

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

APPROVED

HELD ON JUNE 16, 2015

TAB Members Present

Bruce Hallsted, Vice Chairperson
Troy Peterson
Michael Schmidt
Ron Wilson
Kay Henry
Ian Murray
David Camp
Jennifer Love

TAB Members Absent

Ian Bennett (Excused)
Jim LeCheminant (Excused)

Others Present

Sabine Ellis
Lenny Hulme
Erik Guderian
Renate Ehm
Jim Hash
Ashley Barinka
Jodi Sorrell
Randi Davis
Lt. Michael Beaton

Vice Chairperson Bruce Hallsted called the June 16, 2015 Transportation Advisory Board meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

Item 1. Approval of the minutes of the Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on March 17th, 2015.

Board Member Ian Murray moved to approve the minutes as written. Board Member David Camp seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Acknowledge outgoing Board Members Dawn Fortuna and Jim LeCheminant.

Vice Chairperson Bruce Hallsted thanked former Chairperson Dawn Fortuna and Board Member Jim LeCheminant for their service.

Item 3. Annual election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Mesa City Code requires that the Transportation Advisory Board select their own Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among their members to serve a one-year term. By-laws state that no board member shall serve more than two consecutive full terms as Chairperson or Vice Chairperson. Board members who have served two consecutive full terms as an officer may be reelected to that office after at least one intervening year on the Board during which he/she does not serve as that officer. Partial terms as an officer shall not be counted towards term limits. The term of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will begin at the July 2015 Transportation Advisory Board meeting.

Board Member Kay Henry nominated Vice Chairperson Bruce Hallsted for Chairperson. Board Member Troy Peterson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Member Kay Henry nominated Board Member Troy Peterson for Vice Chairperson. Board Member Ron Wilson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Item 4. Items from citizens present.

None.

Item 5. Discuss and take action on staff recommendation to approve the installation of speed cushions on 8th Street between Mesa Drive and Horne. (Council District 1)

Traffic Studies Analyst Randi Davis began by introducing herself and showing a map of the affected area. Ms. Davis confirmed that the area meets the criteria for speed cushion installation.

Ms. Davis then reviewed the survey responses and explained the approval ratings of affected properties. She then reviewed the survey responses from those outside of the affected area, as well as those who did not indicate the area in which they live. Ms. Davis gave the overall results and explained that the fiscal impact would be approximately \$16,500 for the installation of the speed cushions.

Ms. Davis concluded by stating staff's recommendation for the installation of the cushions on this section of 8th Street.

Vice Chairperson Bruce Hallsted inquired about the property owners who could not be reached. Ms. Davis explained that several were rentals and others were owner occupied, however owners did not respond to staff or staff was unable to locate contact information for them. She went on to state that no additional comments were received from inside or outside of the affected area.

Vice Chairperson Hallsted called resident Tim McLaughlin to speak to the Board. Mr. McLaughlin spoke in favor of speed cushion installation.

Vice Chairperson Hallsted called resident Michelle Haines to speak to the Board. Ms. Haines spoke in favor of speed cushion installation.

Vice Chairperson Hallsted solicited further comments from the Board.

Board Member Kay Henry explained that she drove the street twice and understands why people might speed down that street. She spoke in favor of speed cushion installation.

Board Member Troy Peterson expressed that he felt the speed cushions in the area are well justified.

Vice Chairperson Hallsted solicited a vote from the Board on the installation of speed cushions. All Board Members voted in favor of the installation.

Item 6. Hear an update on the Southeast Valley Transit System Study.

Transit Director Jodi Sorrell introduced Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Transit Planner III Marc Pearsall. Ms. Sorrell explained that MAG and Valley Metro have been working with southeast valley cities to conduct a transit system study. She explained that the study is complete and Mr. Pearsall provided the recommendations from the study.

Mr. Pearsall explained that the study is used as a means to learn what the southeast region of the Valley may be able to employ in the future. He described the process that had taken place in the north and southwest parts of the valley relating to transit system studies. Mr. Pearsall reviewed the purpose of the southeast valley study and explained the data methods used during the study. The study provides a series of options available for each city in the region to use either independently or in conjunction with Valley Metro or other cities. Mr. Pearsall explained that some of the ideas reflected in the study have come to fruition and went on to say that many efficiencies were discovered through the process. Mr. Pearsall presented the study area and transit network map, reviewed the study tasks and identified opportunities for optimization. He reviewed existing and future relations, presented a needs assessment and addressed demographics in the southeast region. He explained that the same service standards would be adhered to across the region and stated that continuous communication is ongoing so all agencies have an opportunity to provide input on services implemented as a result of the study. Mr. Pearsall described the Valley Transit System Study as a guide book that is taken to the MAG Regional Council and will be adopted as a working document, one that is dynamic and flexible. Mr. Pearsall reviewed the transit optimization analysis. He explained that some recommendations may not be palatable to the community. As such, Mr. Pearsall went on to explain that it would be in the best interest of the affected community to conduct a needs assessment to determine the best way to supply transit services. Mr. Pearsall then presented MAG demographic maps using the 2010 census data and reviewed 2030 estimates. Mr. Pearsall explained that the study would be presented to the MAG Regional Council in May. He reviewed draft recommendations and optimization concepts. He explained the recommendations included enhancements to the existing system, extending some services, trimming other services and reinforced the importance of community partnerships. Mr. Pearsall presented mid-term and long-term concepts, explaining that no funding had been secured for either. Mr. Pearsall told the Board a final report would be published by September or October of 2015 and copies would be provided to the City of Mesa in advance.

Board Member David Camp inquired about the impact of demographic shifts on the mid- and long-term plans. Mr. Pearsall explained the impacts the recession had on the estimates. He went on to state that the population is moving toward a more transit, bicycle and pedestrian friendly mentality and as such, there is an increase anticipated for transit use.

Item 7. Hear a presentation on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program accomplishments in 2014.

Senior Planner (SA) Jim Hash introduced himself and Marketing and Communications Specialist I Ashley Barinka to the Board. Mr. Hash provided a brief overview of the background on the 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. He reviewed the annual report with the Board. He commended staff efforts on the Mesa Bicycle and Pedestrian program,

stating that the program was a runner up for a Clean Air Club Campaign Special Project award. Mr. Hash then went on to provide information about the 2040 Transportation Plan and the efforts made to integrate a balanced multi-modal system into the Plan.

Ashley Barinka then reviewed the special events and educational programs that occurred throughout the year. Ms. Barinka reviewed the following events; Cyclo Mesa, East Valley Bike Rodeo, Bike to Work Day, and the Mesa Adventure Challenge. Mr. Hash discussed the Ride of Silence event. Ms. Barinka reviewed the child and adult educational programs offered throughout the year, including car seat education and teen driving programs.

Mr. Hash then reviewed funding received for 2014. He reviewed several projects and discussed the funding allotted to each. He went on to review the Southeast Mesa Shared Use Path, the 10th Street Traffic Calming Project, the Fiesta District Paseo Nodes pocket parks, the Porter Park Pathway and several construction projects in Mesa including Southern Avenue Streetscape segment one.

Vice Chairperson Hallsted thanked Mr. Hash for his dedication to the bicycle and pedestrian program. Board Members Ian Murray and David Camp expressed support of the Tour de Mesa bike event.

Prior to closing the meeting, Vice Chairperson Hallsted acknowledged recent staff changes in the City of Mesa Transportation Department; Sabine Ellis, City Traffic Engineer and Erik Guderian, Deputy Transportation Director – Traffic Engineering.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.