



**APPROVED AS AMENDED
SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
PATHS & TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

Meeting Held Electronically

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Paths & Trails Subcommittee was called to order at 8:32 a.m. A formal roll call confirmed the presence of Subcommittee members as noted below.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Donald Anderson, Chair – Transportation Commission
Kent Lall, Commissioner – Transportation Commission
William Levie, Subcommittee Member
Teresa Kim Hayes-Quale, Commissioner – Parks and Recreation Commission

ABSENT: Kyle Davis, Subcommittee Member

STAFF: Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner
Nathan Domme, Senior Transportation Planner
Kyle Lofgren, Staff Coordinator
Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager
Elaine Mercado, Project Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chair Anderson called for modifications and approval of the minutes.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER LEVIE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2021 MEETING AS PRESENTED. SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER LALL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 3-0 WITH CHAIR ANDERSON, SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS LALL AND LEVIE VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES. COMMISSIONER HAYES-QUALE ABSTAINED.

2. PATH COUNTER NUMBERS UPDATE

Nathan Domme, Senior Transportation Planner, stated that there are nine permanent counter locations in the City:

Greenbelt:

- Vista del Camino Park
- Indian School Park
- Chaparral Park
- McCormick Parkway

Non-greenbelt:

- Crosscut Canal Bridge
- Arizona Canal/84th Street alignment
- Pima Path south of Indian Bend Road
- Upper Camelback Wash/Cholla Street
- Sweetwater Avenue east of Loop 101

Key findings include:

- 56 percent decrease in network usage between spring and summer
- 4,306 average daily trips in the summer
- Greater decrease in weekend use than weekday use
- More usage during early am and late pm during hot periods
- Greater decrease in bike usage at McCormick Parkway and Pima Path
- Greater decrease in pedestrian use at Upper Camelback Wash and Sweetwater

An overview of individual counter statistics and ridership was provided. The counts will continue to be studied. Staff will look for ways to improve bike and pedestrian comfort during the summer months in order to increase usage. There is consideration for signal timing at intersections to improve wait times for pedestrians and cyclists. There are potential shade opportunities at locations along the path that conform to guidelines in the Transportation Action Plan (TAP). Improved lighting is a possibility for usage before sunrise and after sunset.

Chair Anderson inquired about the lighting situation in the areas the counters are located. Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner, stated that the locations do not have specific direct lighting, other than from surrounding ambient light. Cross-Cut Canal is a lit shared use path. The Green Belt Indian Bend Wash Path is completely lit. The Arizona Canal is not lit.

In answer to a question from Chair Anderson, Mr. Davies stated that ambient and street lighting will not affect the function of the pyro sensor.

Chair Anderson commented that the counters will help to quantify use and provide data to make changes as necessary. Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager added that the City is deploying two portable counters as well.

Mr. Davies stated that from January, 2021 to date, there have been over one million uses of the system. The most popular location is the greenbelt at the Indian School area. In response to a question from Chair Anderson, Mr. Davies stated that as of the beginning of the pandemic, there has been a 65 percent increase in use of the system.

3. TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN (TAP) INPUT

Mr. Meinhart gave an overview of the public outreach process, including an online questionnaire. A summary of responses was provided, including identification of transportation challenges, improvements to reduce auto use and identification of priorities. A virtual open house was held from October 18 through 31st, 2021 with recorded presentations for each element. There were 156 views and 11 comments submitted.

Comment topics included:

- Revise plan for 128th Street where McDowell Sonoran Preserve is on both sides
- Continue to improve bike and pedestrian access
- Crosswalk design concerns
- Light rail extension northbound into Scottsdale
- Widen Chaparral Road for access to Fashion Square area
- Development density concerns
- Do not install roundabouts
- Future Rio Verde widening must include wildlife crossing near 124th Street
- Do not widen Mountain View Road between 92nd and 96th
- Need mass transit
- Support reducing number of travel lanes

Bikeway element additions include:

- McDonald Drive: Scottsdale to Indian Bend Wash - add existing 8 foot south sidewalk to side path system map
- Indian Bend Road: Hayden to Pima -- add existing 8 foot north sidewalk (Hayden to 84th) to side path system map and add 84th to Pima to planned side path system map

Next steps include a final presentation of the draft TAP and recommendations to the Transportation Commission on December 16th, 2021 and review with City Council in early 2022.

Commissioner Lall commented that under the question about use of new technologies, it would be helpful for the questionnaire to cite examples of such opportunities within the question. As there was a 75 percent response in agreement with use of new technologies, this seems to be an area of great interest.

Subcommittee Member Levie stated that there did not appear to be any questions specifically addressing e-bikes and e-personal transportation in general. With these uses growing on the paths and trails in the City, the impacts to planning will increase.

In response to a question from Chair Anderson, Mr. Meinhart stated the majority of e-bikes have a pedal assist capability up to 20 miles an hour. Others max out at 15 miles per hour or 28 miles an hour.

4. OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAM STATUS

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner and Mr. Davies gave updates on various projects and programs, including:

- McDowell Road Bike Lanes construction
- Dynamite Boulevard bike lanes construction
- Path Wayfinding signage construction
- Indian Bend Wash (IBW) Underpass at Chapparal 90 percent design
- 68th Street Complete Street 60 percent design
- Thunderbird Trail 60 percent design
- Mobile bike tours
- Osborn Road complete streets
- Thomas Road Bike Lane project
- Goldwater Underpass at Scottsdale Road and Chaparral Road
- Federal funding applications

In response to a question from Subcommittee Member Levie, Ms. Conklu stated that the plan for the IBW underpass at Chaparral to have construction funding in fiscal year 2022. There is currently no timeline for completion. In response to a question from Commissioner Hayes-Quale, Ms. Conklu stated that there will not be a tunnel east/west on the north side of the intersection. However, most movements are on the north/south paths on both sides of Hayden. The east/west tunnel south of the intersection will remain available.

Commissioner Hayes-Quale noted rising inflation levels and asks about increases in project cost estimates. Ms. Conklu said some increases are due to increased costs, however, staff typically includes an escalation fee in its estimates so that they do not come up short.

In response to a question from Commissioner Hayes-Quale, Mr. Davies stated that the Thunderbird Trail will be located on the north side of Thunderbird between Hayden and 76th Street. A project is being constructed at the Seventh Day Adventist campus. That project will include construction of a north/south trail on 76th Street west side. This will provide connectivity to Sweetwater. There will be improvements at Hayden to allow pedestrian access. They will also analyze the intersection for potential equestrian access options and DDD ramps. Mr. Meinhart added that there is also a trail going across Northsight, which connects to a trail on the west side of Loop 101, connecting to Sweetwater.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair identified future agenda topics including, wayfinding, bicycle education programs, Bike Month recap and access to Indian Bend wash.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Hayes-Quale and seconded by Subcommittee Member Levie, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

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AYES: Chair Anderson, Subcommittee Members Lall and Levie and Commissioner Hayes-Quale.
NAYS: None

SUBMITTED BY:
eScribers, LLC

***NOTE: These are summary action meeting minutes only. A complete copy of the audio/video recording is available at <http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/boards/Transp.asp>**