



**SUMMARIZED MINUTES
CITY OF SCOTTSDALE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
STUDY SESSION
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOMS 1-3
ONE CIVIC CENTER
7447 E. INDIAN SCHOOL ROAD, SUITE 105
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Howard called the study session of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission to order at 5:26 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: William Howard, Chair
Josh Weiss, Vice Chair (arrived at 5:45 p.m.)
Terry Gruver, Commissioner
Kelly McCall, Commissioner
Howard Sukenic, Commissioner
Paul Ward, Commissioner

ABSENT: Donald Maxwell, Commissioner

STAFF: Susan Conklu, Transportation Planner
Kay Cooper, Assistant City Attorney
Annie DeChance, Public Participation & Outreach Manager
Dan Gabiou, Transportation Intern
Teresa Huish, Principal Transportation Planner
Reed Kempton, Principal Transportation Planner
Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning and Transit Director
Paul Porell, Traffic Engineering and Operations Director
Lorraine Protocollo, Administrative Secretary
Luis Santaella, Assistant City Attorney
George Williams, Senior Traffic Engineer

1. **Annual Training Regarding Public Service Ethics and Related Discussion**

Ms. Cooper presented the annual ethics refresher training, focusing on three issues that come up the most often; open meeting laws, gifts, and conflicts of interest. She said Commissioners should not discuss, propose, or take action on Commission business outside of scheduled meetings. This includes email communications. The open meeting laws allow the public to be

aware of Commission meetings and participate if they wish to. Meetings are considered as any gatherings or communications between a quorum of the Commissioners. The Attorney General's Office is aggressive about enforcing open meeting laws and will hold them accountable, even for unintentional violations. Gifts that are worth more than \$25 and do not come from the City must be declared with the City Clerk. Commissioners cannot accept a gift if it looks like a reward or an attempt to exert influence, or if the giver is involved in the City's decision-making or permitting process.

Ms. Cooper said Commissioners should avoid the appearance of impropriety. Anytime Commissioners or their relatives have a substantial interest in something that is coming before the Commission, they must leave the room, and cannot vote or discuss the matter. Relatives are defined as broadly as possible. Mr. Santaella added that questions regarding conflicts of interest should be directed to the Attorney's Office. He noted that the City's aspirational standard encourages Commissioners to recuse themselves whenever there is an appearance of impropriety. Ms. Cooper provided examples of acceptable and unacceptable behavior, and noted some allowable exceptions.

2. **Review of Regular Meeting Agenda**

- Review and Approval of Minutes
- Noise Abatement Policy

Mr. Meinhart noted that Ms. Huish will review what other communities have done in terms of noise abatement policies. She will also present drafts of potential noise mitigation policies for Scottsdale. One draft focuses on projects that involve road widening, and the other does not. No formal action is required from the Commission at this point.

- Operating Budget Review/Organizational Structure

Mr. Meinhart noted that the City Manager has proposed a significant restructuring of the organization. Under the new structure, the City would have eight divisions. The Aviation group would become part of Economic vitality; ITS would become part of Public Works; and the remainder of the Transportation Department would be collected into the Planning, Neighborhoods and Transportation group. The Budget Review Commission will be reviewing the group's budget on April 23. In Response to an inquiry from Commissioner Gruver, Mr. Meinhart said Council has generally supported the City Manager's restructuring proposal, and Commissioners are welcome to comment directly to Council.

Chair Howard noted that Vice Chair Weiss and he discussed the role of the Transportation Commission with the Mayor and David Ellison. He emphasized that the Commission should be involved in every aspect of transportation, regardless of which department it falls under. He said they seemed amenable to that idea, even if the specifics need to be worked out. Vice Chair Weiss added that the Commission might consider making a motion to formalize the arrangement. He said the City manager prefers that the Commission focus on the overall policy issues, rather than get involved in the details of every project.

Commissioner Gruver inquired whether there has been any discussion about realigning the boards and commissions to better match the new City structure. Chair Howard felt that once the staff has been settled, those details would likely be sorted out.

Mr. Meinhart noted that the budget that is being put forth assumes significant reductions in transit. The reductions have become necessary due to a lack of revenue. The revenues from fare increases do make up for the decreased sales tax revenue. Under the reduction proposal, routes 84 and 114 would be eliminated. Frequency and hours of service would be reduced on some routes, and another route shortened.

- Congestion Management

Mr. Meinhart said Ms. Huish will provide a report on Scottsdale's accomplishments in terms of congestion relief, and review some of the policies in the Transportation Master Plan.

- Non-Motorized Path and Trail Update (including discussion public restroom access on multi-use paths)

Mr. Meinhart said Ms. Conklu will provide an update on paths and trails.

- Other Transportation Projects

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chair Howard adjourned the study session at 6:06 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz

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