



SUMMARIZED MINUTES

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2014

**KIVA – CITY HALL
3939 N. DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gruver called the regular meeting of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission to order at 6:11 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Gary Bretz, Commissioner
Terry Gruver, Chair/Commissioner
Paul Holley, Commissioner
Steven Olmsted, Vice Chair/Chair
Robert Stickles, Commissioner
Paul Ward, Commissioner/Vice Chair
Matthew Wright, Commissioner

STAFF: Rose Arballo, Transportation Commission Coordinator
Paul Basha, Transportation Director
Monica Staats, Senior Budget Analyst

2. **ELECTION OF TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OFFICERS**

COMMISSIONER STICKLES NOMINATED VICE CHAIR STEVEN OLMSTED AS CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER PAUL WARD AS VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER HOLLEY SECONDED THE NOMINATION, WHICH CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

Chair Olmsted thanked outgoing Chair Gruver for her service throughout her two terms. He presided over the meeting.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR**

Chair Olmsted appointed Commissioner Robert Stickles as Chair of the Trails Subcommittee. He appointed Commissioner Paul Holley to the Subcommittee. These appointments were made in accordance with the bylaws of the Trails Subcommittee.

4. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- Study Session of the Transportation Commission – December 19, 2013
- Regular Meeting of the Transportation Commission - December 19, 2013

COMMISSIONER GRUVER MOVED TO APPROVE THE STUDY SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2013 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER STICKLES SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

6. **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013**

Transportation Director Paul Basha presented the draft annual report of the Transportation Commission.

COMMISSIONER HOLLEY MOVED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE 2013 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER STICKLES SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

7. **DRAFT FY 2014/2015 TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Basha commented this is the first of two discussions staff wants to have with the Commission. He noted that Ms. Monica Staats, Senior Management Analyst in the Public Works Division was in attendance. Commissioners were given the opportunity to comment.

Chair Olmsted thanked staff for bringing this item forward. He asked staff for the opportunity to review the information provided in the Commissioners' packets and discuss it later.

Mr. Basha indicated this will tentatively be on the agenda to be discussed in February. Mr. Basha briefly reviewed the information provided to the Commission in their packets and at the study session. For next year, staff is proposing setting up a fund of \$60,000 to use for outside consultants to conduct transportation planning studies on specific issues.

Chair Olmsted said he is very much in favor of this proposal and told Mr. Basha not to hesitate to approach the Commission if there is anything they can do to support this.

Mr. Basha discussed the transit budget. Comments are highlighted below:

- Expenditures for Valley Metro and trolley services are static in the five-year plan, anticipating no major changes in routing or frequency. All changes have to be approved by either Valley Metro or the City of Phoenix. Staff hopes to bring ideas about route and frequency changes to the Commission within the next several months.
- The recently updated Transportation Department organization chart reflects plans to add a Principal Transit Planner to evaluate the bus and trolley system as a whole.
- Bus rapid transit on Scottsdale Road is anticipated to begin in January or February 2015. Financing is still under discussion.
- The traffic engineering budget includes an annual budget for professional services in the amount of \$20,000 for consultants to assist with particular traffic engineering analyses and specialized traffic counts.
- The Tier 2 High Capacity Transit Analysis will be conducted by transit staff, so there will be no additional charges unless they choose to use part of the \$50,000 allocated to other professional services for help with any specific topics.
- Currently, vacant positions account for a decrease in the expenditure forecast for FY 2013/2014. It is assumed these positions will be filled in FY 2014/2015.
- In FY 2013/2014 Council approved additional funding to the Public Works Division Street Operations Department for street drainage grates as a cycling safety measure.
- The primary use of federal grants is for CIP projects. Staff aggressively applies for both federal and state grants.
- The City Treasurer's Office decided to move alley maintenance expenses to a new line item. In the past, monies were transferred in from the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

8. **CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN ITEM – ADVANCE TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. Basha reviewed the PowerPoint presentation for this item and explained he will be making the same presentation to City Council on February 11. Mr. Basha asked the Commission for suggestions or improvements to the presentation and requested that the Commission forward written comments to him within a week.

9. **TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS/PROGRAMS UPDATE**

Mr. Basha noted the following:

- On January 27, the Council Audit Committee will continue discussion on Sunset Review of the Trails Subcommittee. Commissioners and Subcommittee members were encouraged to attend.
- Two people (Chair Olmsted and Mr. Barry Graham) have applied for the upcoming vacancy on the Transportation Commission. The appointment will be made at the Council meeting on January 27. Council will consider appointing Mr. Michael Kuzel to the Trails Subcommittee.
- The roundabout at the Hayden/Northsight intersection is essentially complete. It opened to traffic on January 12th and is functioning very well. Staff will be making minor adjustments to the visibility of the yield signs and markings. The sculpture that will be placed in the middle of the roundabout will be installed in March.

- Staff of the Transportation Department attended the General Plan Task Force meeting this past week. Task Force members had a number of questions pertaining to transportation. Mr. Basha elaborated that staff did not make a presentation but were available to answer questions. Several members of the Task Force asked several questions.
- Segment 6 of the Scottsdale Road streetscape improvements from Happy Valley Road to the northern border of the City is now 75% complete. The emphasis is on trails.
- Construction of the improvements to Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard at the Pima Freeway is complete.
- Mr. Stephen Clark of the League of American Bicyclists visited and evaluated Scottsdale as a bicycle friendly community.
- The grand opening of the Thunderbird Park and Ride lot is scheduled for January 27.
- Ed Jones, who is responsible for much of the success of Cab Connection and Dial-a-Ride program, is leaving the City. Staff is recruiting a permanent replacement.

City and Airport plans to acquire and use a vacant property adjacent to the Airport in the Raintree alignment were briefly discussed.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

9. **IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Suggestion to revisit the issue of texting while driving.
- Preparations for Super Bowl 2015. Preliminary discussion of the plans to accommodate Super Bowl traffic will be held at the February Study Session.
- Valley Metro has requested that the presentation on the bus rapid transit route 72 take place at the March Commission meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, Chair Olmsted adjourned the regular meeting at 8:41 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

***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>**