



City Council Weekly Information Packet

Friday, September 11, 2020

Includes the following documents/information:

- 1) City Council Events Schedule
- 2) State and Federal Update & Grant Opportunities
- 3) Diversity Office Virtual Events
- 4) Engineering and Transportation Department Updates

City Council Events Schedule

September 16, 2020 thru October 20, 2020



The Mayor and City Council have been invited to attend various community meetings and public and private events at which a quorum of the City Council may be present. The Council will not be conducting city business, nor will any legal action be taken. This is an event only and not a public meeting. A list of the community meetings and public and private events along with the schedules, dates, times, and locations is attached. Organizers may require a rsvp or fee.

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wed	Sep 16	5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Water Line Replacement Project WebEx Construction Kickoff Meeting tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 335 1739 Event password: Water2020 Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 335 1739
Tue	Sep 22	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Water/Wastewater Rate Adjustments WebEx Public Meeting tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 810 6014 Event password: Water Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 810 6014
Wed	Sept 23	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Country Club Way Bike and Ped improvements WebEx Public Meeting tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 490 4988 Event password: CCW1 Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 490 4988

Thu	Sept 24	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<p>Transit Service Reductions WebEx Public Meeting</p> <p>tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 665 2684 Event password: Transit Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 665 2684</p>
Sat	Sept 26	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Country Club Way Bike and Ped improvements WebEx Public Meeting</p> <p>tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 687 3401 Event password: CCW Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 687 3401</p>
Sat	Sept 26	11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.	<p>Transit Service Reductions WebEx Public Meeting</p> <p>tempe.webex.com Event number: 146 068 4929 Event password: Transit2 Audio conference: To receive a call back, provide your phone number when you join the event, or call the number below and enter the access code. United States Toll: +1-408-418-9388 Access code: 146 068 4929</p>
Wed	Oct 14	5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	<p>37th Annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards</p> <p>Virtual Info: tempecommunitycouncil.org/don-carlos</p>
Tue	Oct 20	11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	<p>Valley Metro Clean Air Campaign Awards</p> <p>Online Virtual Event: TBD</p> <p>For more information: https://www.valleymetro.org/valley-metro-champions-clean-air</p>
Thu	Oct 22	3:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	<p>Virtual Ribbon Cutting for Senior Helpers of Tempe</p> <p>Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvf-Ghqj4sEt3kKRmPZPt5HPoaU4-fbwej</p>

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Andrew Ching, City Manager
FROM: Marge Zylla, Government Relations Officer
DATE: September 11, 2020
SUBJECT: State and Federal Update & Grant Opportunities

Below are summaries of recent actions and announcements at the state and federal level:

- USCM Federal Updates
- NLC Federal Updates
- Senate “Skinny” COVID-19 Relief Bill
- HUD CDBG Rental Assistance Allocations
- Governor’s Executive Orders
- Grant Opportunities

Please let me know if there are follow-up questions for Tempe’s federal lobbyist. Also, please let me know if Tempe staff members are pursuing federal grants so we can arrange for letters of support from our Congressional delegation.

USCM Federal Updates

Via US Conference of Mayors Staff, 9/10/20

[McConnell's GOP Relief Bill Fails in Senate – No Direct Funding For Cities in Proposal – USCM Urges "No" Vote](#)

Today, the so-called skinny COVID-19 relief bill pushed by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell failed in the Senate. The bill was defeated in a 52-47 vote, not meeting the 60 votes needed to break the Democratic filibuster. One Republican, Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky voted with the Democrats in opposing the bill.

The proposal did not provide one cent of funding for direct emergency fiscal assistance to our cities. Nor did the proposal provide flexibility for the CARES Act funds already distributed to the 50 states and to cities and counties with 500,000 or more in population. It was a double whammy against us after our mayoral campaign across the nation.

I issued a statement, based on our policy and advocacy, urging Senators to vote "no" on the proposal. [Click here to read it.](#)

The serious question now is whether or not negotiations between the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the White House will go back to the negotiating table that they left a month ago and come to an agreement to provide needed fiscal assistance.

As reported earlier, Administration negotiators expressed their desire to come back to the table for a real bill that meets local governments' needs.

As I write, some are saying it's over and that Congress will now deal with the September 30 deadline for across the board agency funding. Still, there is a lot of economic pain present in small, medium, and large cities, as well as in rural areas, and there is an election just weeks away.

Others are saying that the negotiators will come back to come forth with a bipartisan bill that will include direct funding for our cities.

Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said yesterday about reports for a bipartisan bill, "I don't know. We'll see. I hope there is. It's important to a lot of people out there." We hope so too.

Via US Conference of Mayors Staff, 9/9/20

[Senator McConnell Unveils COVID Relief Bill with No New Money For Cities and No Flexibility For Money Previously Distributed](#)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell returns to Washington this week to present what is being called a "targeted relief bill." It misses the target for state and local governments. There are zero funds providing emergency fiscal assistance to our cities. Further, it does not provide flexibility sought for the earlier money that went to cities and counties with 500,000 in population and above. So, it's a double whammy for cities.

Senator McConnell's bill is predicted not to advance since it won't get Democratic support. Minority Leader Chuck Schumer refuses to call it a skinny bill. He refers to it as an "emaciated" bill.

As the McConnell bill fails, we will continue to push for the negotiators to go back to the table that the negotiations left a month ago. Certainly, the McConnell bill may be a starting point if and when the negotiations resume.

Staring Congress in the face is the September deadline when across the board funding for agencies will expire and the government would begin shutdown without action.

There are mixed messages coming out of the White House. White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows has indicated yesterday on Fox Business that he's, "optimistic in the next two weeks that the pressure and the voice of the American people will start to have an impact on members of Congress." Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin, a negotiator for the Administration, has also indicated that the Administration would support a figure as high as \$1.5 trillion.

On the other more pessimistic note for cities, White House National Economic Council Director Larry Kudlow was asked if the Administration could expect a recovery without a bipartisan deal. In the wake of the better than expected jobs report in August, Kudlow seemed quite relaxed if Congress did nothing, saying, "We can live without it – we can absolutely live without it."

Governors, county executives, mayors, and other elected local and state officials push for emergency fiscal assistance. We are not letting up in our campaign.

Conference Vice President Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and Arlington, TX Mayor Jeff Williams have been our champions for immediate fiscal assistance to get us through this economic disaster, and with their leadership and the leadership action of our mayors, we will continue to demand a bipartisan package we can all agree will help our people and our cities through this pandemic.

Via US Conference of Mayors Staff, 9/8/20

[Executive Committee Responds to President Trump's Directive on Defunding Cities – Urge Rescinding and Halt to Process](#)

Conference President Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer convened an emergency meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors' Executive Committee along with Criminal and Social Justice Chair Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot to discuss an appropriate response to President Donald Trump's memorandum to the Attorney General and the Office of Management and Budget Director to defund "anarchist" cities. Named in President Trump's memorandum are the mayors and cities of New York, Seattle, the District of Columbia, and Portland, OR.

In this meeting, it was agreed that we should ask President Trump to immediately rescind his directive to defund cities and to halt the process he announced.

[Click here to read the letter we sent to President Trump.](#)

Following the transmission of the letter which states that we will legally challenge the administration if they move forward, we issued a statement expressing dismay but emphasizing again our use of the courts if we have to do so in order to prohibit any action to defund cities of federal funds that are by statute legally provided to our cities.

[Click here to read our statement.](#)

NLC Federal Updates

Via National League of Cities Staff, 9/10/20

Senate Fails To Move Skinny Bill

Today, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) failed to pass a "skinny" stimulus bill.

In order to move the bill forward in the Senate, McConnell needed 60 votes, a Senate procedural rule. The vote was 52-47. Senator Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) missed the vote and Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) voted no and against his party.

Most importantly for NLC and its members, the skinny bill removed flexibility from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CRF”), which was originally in the GOP-introduced HEALS Act proposed earlier this summer. The lack of flexibility means that funds appropriated under the CRF would have the same current restrictions on them. Republicans, in the original HEALS Act, provided greater flexibility in how the remaining monies in the CRF could be used.

McConnell worked to unify his Conference by crafting a bill that almost attained the support of all of his members. Rand Paul being the exception.

One member in particular – Senator Rick Scott (R-Fla.) – did not want the flexibility aspect to be included in the bill. In an attempt to show unity and get all GOP senators onboard, this provision was removed. On the other side of the coin, long-time champions for local funding including Senators Susan Collins (R-Maine), Bill Cassidy (R-La.), and Cory Gardner (R-Colo.) supported the Republican package that did not have funding or flexibility. Gardner made floor remarks recently reiterating his support for additional funding, but still supported the “skinny” bill.

What NLC Is Doing And How You Can Help

With only a few legislative days left in September, Congress is racing to fund the government and ensure expiring programs are reauthorized. Therefore, the next bite at the apple for another stimulus bill might not come until November, post-election.

NLC is continuing to make the case for the need for local relief by sharing the fiscal reality of cities across the country. As Senators head back to their states for the weekend, call your Senator’s campaign state director and ask them to send you the schedule of where the Senator will be this coming weekend because you would like to see them. If they aren’t going to be near you, ask to set up a call. We need them to hear from you. We need Senators to let Leader McConnell know that they support a deal with direct local funding.

NLC Leads Effort With Other State And Local Associations In Sending Letter To Treasury’s OIG

Today, NLC led a letter, along with other leading state and local associations, to the US Treasury’s Office of the Inspector General (“OIG”). The letter focused on new record keeping requirements that the OIG’s FAQ document said CARES Coronavirus Relief Funds recipients must maintain. The OIG’s FAQs issued on August 28, 2020 contradict previously issued FAQs from the US Treasury Department’s Office of the General Counsel. States and localities had already acted on the prior US Treasury Department of General Counsel FAQs to make budgeting, payroll, and employment decisions. The contradictions have caused much confusion and worry among states and local governments. You can view the letter [here](#) and here is our [statement](#).

Below is the communication we sent to all Congressional staff today which underscores the difficulty to spend already limited CARES Act Funding.

NLC Responds To So-Called Anarchy Cities

On September 2, 2020, President Trump issued the “Memorandum on Reviewing Funding to State and Local Government Recipients That Are Permitting Anarchy, Violence, and Destruction in American Cities.” In response, NLC sent a letter to the President outlining our concerns that any action taken because of directives is not likely to withstand legal scrutiny.

We share the President's concerns about the negative impact the riots and violence have on city residents. However, we firmly believe that this is not the time to sanction cities for doing what they have to do to protect people's right to demonstrate peacefully, while also keeping the public safe. NLC wants to work in partnership with the Administration to help cities reduce police brutality, allow for peaceful demonstrations, and maintain public safety. The letter asks the President to consider withdrawing the memorandum and continue to work with NLC to make cities stronger.

Now for Other Business that Needs to Get Handled

Join NLC for our upcoming forum, [What Happens Locally if Federal Transportation Programs Expire](#), next Tuesday, 9/15, at 4PM EDT.

America's transportation networks are essential to the recovery of the economy from the nation's pandemic, yet the future of federal transportation programs remains uncertain. On September 30th, the current federal surface transportation law, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act expires. The COVID-19 pandemic has created fiscal strain at the local level with an estimated \$360 billion in lost revenue over three years, and the uncertainty of the federal share of transportation funding is one more bill that cities may have to pick up. Join us to hear what happens if Congress doesn't make the deadline.

SPEAKERS:

- Councilman Dan Fowler, Kansas City, MO, and Chair of the NLC Transportation & Infrastructure Services Committee
- Nuria Fernandez, General Manager and CEO, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, San Jose, CA, and Chair of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
- Ed Mortimer, Vice President, Transportation Infrastructure, United States Chamber Of Commerce

Social Media Engagement

NLC is continuing to lift up our [Leading Together Cities Agenda](#), highlighting the most urgent issues that local leaders want the next Administration to address: infrastructure, workforce, housing, public safety. This week, we sent letters to both campaigns calling on the candidates to partner with cities, towns and villages on these issues. Also, see NLC's tweets for [Trump](#) and for [Biden](#).

Hill Communication Sent Today, 9/10/20

Subject: *Federal Agencies are Backpedaling Congressionally Approved Fiscal Support for State and Local Governments*

Intergovernmental cooperation to contain Coronavirus and restore economic activity is at risk.

In lieu of a formal regulatory process to stand-up oversight and administration of emergency programs and funds enacted by Congress in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Administration has permitted agencies to publish less than formal guidance for grantees on a rolling basis. Although this piecemeal process has been challenging for states and localities, the approach appeared to represent a good faith effort by federal agencies to make aid available to states and localities as quickly as possible; and to clarify numerous issues not accounted for in emergency response legislation.

However, recent communications from federal agencies including the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have called into question the administration's oft-stated commitment that that our national emergency response to the coronavirus pandemic will be "federally supported, state managed, and locally executed".

Two instances of backtracking by the administration have shaken mid-course efforts by states and localities to manage and execute programs and funds as intended by Congress. Both instances contradict prior agency guidance intended to create favorable conditions for meaningful state and local intervention, and both were communicated in a manner unlikely to arouse greater Congressional scrutiny.

- *First, in late August, state and local officials grew alarmed by communications from federal officials in local and regional offices that FEMA was preparing to backtrack on reimbursing for personal protective equipment (PPE) and disinfectants as eligible expenses under Public Assistance for COVID-19. They also introduced confusion by referencing a heretofore non-existent distinction between “response” and “reopening”. [A large coalition of non-partisan associations representing the state and local response to COVID-19 objected in a letter](#) to the rumored changes, none of which had been communicated through formal channels, by saying in part, “This proposed change to PPE coverage continues a troubling pattern of shifting costs and responsibilities onto states and localities when they can least afford it. That letter is attached.*
- *Second, in late August, the U.S. Treasury Office of Inspector General surprised state and local governments with new and burdensome reporting requirements that contradicted prior guidance, issued in an incremental fashion between April and August, that was better fitted to the circumstances on the ground. States and localities had already acted on the prior guidance to make budgeting, payroll, and employment decisions. The change was communicated in piecemeal fashion as an update to the U.S. Treasury “Frequently Asked Questions” document for state and local governments. To be clear, the US Treasury Office of the General Counsel FAQ contradicts the US Treasury Office of Inspector General FAQ. To which should a local government comply? [Again, non-partisan associations of state and local governments are responding with alarm by warning](#), “At the very least, the change mandated by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) increases regulatory burdens on state and local governments and diminishes confidence in lasting federal support at a time of reduced capacity as a result of unavoidable furloughs necessary to meet balanced budget obligations. More concerning, however, is that the change makes it more likely that the OIG will claw back expended funds, possibly years later, in a similar fashion to FEMA funds.” That letter is also attached.*

The administration’s backpedaling of enacted fiscal support for state and local governments - who are managing and executing the national emergency response to the coronavirus pandemic – warrants greater Congressional scrutiny. At the same time, emergency funding overall for states and localities enacted under the CARES Act has proven insufficient. With more than 75% of Coronavirus Relief Funds already allocated, requests for aid by most municipalities remain unanswered. We urge Congress to make additional aid available to all 19,000 cities, towns, and villages by enacting a new emergency relief package that is appropriate, fair, and equitable for every municipal government.

NLC is the voice of America’s cities, towns and villages, representing more than 200 million people. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us with a request for data and resources as you to continue to develop this next package. We look forward to working with you to safely reopen our economy.

Senate “Skinny” COVID-19 Relief Bill

Via Van Scoyoc Associates, 9/9/20

The Senate Republican COVID-19 relief bill was made public yesterday. While the \$500 billion bill does not include any additional funding for state/local governments, it does extend the date for when the CRF funds can be used to September 30, 2021. See Title VIII. The summary is [here](#) . The Senate is expected to vote on the bill tomorrow.

And reportedly, White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows said that he thought that an additional \$150 billion for state/local financial assistance would be the right amount. Related article [here](#). Maybe that will break the logjam.

As far as the format of that potential \$150 billion (whether it could be distributed directly to local governments or if it would be the same model as the CARES Act), there are not any details yet, other than it seemed to be Mr. Meadows' acknowledgement that there is a need for state/local financial assistance. The unfortunate part is that so far, the Senate leadership is not picking up on that. It shows that as the presidential election is heating up, the White House would like to see something pass the Congress more than a number of Republican Senators, especially those not up this year. We will keep following this and let you know if anything develops.

As for the likelihood of passage of the new Senate "skinny" bill, it will definitely not pass the Senate. They will need 60 votes and it is not clear that all 53 Republican Senators will vote for the bill - which will be voted on tomorrow. And all 47 Democrats are opposing the bill. So, the negotiations will continue - hopefully!

HUD CDBG Rental Assistance Allocations

Tempe Human Services staff was notified of an upcoming Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allocation to be used towards rental assistance. The Tempe allocation is \$1.9 million. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announcement can be found at [this link](#) and Tempe staff will continue to research the [methodology](#) that applies to the allocation disbursement.

Governor Executive Orders

The Governor has issued a number of Executive Orders in the past months. They can be found at [this link](#). One Executive Order was issued this week:

- Enhanced Surveillance Advisory – Monitoring the Spread of COVID-19, 9/8/20

Grant Opportunities

Compiled by the U.S. Conference of Mayors

You are invited to apply for the 2020 U.S. Conference of Mayors and Wells Fargo CommunityWINS awards. Competitive grants of \$1 million will be awarded to eight nonprofits with projects that will foster citizen access to safe and affordable housing.

Since 2015, The U.S. Conference of Mayors and Wells Fargo have awarded six million dollars to nonprofits in cities through the CommunityWINS program in such areas as workforce development, economic development, and neighborhood stabilization. But in 2020, the program will focus on housing affordability and solutions designed to increase the availability and affordability of rentals, transitional housing, or sustainable homeownership.

Eight awards are available— two awards per population category. Awards are based on population size:
Metropolitan: Population greater than 500,000

- Metropolitan winner: **\$300,000**
- Metropolitan outstanding achievement: **\$100,000**

Large: Population of 275,000 – 500,000

- Large city winner: **\$200,000**
- Large city outstanding achievement: **\$75,000**

Medium: Population of 50,000 – 275,000

- Medium city winner: **\$150,000**
- Medium city outstanding achievement: **\$50,000**

Small: Population less than 50,000

- Small city winner: **\$75,000**

- Small city outstanding achievement: **\$50,000**

Conference of Mayors' members can nominate up to (3) three eligible nonprofit housing initiatives. Grant requirements and the online application form are now available for submission at www.usmayors.org/communitywins. Nonprofits must submit applications by **October 9, 2020**. Grantees will be named during the Mayor's 89th Winter Meeting in Washington, DC. For questions, please email: CommunityWINS@wellsfargo.com

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager
THROUGH: Rosa Inchausti, Strategic Management & Diversity Director
DATE: September 11, 2020
SUBJECT: Diversity Office Virtual Events

After careful consideration and discussion, the Human Relations Commission (HRC) and Tardeada Advisory Board have decided all future events through January 2021 will now be held virtually. Below is a tentative plan for those events.

Tempe Tardeada – October 2020

All marketing has been revised to reflect that Tempe Tardeada 2020 will be a completely virtual event. The website, www.tempe.gov/tardeada, will be a compilation of images and videos from past Tardeada events. The website will contain:

- Interviews on the importance of the Tardeada and its history in Tempe
- Pictures
- Video montages of Tardeada
- Tortilla demonstration video with board members
- List of food vendors that have requested inclusion in the website

Regional Unity “Art” Walk – January 2021

The staff members* for the HRCs of Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Mesa, Gilbert, and Phoenix have unanimously agreed to shift this yearly event to a virtual platform. The event is tentatively scheduled to launch at the Tempe Center for the Arts the first week of January and will run for the entire month.

Although the exact theme of the event has not been established, the concept is to represent unity through art in our respective cities. Submissions will be in various mediums: painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, performance, and murals. Art may be submitted across all age categories and experience levels. Some cities currently have art readily available to exhibit while other cities are requesting submissions from their residents. Regardless, the goal is to exhibit the art outdoors to accommodate whatever CDC guidelines are in-place in January. All exhibits will be reflected on a regional map using a pin to identify exhibit locations. Families are then encouraged to walk, bike, or drive by these outdoor exhibits for cultural fun and generative conversation.

Our Office has been working with multiple departments across the city to coordinate the following:

- Types of submissions for Tempe
- Marketing Campaign
- Website platform
- Interactive map
- Possible Instagrammy Category: Unity Through Art

Finally, we are working to determine what City facilities could display exhibits as well as what Tempe businesses may also be interested in partnering.

Martin Luther King Event – January 2021

The staff members* for the HRCs of Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Mesa, Gilbert, and Phoenix have also unanimously agreed to combine our individual efforts to create a regional celebration of Dr. King in January. Like Tempe, various cities are unsure of whether it is feasible to host a large, in-person gathering as soon as January. It was decided to take elements of the various cities' celebrations to create a larger, unified celebration. This was especially important given the current social justice movement and necessity to reaffirm, as a larger voice, the work of Dr. King.

The City of Mesa will be spearheading this collaboration and the details are still largely underway. The City of Tempe has offered to run point on establishing regional MLK Awards, if an awards recognition becomes a part of the collaboration.

Further details can be made available once decisions are made.

** The Town of Guadalupe does not have an HRC representative, but a representative from the Town will be contacted for participation in both the Regional "Art" Walk and the MLK event.*

Vision Zero Tempe: Transportation Achievement Award for Safety

Tempe's Vision Zero program was recently recognized by the Mountain District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) with the "2020 Transportation Achievement Award for Safety." The award is given annually to an organization within the region that is demonstrating excellence in the advancement of transportation to meet human needs. Awards are presented in the categories of Complete Streets, Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO), Safety, Planning, and Traffic Engineering. The City of Tempe's Vision Zero program was selected as the winner for the "Safety" award. We are making a difference and saving lives!



Shelly Seyler, (480) 350-8854, shelly_seyler@tempe.gov

Country Club Way Bike and Ped Improvement Project Public Meetings Now Re-scheduled!

The Country Club Way project stretches from the U.S. 60 on the north to Warner Road on the south, roughly following the alignment of Country Club Way. The project will include a 10-foot wide concrete path, an adjacent equestrian path (between Warner and Elliot Roads), landscaping, lighting, shade nodes, and a pedestrian-activated traffic signal at Warner Road. The portions of the project north of Elliot will include the addition of on-street bicycle facilities and improve the pedestrian environment and ADA access. The addition of bike lanes will not require the removal of vehicular travel lanes.

Last fall, the City retained design consultant HDR to develop the final construction plans, specifications, and estimates for the project. The final design has kicked-off and in March staff were prepared to hold the first round of public meetings, but were subsequently delayed due to precautions related to COVID-19. With the recent success of virtual

public meetings, staff has re-scheduled and will soon be holding two virtual public meetings to solicit feedback on preliminary design concepts and to identify design priorities for the corridor:

- Wed., Sep. 23rd, from 12:00n to 1:30p, Via Cisco Webex
- Sat., Sep. 26th, from 9:00a to 10:30a, Via Cisco Webex

The link to provide comments as well as participate in the public meeting will be made available at www.tempe.gov/countryclubwaypath. Comments will be taken from September 23rd to October 7th.

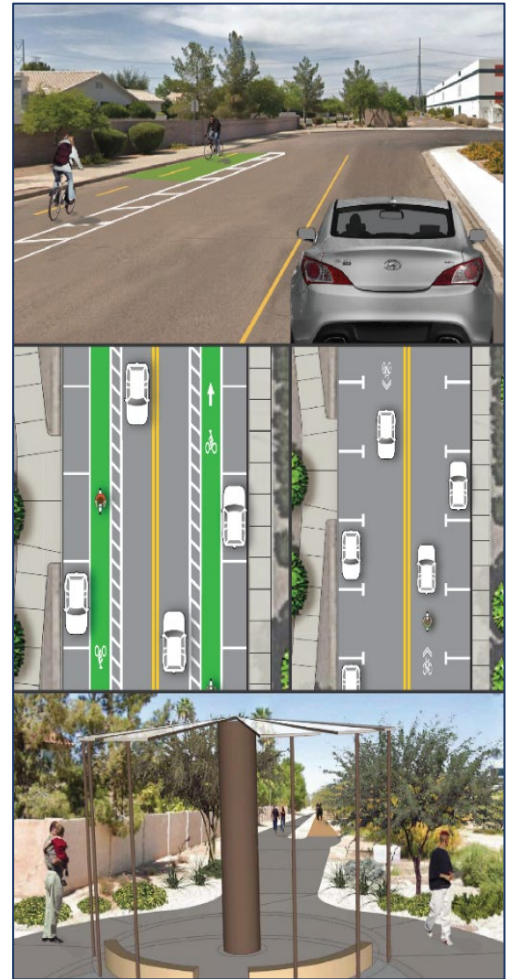
Following the feedback from the above public meetings, staff will further refine the design and move forward with a preferred alternative for the corridor. This preferred alternative will inform the final design going forward, and staff will seek additional feedback in early 2021, as the formal design for this preferred alternative progresses.

It is anticipated that the final design would be completed and be ready to bid in the Winter of 2021, with construction anticipated to begin early 2022.

Background

The Country Club Way Bike and Pedestrian Improvement Project is identified in Tempe's Transportation Master Plan. In May 2016, the Transportation Commission provided consensus for staff to submit an application for the project to compete for Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Design Assistance funding. In 2016, the project was awarded \$82,500 to develop a preliminary project assessment report and design concepts for a bike and pedestrian improvement project along Country Club Way.

In 2017, public meetings were held to gather feedback on the preliminary design concepts, and later that year a preliminary design concept and cost estimate were developed. In 2018, staff submitted a federal grant request for construction funding for the Country Club Way project from Warner Rd. to the U.S. 60. Tempe was awarded a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement grant totaling \$2,611,733 to fund the construction of the project. The funds will be available in Fiscal Year 2022.



Two photo simulations and two plan views of potential alternatives for the project corridor; 2-way cycle track, buffered bike lanes, shared-lanes, and rest node concept.

Chase Walman, (480) 858-2072, chase_walman@tempe.gov