

APPROVED AT THE 11-17-22 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING



SUMMARIZED MINUTES

APPROVED AS AMENDED

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, October 20, 2022
Kiva-City Hall
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Iacovo called the regular meeting of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission to order at 5:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Pamela Iacovo, Chair
Don Anderson, Vice Chair
Karen Kowal
B. Kent Lall
Kerry Wilcoxon

ABSENT: Mary Ann Miller

STAFF: Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director
Cristina Lenko, Public Information Officer
Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner
Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director
Kyle Lofgren, Office Manager
Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager

Chair welcomed new Commissioner, Emmie Cardella, who was present as an observer and will attend her first meeting in her official capacity in November.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KOWAL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, LALL AND WILCOXON VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director, provided a brief history of sustainability in Scottsdale. The Sustainability Plan was identified in the General Plan for action and was included in last year's and this year's Strategic Plan. A contract was begun with ASU in August to help craft the Plan. The community engagement process was discussed and the City agencies involved were outlined. Five pathways were identified: Low emissions and climate action; nature-based; equitable community; resiliency; circular systems. Fifteen topics were included in the sustainability plan and related plans were identified.

Commissioner inquired about discussions regarding partnering with power companies for grid resilience and renewable energy. Ms. McNeilly confirmed that discussions have occurred, with one company having made a commitment to be present at the community meeting. More of this type of approach will be addressed in conjunction with the Net Zero Strategic Energy Plan called for by City Council. Partnering with utility companies in development of the Plan is a vital component.

Ms. McNeilly discussed the strategies of the mobility component and their accompanying actions. Many of the strategies and actions were derived from input from Transportation staff and others from community workshops. The Plan timeline was reviewed.

Chair noted that Commissioners have read the plan and will forward individual comments via email to Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director with a cc to Kyle Lofgren.

Commissioner inquired as to whether individuals who reside outside the City may attend upcoming workshops. Ms. McNeilly stated that no limitations on attendance have been made.

Chair noted that the General Plan and the Transportation Action Plan (TAP) each have emphasis on the Sustainability Plan and she commended staff for tackling this important issue.

3. PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PLAN

Cristina Lenko, Public Information Officer, provided an update on the growing list of community partners. One of the efforts to promote the TAP is via transportation fun facts posted on social media. Over the past few months, staff has worked on several traffic improvements, including installing a speed feedback sign on Bell Road east of Thompson Peak Parkway. Notification for sidewalk paving on the north side of Camelback Road between 75th Street and Miller was completed as well as construction of a dedicated U-turn lane on Shea Boulevard at Pima

Crossing. Each project included implementation of communications plans, including community notification, flyers and postcards, individual outreach to HOAs and commercial businesses and social media posts.

An overview of the Old Town ADA ramp improvement project was provided. The project began in July and is scheduled for completion next week. Community outreach activities were discussed. The project area map was reviewed. The City continues to look for opportunities to sponsor and promote special events throughout Scottsdale. Some events include: National Walk, Bike and Roll to School Day; Bell94 Sports Complex dedication event; Bike Month/Call to Artists; Ride to Read; Trolley promotion/Scottsdale Library; Weather Response Team/Street Operations.

Ms. Lenko provided an update on the ADOT Loop 101 widening project. A public meeting will be held on November 2, 2022. Information on the meeting has been provided via postcards, Scottsdale Update, Economic Development e-newsletter, Chamber of Commerce e-newsletter and will be posted on Chamber and Economic Development social media platforms.

An overview was provided on the Transportation Department website, which includes 13 individual web pages. This year there have over 63,000 web views with 40 percent of visitors utilizing the transit and paths and trails web pages. Since the Transportation Commission's May meeting, there have been several updates to a number of web pages, with a focus on the Trolley system and Valley Metro website. The City is no longer printing brochures and aims to have public information provided via the website. Public notifications and QR code technology have been implemented.

In response to a question from Chair regarding public participation in meetings, Ms. Lenko stated that much of the community outreach has been via postcard notification, email notification and door to door canvassing. A public meeting has been scheduled for December regarding traffic calming at Jackrabbit Curve. Approximately 500 to 600 individuals have been invited to attend and this will be a good gauge of the public's interest in attending in-person meetings post pandemic.

Chair stressed the need for effective communication with the aging population regarding transportation resources and opportunities in Scottsdale. Ms. Lenko concurred that transit training is an important component with the overall plan. In addition, the City will be partnering with schools to educate students regarding trolley routes.

4. MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (MAG) DESIGN ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS AND OTHER GRANT SUBMITTALS

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief overview of MAG's Design Assistance Program. The City has recently prepared several recent and/or pending funding grants, including:

- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)
- MAG Design Assistance
- MAG Road Safety Program (RSP)
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

An overview of the individual grant program applications, criteria and award status updates was provided.

Commissioner cited the 20 percent cash requirement for resubmittals and inquired as to the typical source of funding. Ms. Conklu stated that it is usually derived from the two-tenths percent transportation local tax. Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager, added that there is also funding in the transportation operating budget for studies. Another source is the bikeways “Y” capital project.

In response to a Commissioner question, Ms. Conklu stated that there was approval for 100 percent funding of the MAG Design Assistance Grant in the amount of \$75,000.

Commissioner referred to the MAG Design Assistance Grant and asked whether there are requirements to further the project once the design is completed. Ms. Conklu said there is no such requirement. Sometimes, the feasibility reflects too high a cost to move forward with the project at the given time. The program restricts design levels to 15 percent.

5. PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UPDATE

Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director, provided an update on the following:

- Valley Metro 30th Annual Clean Air Campaign Award Ceremony
- Scottsdale employee and volunteer award nominee event on November 30, 2022

6. COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following agenda items were identified:

- CIP program project list
- Tour of traffic management center
- Recommendations for Jackrabbit/Miller Road project

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Lall and seconded by Vice Chair Anderson, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

AYES: Chair Iacovo, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioners Kowal, Lall and Wilcoxon

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>**