



**APPROVED
SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, December 16, 2021

Meeting Held Electronically and Remotely

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
Mary Ann Miller
Kerry Wilcoxon
Andy Yates

STAFF: Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner
Ratna Korepella, Transit Manager
Kyle Lofgren, Staff Coordinator
Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager
Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

One written comment was included in the agenda packet and posted online.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no modifications.

COMMISSIONER KOWAL MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ON NOVEMBER 18, 2021 AS PRESENTED. VICE CHAIR ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, MILLER, WILCOXON AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN (TAP) APPROVAL

Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning Manager, provided a brief historical timeline of the process thus far. Recommended updates from the last meeting have been incorporated in the TAP, including clarification of the definition and philosophy regarding light rail transit. There has been significant community interest concerning the 128th Street corridor and its relationship to the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. The McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission recently voted on a recommendation that the Transportation Commission and City Council revise the TAP draft plan as follows: *“Amend the designation of the highlighted section of 128th Street, from its current designation of “Minor Collector” to a new designation as “Emergency Access Only” where it passes through Scottsdale’s McDowell Sonoran Preserve.”*

A brief historical background on the 128th Street Corridor was provided:

- Segment of concern runs three-quarter mile south of the Jomax Road alignment
- Road right-of-way acquired 1975
- Included in four General Plans and two Transportation Master Plans as a collector (1984-2021)
- Preserve acquired adjoining land in 2012
- Previous deliberations in 2016 and 2019 to change
- 128th designation to emergency access only
- Water line planned for construction in corridor
- Connection of 118th Street between Jomax Road and Rio Verde Drive now in place reduces concerns from Planning and Public Safety to maintain general access
- Construction access for new development continues

To reflect the longstanding, regularly updated transportation network plan for the area south of Rio Verde Drive, staff recommends the Transportation Commission maintain 128th Street on the Street Classification map as a minor collector with no center turn lane; and delete 128th Street from the recommended list of future CIP projects in the Implementation Program section of the Transportation Action Plan. This eliminates prioritization of improvements to 128th Street over the next five to ten years and allows for continued coordination with the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission, the City Council and other departments on issues related to wildlife protection, public access/emergency access, utilities, and extent of/financial responsibilities for any improvements.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Meinhart stated that for the corridors where staff has proposed a designation of minor collector with no center turn lane typically have volumes on the range of 1,500 to 2,500 vehicles per day. In response to a Commissioner question, Mr. Meinhart stated that the City does not currently take traffic counts on either 118th Street or 128th Street. 128th Street is an unpaved, undulated roadway.

In response to a Commissioner question regarding reclassifying the area from Ranch Gate to Rio Verde to local residential, Mr. Meinhart said this has been not discussed. Because of the limited number of roadways and restrictions on what can be done in terms of collectors versus residential streets, such a change has not been proposed.

Vice Chair asked for an example of a minor collector in the City. Mr. Meinhart cited the east end of Mountain View Road, east of Scottsdale Ranch in the Stonegate vicinity. The road was originally planned to be a four lane roadway. It has been narrowed to two lanes with buffered bike lanes from Mountain View Road east to 120th Street. It then becomes a two-lane minor collector. Generally, minor collectors run on the periphery of subdivisions.

Chair commented that this is positive outcome. In 2019, the Transportation Commission also left the classification as a minor collector in the program, however, they do not want the CIP plan to include 128th Street going through the Preserve.

COMMISSIONER WILCOXON MOVED TO ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION TO MAINTAIN 128TH STREET ON THE STREET CLASSIFICATION MAP AS A MINOR COLLECTOR WITH NO CENTER TURN LANE AND TO REMOVE THE PROJECT FROM THE CIP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. COMMISSIONER YATES SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, MILLER, WILCOXON AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Mr. Meinhart thanked the Commission for its extensive and diligent work on the TAP. He also commended staff for its efforts. Upcoming steps include discussions with City Council in early 2022. Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director recognized Mr. Meinhart and City staff for their work. Chair thanked staff and the Commissioners.

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN, SUBJECT TO THE ADJUSTMENTS TO 128TH STREET APPROVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. COMMISSIONER KOWAL SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 6-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON, COMMISSIONERS KOWAL, MILLER, WILCOXON AND YATES VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

Commissioner Lall was able to connect audibly to the meeting at 6:07 p.m., noting that he had been present since 5:25 p.m. He affirmed that he agreed with the motion and vote set forth.

3. COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Items were identified as follows:

- Communication with residents regarding street work
- Safe systems approach to street design
- Truck platooning along I-10

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Lall and seconded by Commissioner Wilcoxon, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

AYES: Chair Iacovo, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioners Kowal, Lall, Miller, Wilcoxon 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>**