscaping. A public meeting will be held Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. at Fuller Elementary School.

The Commission asked the following questions, and staff responded as follows:

- Is the SRP railroad crossing part of the MAG Railroad Crossing Study? No it was not. But similar crossings were part of that study.
- When will staff meet with the various stakeholders? Staff is scheduled to present to the Tempe Parks Board, which includes Ken McDonald Golf Course, on Sept.21. A public meeting will be held Oct. 17, and staff has met with SRP and UPRR.

Agenda Item 6 – Department and Regional Transportation Updates

Sue Taaffe stated the bike share contract was approved by the City Council on Sept. 8, and the Mayor will sign the contract once the letter of authorization has been received from the Federal Highway Administration. The project should launch in April 2017. The bike share program will not include advertising at stations, but is permitted to have a corporate sponsor.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

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

- Fifth Street Streetscape Project (October)
- Small Area Transportation Study (October)
- Transportation Commission Annual Report (October)
- “Prop 500” regional effort Discussion (October)
- McClintock Drive Bike Lanes (November)
- Rio Salado @ McClintock Drive MUP Underpass (November)
- Streetcar (November)
- Transportation Commission Annual Report (November)
- Long-Range Forecast Presentation (November)
- Market Research Survey (January)
- Commission business (January)
- Bike Hero (January)
- Leading vs. Lagging Left Turn Signals (January)
- Long-Range Forecast Presentation (February)
- FY 2017-18 Media Plan (February)
- North/South Railroad Spur MUP (May)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Signal Activate Operations Update (TBD)

The Commission’s next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2016. The December 2016 meeting has been cancelled.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Sue Taaffe

Reviewed by: Eric Iwersen and Shelly Seyler