



**APPROVED**  
**SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

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

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016**

McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic Center  
15525 N. Thompson Peak Parkway  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Paths & Trails Subcommittee was called to order at 8:33 a.m. A formal roll call confirmed the presence of Subcommittee members as noted below and introductions were made.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Gary Bretz, Commissioner, Transportation Commission  
Todd Davis, Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Commission  
Michael Kuzel, Subcommittee Member  
Linda Whitehead, Subcommittee Member

**ABSENT:** Robert Stickles, Chair

**STAFF:** Madeline Clemman, Transit Manager  
Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner  
Frances Cookson, Staff Representative

**GUESTS:** Paul Holley

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

No changes were suggested.

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER WHITEHEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER KUZEL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR STICKLES WAS ABSENT.**

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER BRETZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 3, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER DAVIS SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A VOTE OF FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR STICKLES WAS ABSENT.**

### **4. BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY DESIGNATION STATUS**

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, provided the report. Highlights include:

The League of American Bicyclists (LAB) uses its Bicycle Friendly Community Program to recognize communities that actively support bicycling and encourage residents and visitors to use bikes for transportation and recreation. Communities are evaluated with the goal of providing measureable goals for improvements in Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation & Planning. Scottsdale received the Gold level award in 2011 and 2015. By applying, Scottsdale will receive feedback and recommendations from LAB as well as a group of local reviewers. Recommendations include:

Engineering:

- Adopt bike facility selection criteria that increase the separation and protection of bicyclists in relation to motor vehicle speed and volume.
- Ensure good connectivity of the street network by adopting connectivity policies or standards.
- Consider connections that impact the distances that people walking and biking would otherwise have to travel.
- Continue to increase the amount of high quality bicycle parking throughout the community.
- Continue to expand and improve the bike network through the use of different types of bicycle facilities. On roads where vehicular speeds exceed 35 mph, it is recommended to provide protected bicycle infrastructure such as protected bike lanes, buffered bike lanes, or parallel 10-foot shared use paths.
- Install a bicycle wayfinding system with distance and destination information.
- Consider ways to minimize conflicts between bicyclists and golfers, particularly in areas where stray balls can create hazards or injure bicyclists.

Subcommittee Member Whitehead inquired about challenges within the existing infrastructure. Ms. Conklu cited an example in Tempe where a bicycle travel lane was removed in some segments of the travel corridor. She noted that retrofitting is often challenging.

#### Education:

- Work with local bicycle groups or interested parents to expand the Safe Routes to School Program to all schools.
- Continue efforts to expand adult bicycle education opportunities such as commuter classes.
- Ensure there are bicycle education opportunities specifically for women, seniors, families, and other specific demographic groups.
- Provide more regular and well-advertised bicycling skills training opportunities for children and adults.

Commissioner Bretz suggested educational outreach at the senior center. Commissioner Davis stated that the Parks Department has discussed the need for education and safety education. Giant Bike has offered to participate in safety education outreach. Subcommittee Member Kuzel offered that he is a LAB certified instructor and would be willing to assist. Commissioner Bretz suggested the possibility of a grant program for seniors to purchase tricycles.

#### Encouragement:

- Increase efforts on Bike to Work Day and Bike to School Day.
- Allow a 'Cyclovia' or similar open streets type of event, closing off a major corridor to auto traffic and offering the space to cyclists and pedestrians.
- Launch a bike share system that is open to the public.

Commissioner Davis stated that he has taken on the Be Scottsdale Fit initiative, which includes the development of a website. He said an open streets event would help promote bicycling and the Be Scottsdale Fit initiative. The morning of the Parada Del Sol presents an ideal window of opportunity for an open streets bike ride. Commissioner Bretz suggested the possibility of an entry into the actual Parada Del Sol Parade.

Commissioner Bretz requested an update on the bike share program. Ms. Conklu stated that staff is currently researching the possibility of joining with Phoenix on their contract. The next steps would be to allocate funds in the CIP and identify possible station locations. Madeline Clemman, Transit Manager, added that she was hopeful that funds could be allocated in the next budget. Ms. Conklu stated that Tempe is on target for a February launch. Mesa's program started in March.

#### Enforcement:

- Continue to ensure that police officers are educated on bicyclist and motorist traffic laws as well as bicycling skills.

- Consider updating path restrictions on motorized bikes to account for newer models of electrically-assisted bicycles.

Staff is looking at a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) type class for police enforcement, such as the one recently held in Tucson. Subcommittee Member Kuzel reported that Flagstaff sent a number of its police officers through the LAB class to become certified instructors, and inquired whether Scottsdale's bicycle officers have gone through a similar program. Ms. Conklu stated that the bicycling unit has received this training. One of them is an instructor for International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA). Subcommittee Member Kuzel suggested exploring ways the Parks staff can become better informed about bicycle rules and encourage them to take a more proactive role in engaging with citizens.

#### Evaluation & Planning:

- Continue efforts to update the 2008 Transportation Master Plan to ensure that state-of-the-art bicycle facilities are addressed, and that infrastructure planning is complemented with the necessary encouragement, education, and enforcement programs to increase bicycle usage.
- Adopt a target level of bicycle use (percent of trips) to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and ensure data collection necessary to monitor progress.
- Ensure that bicycle counts also capture the gender of cyclists to identify any potential gender gaps.

Commissioner Davis suggested engaging the Scottsdale business community to see if they track the number of employees who bike to work. In addition, bike shops should be encouraged to support this movement.

Ms. Conklu reviewed the general building blocks of a Platinum LAB community:

#### Enforcement:

- A law enforcement/ bicycling liaison
- Bicycle-friendly laws/ordinances

#### Education:

- Public education and outreach rated "excellent" (Scottsdale is rated "good")
- Quarterly offering of adult bicycling skills classes
- At least 60% of primary and secondary schools offer bicycling education

Commissioner Davis reported that the owner of one nonprofit is exploring the possibility of a BMX course for North Scottsdale. A nonprofit could partner in the educational component. He suggested the possibility of setting up an informational meeting. Commissioner Bretz suggested a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club. Commissioner Davis also proposed collaboration between Parks and Recreation and Scottsdale law enforcement to visit schools for bicycle education outreach, particularly for middle school children. Commissioner Davis stated that if such a program was

started, he would solicit bicycle donations from a hotel group. Commissioner Bretz offered to discuss the idea with the afterschool program coordinator at Tonalea.

#### Engineering:

- Good bike access to public transportation
- A total bicycle network mileage to total road network mileage ratio of at least 45%. (Scottsdale is at 44%)
- 78% of arterial streets with bike lanes. (Scottsdale is at 30%)

#### Key Outcomes:

- 12% of people who commute to work by bicycle. (Scottsdale is at 1%)
- Fewer than 90 accidents per 10,000 daily bike commuters
- Fewer than 0.5 fatalities per 10,000 daily commuters

#### Evaluation:

- At least 1 bike program staff person per 20,000 citizens. (Scottsdale has 1 per 36,200)
- A current bike plan that is being implemented

#### Encouragement:

- Active bike clubs and signature events
- "Excellent" Bike Month and Bike to Work Events. (Scottsdale's are currently rated as "good")
- Active Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Active advocacy group
- Very likely to have recreational facilities like bike parks and velodromes

#### Ms. Conklu summarized the next steps:

- Evaluating the implementation of key steps over the next three years.
- Some measures will start small and expand each year.
- Some will not be implemented for a couple years until funding becomes available.
- Many steps have already been implemented.
- Several items will need to be added into the CIP and operating budget.
- The next application to LAB will be submitted on or before the summer of 2019.

## **5. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION MAP**

Ms. Conklu stated that for several years, the bikeways map was a four color, 24 x 36-inch map showing bike lanes, paved shoulders, paths and trails, crossings such as bridges and tunnels, as well as providing information on the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. It included other community features, such as bus stops, parks, restrooms and libraries, and safety diagrams. Funding for map printing was put on hold in 2008, during the economic downturn. At that time, a .pdf file version was offered on the Transportation website, but it was not user friendly. An online, interactive map was also

made available at the time. Over the years, the latter version has increased in quality and features and further improvements have recently been made. Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) also distributes a map, producing new versions every two to three years. It is available in both paper and online formats.

For the current fiscal year, funding is available to print Scottsdale's map. The intent is to provide significantly more updated information than the older maps. It is being called an active transportation map, rather than simply a bike map, and will include transit on one side with bike-related information on the other. The maps will be printed on tear resistant material. Commissioner Davis suggested the possibility of private sponsorships to assist with funding.

## **6. OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS STATUS**

Ms. Conklu reported that 96th Street was recently restriped between Thunderbird and Redfield. It now has one lane in each direction with a center turn lane, and a two-way buffered bike lane. The old, purple Bike Friendly Community Program signs were recently replaced to be more consistent with those in the surrounding region.

Subcommittee Member Whitehead noted that Indian Bend Road from Pima to Hayden has a bike lane on the westbound lane, but not the eastbound. Ms. Conklu replied that this road was recently restriped and her understanding is that there may have been space limitations. Other updates are anticipated, including a curb cut and sidewalk widening. She said she would look into this issue and provide more detail.

Ms. Conklu addressed the plan for a multiuse path on Shea Boulevard connecting to Fountain Hills. Her understanding is that grant funding was secured and construction was pending, but the project was put on hold due to climbing costs that surpassed the grant amount. Fountain Hills also came up short on their funding match. The intent moving forward is to jointly apply with Fountain Hills for a MAG grant during the next cycle.

Commissioner Bretz asked about the Anasazi Path issue. Ms. Clemman stated that it is on the agenda for the next meeting. That meeting will be held in the Kiva, as a high turnout is expected.

## **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Paul Holley advocated for improved bicycle circulation on six-lane arterials, as well as improved buffering and continuity in general. He felt that projects that aim to build better bicycle connections to adjacent communities seem to be languishing.

Subcommittee Member Whitehead inquired whether Hidden Hills' project is on hold until the Fountain Hills connection is made. Ms. Conklu responded that staff has reviewed their plans and provided feedback. Minor changes have to be made, but construction of

the lots is already underway. The timeline for completion of the lots and the path is one to four years. She added that she would check in on their progress.

Ms. Conklu noted that staff communicates frequently with Tempe and Phoenix on bicycle connections. Phoenix has a new transit tax that will fund a number of bike improvements.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:  
Frances Cookson  
Staff Representative

**\*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>**