



**APPROVED  
SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, January 21, 2021**

**Meeting Held Electronically and Remotely**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Pamela Iacovo, Chair  
Don Anderson, Vice Chair  
Karen Kowal  
B. Kent Lall  
Mary Ann Miller  
Donald Pochowski  
Andy Yates

**STAFF:** Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director  
Mariah Maindonald, Staff Representative  
Ratna Korepella, Transit Manager  
Sam Taylor, Traffic Engineering Analyst  
Frances Cookson, Staff Representative  
Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager  
Shayne Lopez, Paving Manager  
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner  
Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were submitted.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

COMMISSIONER KOWAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ON DECEMBER 17, 2020 AS AMENDED. VICE CHAIR ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 7-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, LALL, MILLER, POCHOWSKI AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**5. APPROVAL OF TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KOWAL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 7-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, LALL, MILLER, POCHOWSKI AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**6. APPROVAL OF PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

Vice Chair Anderson made a correction regarding the appointment of Commissioners Anderson and Lall at the December 8th, 2020 meeting.

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT AS AMENDED. CHAIR IACOVO SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 7-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, LALL, MILLER, POCHOWSKI AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**7. TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN**

Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager, stated that staff is in the initial stage of updates to the 2016 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) noting that they have chosen to change the terminology to Transportation Action Plan. He reviewed the history of the current TMP, noting that it represents a condensed version of the City's first Transportation Master Plan, adopted in 2008. The transition to a Transportation Action Plan will be coordinated with the proposed General Plan Update in 2021 and not acted upon prior to review of the General Plan by City Council. The Transportation Action Plan will have less emphasis on new infrastructure, turning attention to maintaining the current system for livable streets and communities.

Factors influencing the Transportation Action Plan include:

- Viability of existing infrastructure is the highest priority
- Travel demand on most corridors has not grown significantly over the past 20 years, even with continued development
- Most major roadway improvements will be completed by mid-2020's
- Events of 2020 accelerated public demand for non-motorized options
- Technology change is likely to further reduce congestion issues
- Land use patterns are very well defined

A draft work plan and anticipated key outcomes were reviewed. Key outcomes include street classification changes; clarification on high priority transit routes; removal of low feasibility future projects; policy updates; identification of system gaps and regional connections; emergency access routes near the McDowell Sonoran Preserve; implementation plan and performance measures. A series of examples and photographs of opportunities created through street classifications were reviewed. Mr. Meinhart provided a process timeline for the plan development, with the target completion date of fall 2021.

Staff answered questions from the Commission. It remains to be answered how the changes will impact or potentially reduce overall costs. It is evident that there is a need for investment in the City's existing infrastructure.

In response to a question on tracking bus ridership levels, Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director, stated that the Department is putting together an action plan to evaluate the transportation system, routes and ridership to determine whether adjustments are needed. Ratna Korepella, Transit Manager, added that bus ridership fell over the past year, due to the effects of the pandemic. Commissioner suggested a survey of residents to determine needs for public transit going forward.

In replying to a Commissioner question, Mr. Meinhart stated that the existing Transportation Master Plan does not provide for the utilization or research and development of new technologies, such as alternative road surface products or solar pavement. They will be looking at ways to encourage demonstration projects. Mr. Melnychenko stated that the City is currently testing an electric street sweeper. The City's buses also utilize smart devices. The City is turning the page, beginning to look at new and developing electrical elements for the transit system. Commissioner suggested creating a research and development fund as part of the plan. Sam Taylor, Traffic Engineering Analyst, added that the Department is currently engaged in a research project to analyze the safety impact of left-in and left-out median treatments.

## **8. PAVING PROGRAM**

Shayne Lopez, Paving Manager, discussed pavement management, including pavement treatments (crack fill, fog seal, microsurface, slurry seal, mill and overlay). Sustainability efforts involve saving the stockpile from mill and overlays. This crush milling produces sand and fractured aggregate, which is used in the microsurface seal. The pavement condition index (PCI) is a numerical rating of the pavement condition, based on type and severity of distresses observed and measured on pavement surfaces, with zero being the worst possible condition and 100 being the best. The Citywide goal is 80 PCI, with the current overall condition being 77.2. This compares to the national average of 60 to 65 PCI. Pavement lifecycles were reviewed. All treatments except fog seal require ADA upgrades. Infrastructure Management Services has been contracted to perform the 2020 pavement condition survey. The survey includes data analysis and integration into the City's asset management and pavement modeling software, Lucity. This will help the City with maintenance and budget forecasting, enabling staff to determine when and where to perform pavement rehabilitation, which techniques to use and the budget needed to accomplish a goal of 80 PCI. The survey also includes a comprehensive assessment of City-owned alleys. The City will explore alternate technologies and pavement treatments, including HA5 high density mineral bond, chip seal and cool pavement. The five-year plan will make efficient use of the current budget while allowing forecasting for future budgets. It also includes a resident engagement component, where the City will provide time frames for treatment for specific neighborhoods. Next steps include identifying location studies for the pilot studies. For

asset maintenance, staff will focus on maximizing value with limited resources. A Citywide pavement condition survey is projected for 2025 and a proposed parking lot survey in 2021.

In response to a Commissioner question, Mr. Lopez gave a time frame of one to two years on the pilot studies.

Other Commissioner input included praise for the transparency of the posting of the five year plan online.

Commissioner suggested considering residential areas as a potential for use of the cool pavement application.

Commissioner inquired as to a price comparison between standard slurry seal and cool pavement slurry seal. Mr. Lopez stated that cool pavement is approximately twice the cost of standard at this time. However, the marketing materials for the product state that it can also last twice as long as the standard coat.

In response to an inquiry from the chair, Mr. Lopez stated that all of the pavement treatments are performed by vendors contracted by the City.

## **9. OTHER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAM STATUS**

Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director, reported on completion of a large overlay project on 105th Street between Gelding Drive and McDowell Mountain Ranch.

Mr. Taylor provided an update on a project located on 86th Street between Chapparral Road and McDonald Drive, undertaken in response to citizen complaints about excessive speeds in the area. Bike lanes were added and the travel lanes were narrowed, which results in greater driver attention and provides buffer space between pedestrians and vehicles. The process included public outreach via a website and mailed postcards. Residents were given one month to respond. Of 140 postcards, 15 comments were received. Based on this public input, the plan was revised to provide additional parking in the area, which was a subject of concern for residents. As next steps, the Department will once again collect speed and volume data as a comparison to the pre-mitigation levels.

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, provided an update on outreach efforts for the 70th Street Bikeway Study and Old Town Scottsdale Master Plan. The 70th Street Bikeway Study covers a 2.5 mile corridor from Roosevelt to 2nd Street and Old Town on the north end. It will connect people in the neighborhood to bike routes. Over 160 people filled out the webpage questionnaire, which is currently being evaluated to fine tune the study and plan for the second open house, planned for February. The plan is to come up with concepts rather than a full design. The Old Town Scottsdale Master Plan will look at everything in the Old Town area connections for bicyclists. There were 79 responses to the questionnaire. The design team is evaluating the input and preparing for the next open house in late February/early March.

Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief update on the Pinnacle Vista and Ranch Gate Trail projects. Both trails are in the north portion of the City and both have just completed plan level design. Next steps are to hold public meetings for both trails, hopefully followed by construction in March.

Mr. Melnychenko stated that staff presented to City Council at Tuesday's meeting terms of the City's updates to the revised code on bicycles and related devices in a draft ordinance on licensing of shared mobility device providers. There was a great deal of discussion on the item and City Council approved tabling the item to allow staff to address the concerns raised. Once completed, a final draft will be brought to the Commission as an action item.

#### **10. COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Chair stated that Scottsdale is officially a Golden Rule City.

Mr. Melnychenko listed items discussed further upcoming meetings, including the Transportation Action Plan, Transportation Plan evaluation recommendations, recommendations for approval of the 70th Street Bikeway, scooter ordinance as well as the Old Town Bike Plan recommendations.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Lall and seconded by Commissioner Pochowski, the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

AYES: Chair Iacovo, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioners Kowal, Lall, Miller, Pochowski and Yates

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>**