



Minutes
Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
February 4, 2019

Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS meeting held on Monday, February 4, 2019, 6:30 p.m., at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd., Board Room, Tempe, Arizona, 85282.

MEMBERS Present:

Chair Wendy Dietrich
Vice-Chair Katherine Schmidt
Paul Kent
Ben Campbell
Bethany Lien
Maranda M. Childress

MEMBERS Absent:

Rene Williams
Jeff Oats
Vacant Position

Guests:

John Federico, VMAAG and Tempe Transportation Comm. Representative
Irene Mochel, Former Commissioner
Amanda Nelson, Public Works/Public Information Officer
Deron Lozano, Valley Metro
Colleen Tighe, Tempe ARC

Office of Strategic Management and Diversity Staff Present:

Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Chair Wendy Dietrich called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item 1. Call to the Public.

No comments

Item 2. Review and Approval of Minutes – January 7, 2019 Minutes

Motion: Approval of the January 7, 2019 CDC Minutes

Motion: Comm. Ben Campbell

Second: Comm. Paul Kent

Motion carried unanimously, 6 approved, 2 absent, 1 vacancy

Votes

Wendy Dietrich
 Katherine Schmidt Ph.D.
 Rene Williams
 Paul Kent
 Maranda Childress
 Ben Campbell
 Bethany Lien
 Jeffrey C. Oats
 Vacancy

Item 3. Presentation: Tempe Mesa Streetcar Feasibility Study by Deron Lozano, Valley Metro

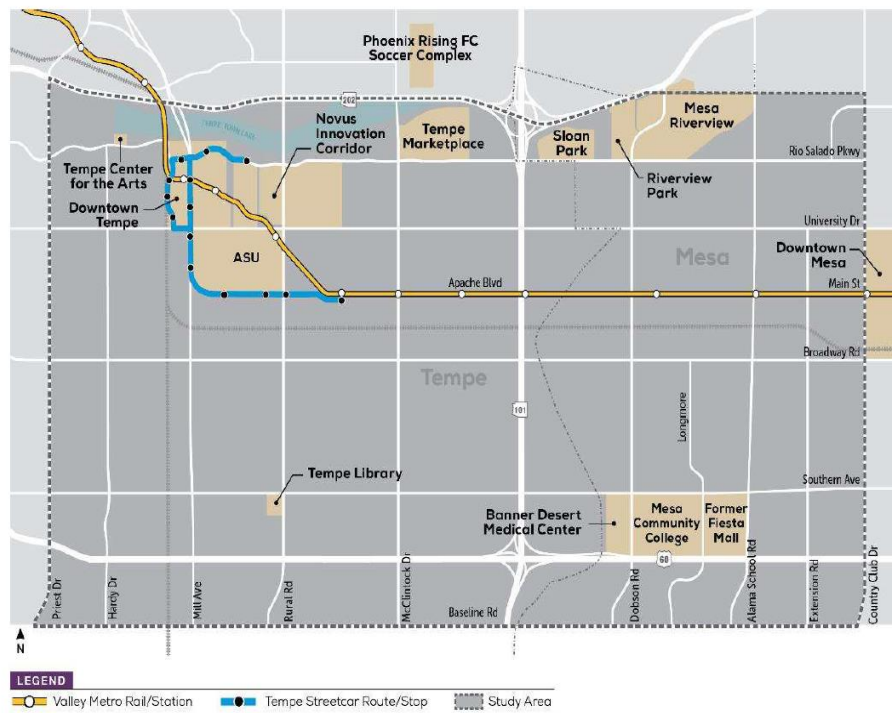
The cities of Tempe and Mesa have partnered with Valley Metro to evaluate streetcar as a high-capacity transit operation. A \$600,000 budget was co-funded by the cities. The purpose of the feasibility study is to evaluate key regional activity centers, employment areas and residential areas to anticipate and prepare for the next phase of regional funding.

The evaluation criteria is considered in two tiers. Tier 1 includes ridership potential, Transit-oriented land use and economic development potential. Tier 2

includes physical and engineering constraints and transportation network integrity and functionality. The process is expected to continue through 2020 and result in recommendations for future regional funding and corridors that meet the need and have a high potential to improve transit.

A streetcar is smaller than a light rail vehicle. Operates individually and are not linked together. They often share a lane with automobiles. Streetcar stops are similar in size to bust stops and occur more frequently than light rail stations.

Study Area



Description: Tempe map showing arterial streets and large amenities, i.e. ASU, Tempe Marketplace, Mesa Riverview, Tempe Library, Banner Desert Medical Center, Mesa Community College, etc. The study area is bounded by the 202 on the north, Baseline on the south, Priest Drive on the west and Country Club Drive on the east. The draft route shown extends the Tempe Streetcar route which is under construction, on Apache Blvd. to Country Club Drive.

Key stakeholders include commissions and boards of the cities of Tempe and Mesa; Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe Marketplace, Mesa Riverview, ASU, Tempe Marketplace, Mesa Community College, and others. Currently there are four related projects that are ongoing which will provide information for the study, they are expected to be completed soon:

- Fiesta District Alternatives Analysis (2019)
- Tempe/Mesa Streetcar Feasibility Study (2020)
- Arizona Avenue Alternatives Analysis (2020)
- Tempe Streetcar (2021)

Chair Wendy Dietrich asked whether the feasibility study will take in consideration traffic impact. Streetcars stopping will cause more traffic congestion. The study will include traffic impact.

Commissioner Paul Kent asked if the streetcar route would consider stops that are important to people with disabilities, i.e., hospitals, library, and the Friendship Village? The presenter said they would include that in their review.

Item 4. Discussion: Scooters on the Public Right-of-Way

Commissioners discussed the scooters and other devices, called "Shared Active Transportation Vehicles (SATV) that have been blocking sidewalks and which cause safety issues for pedestrians who use mobility aids or who are blind. The signed letter that was submitted was included in the folder. The letter supported the city's efforts to regulate SATV operations to ensure ADA compliance and safety of pedestrian with disabilities. Recommendations are:

1. Develop designated parking areas for SATV's that retain access to:
 - Sidewalks, curb ramps, and rights-of-way
 - Transit stop ADA clear spaces and boarding areas
 - Pedestrian traffic signal buttons locations
 - And other transportation elements
2. Enforce rights-of-way and access violations via finds to the operator/user.

The letter was submitted to the office of the Mayor and Council.

Item 5. Discussion: 2019 Disability Awards – Status Update

Sponsorships:

\$250 has been received from former Commissioner Irene Mochel.
\$250 was received from A Caring Heart of Arizona, LLC.

Emails were sent out to prior sponsors and others.
Sponsorship requests will be shared via social media in the next week, also.

Website: The website page is active. Nominations and Sponsorship information is available at www.tempe.gov/disabilityawards.

Marketing: Information was sent out through Tempe's Public Information Office. About 100 emails were sent out last week to businesses and agencies. Please share information through your networks.

Next: Arrangements are being made for a band or performer and a guest presenter. The nominations will be reviewed at the next meeting to select awardees.

Item 6. 2020 Disability Awards – Status Update.

The 2020 Award Sponsorship application for student award funds was submitted to the Tempe Diablos, for the same amount as requested previously: \$2,400.

Item 7. Discussion: Tempe's BEST Program – Status Update.

The first quarter report was included in the folder. Tempe's BEST Program Coordinators office is now located on the second floor of the Westside Multi-Generation Center, 715 W. 5th Street, Tempe, AZ 85281.

Item 8. Discussion: Recreation Inclusion - Update

Adapted Recreation. Commissioners were invited to attend a February 4th Public Hearing at 4 p.m. in Room A, in the lower level of the Tempe Public Library, on Adapted Recreation plans, being proposed.

The public meeting was to collect feedback on the proposed expansion of the city's adapted recreation programs. The topics included:

- An expansion of Kid Zone, LEAP adapted afterschool and Camp Challenge adapted summer recreation programs.
- An enhanced registration process for all residents interested in inclusive recreation programming.
- Enhanced training for recreation and Kid Zone staff
- Hiring additional staff to meet student to staff ratios for safety

The meeting was a result of the Adaptive Parks and Recreation Working Group headed by Councilmember Robin Arredondo-Savage. Upcoming Work Study session agendas are available at www.tempe.gov/clerk. Or contact Parrish Spisz, Council Aide, 480-350-8816.

Playgrounds. Commissioners discussed that it would be great if there were some signage at the playgrounds that would explain accessible features and sensory disabilities. An example was seen in North Carolina, where they had signs that said: "Hey, Did you know..." Which included information about access, equipment and inclusion.

Item 9. Discussion: Commission and Staff Announcements

- Chair Wendy Dietrich announced that that an "Innovative Idea Award" was being offered at another agency, and that there was an innovation grant that provides \$50,000 for collaborative new ideas to address isolation in the community.
- There will be a Care Fare on April 6th at the Tempe Public Library and the department will have a table, staffed by Tempe's BEST Program. CDC materials will be available.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Prepared by Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Reviewed by:

Ginny Belousek
Ginny Belousek, Diversity Manager