



SUSTAINABILITY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

May 12, 2011

The Sustainability & Transportation Committee of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 12, 2011 at 10:35 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Dina Higgins, Chairwoman
Dennis Kavanaugh
Dave Richins

COMMITTEE ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Kari Kent
Debbie Spinner

Chairwoman Higgins stated that due to time constraints, items 2a, 2b and 2d would be continued to a future time and date.

1. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

2-a. Hear a presentation and discuss the City's slum and blighted property demolition program.

There was no presentation or discussion.

2-b. Hear a presentation, discuss and make a recommendation on the Utility Service Fee.

There was no presentation or discussion.

2-c. Hear a presentation, discuss and make a recommendation on formally establishing a Citywide Temporary Traffic Control Program.

Deputy Transportation Director/Traffic Engineer Alan Sanderson stated that he would make an abbreviated presentation concerning this matter.

Mr. Sanderson displayed a PowerPoint presentation (**See Attachment 1**) and reported that it was staff's recommendation that the Council formally establish a Citywide Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Program and authorize its expansion to cover all contractors working within the City right-of-way by adding a new Chapter 10, "Temporary Traffic Control," to Title 10 of the Mesa City Code. He explained that "temporary traffic control" refers to non-permanent traffic controls that are used during construction, repair, operations and maintenance activities when it is necessary to restrict or reroute traffic.

Mr. Sanderson advised that in February 2008, the Council directed staff to develop a comprehensive TTC Program to review, pre-approve, coordinate and inspect temporary traffic control in public rights-of-way. He noted that over the last year, the program has been phased in with City crews and contractors working for the City and proven to be very successful.

Mr. Sanderson indicated that per the TTC Program, any person, contractor or agency, including City departments, needing to restrict a street, sidewalk or any other portion of a City transportation facility would be required to seek approval in advance from the Transportation Department for the restriction. He said that such a process would avoid, for example, potential conflicting restrictions and also ensure that the restrictions are sufficient but not excessive. Mr. Sanderson added that the Transportation Department has created a map, which is available for review on the City's website, which illustrates traffic restriction alerts and closures throughout the community. (See Page 24 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Sanderson further remarked that during the last year, staff identified and prevented conflicts between different projects and contractors on several occasions because of the TTC Program. He cited, for instance, that last spring, three different organizations were prevented from restricting lanes on Country Club Drive between Southern Avenue and US 60 when Alma School Road was restricted for pavement construction.

Mr. Sanderson displayed a series of photographs illustrating examples of the improper placement of barricades, no pedestrian access, improper lane closure, and barricades left on a work site that are improperly stored. (See Pages 9 through 14 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Sanderson commented that a number of Valley communities have implemented similar TTC Programs. (See Page 26 of Attachment 1) He also said that staff conducted outreach to various industry groups with respect to their proposal and received no opposition in this regard.

It was moved by Committeemember Richins, seconded by Committeemember Kavanaugh, to recommend to the Council that a Citywide Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Program be established and that a new Chapter 10, "Temporary Traffic Control," be added to Title 10 of the Mesa City Code to formally authorize the TTC Program to apply to all contractors working within the City right-of-way.

Committeemember Richins noted that the process appeared to be "standard practice" in the Valley and that Mesa "is coming late to the party." He stated that the map on the City website would make it easier for crews and contractors to determine where traffic restrictions are located. Committeemember Richins added that he liked the fact that the TTC Program was phased in with City crews and contractors working for the City.

Chairwoman Higgins called for the vote.

Carried unanimously.

Chairwoman Higgins thanked Mr. Sanderson for the presentation.

Deputy City Manager Kari Kent stated that staff would schedule another meeting to present the other three agenda items.

2-d. Hear a presentation and discuss the Central Main Street Plan.

There was no presentation or discussion.

3. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Sustainability and Transportation Committee meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Sustainability & Transportation Committee meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 12th day of May 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK

pag
(attachment – 1)

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL PROGRAM

City of Mesa

Transportation Department

May 2011



What is Temporary Traffic Control?



Special Event

Emergency

Background

- Council direction-February 2008
- Selected project time based fee
- Fee revised with 2008-09 budget

Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) Program Goals

- Minimize delays to the public
- Improve safety
 - Drivers
 - Pedestrians
 - Workers

Managing TTC Allows Us To...

- Know who's working where
- Avoid conflicts
- Ensure restrictions are sufficient but not excessive

Key Points of TTC Program

- Street & sidewalk restrictions approved in advance
- Consult with contractors in planning
- Provide on-site inspection

How Streets Get Restricted In Mesa

- **ROW or NCU Permit Issued by Building Safety**
- **Special Event Permit Issued by Tax and Licensing**
- **City Crews and Contractors**
- **Hope Contractors Follow the Rules**

Without TTC Process

- No Common Process for All Entities
- No Conflict Resolution System
- Little or No Accountability
- Improper Barricading

**WRONG
WAY**

Peak Hour Violation



No Pedestrian Access



No Pedestrian Access



Improper Lane Closure



Barricades Left on Site Improperly Stored



Signs Up But No Work



Consequences

- Potential Hazards to Public & Workers
- Public Complaints
- Unnecessary Delay

Bad Stuff!



Mesa City Code

- Only some required to get permits
 - Right-of-way permits for private work
 - Non City Utilities
 - Special Events

Proposed City Code

- **Advance approval required for restrictions unless exempted by rules**
- **City Traffic Engineer publish procedures and rules**
- **Sanctions for violations**

TTC Permits & Rules

- Apply to all
 - City crews
 - Private contractors

Permit Not Required

- **Less than 1 hour**
- **Only 1 lane closed**
- **Not during peak periods**
 - 6:30 to 8:30 am and 4:00 to 6:00 pm

No New Fees

- Existing Fees for ROW and some NCU permit work
- Do not apply to City work

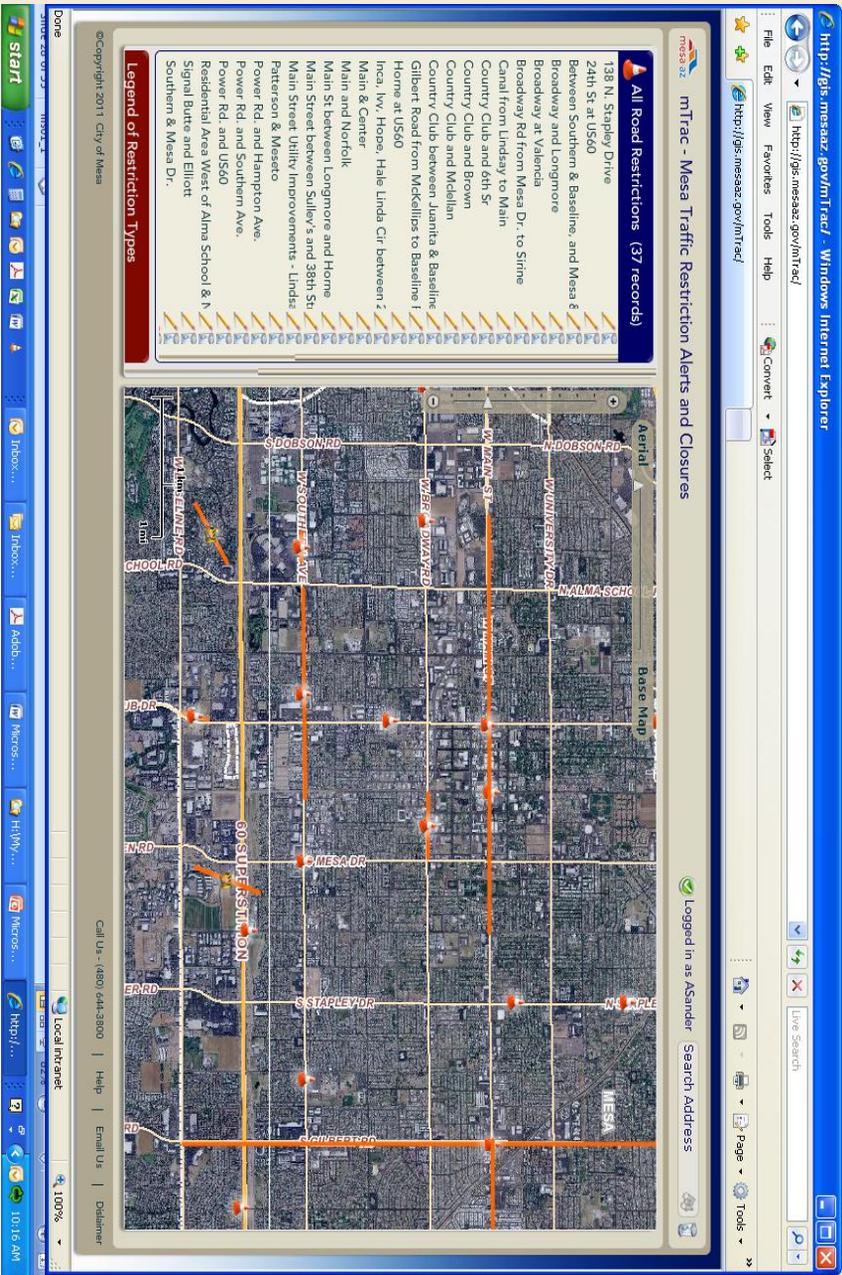
TTC Fees

- **Based on days of restrictions**
 - Minimum fee = \$ 50
 - 1 to 3 days = \$100
 - 4 to 15 days = \$300
 - 16 to 30 days = \$600
- **Per sheet fee prior to July 2008**

Easy Permit Application

- Online form
- Email
- Fax
- In person

Conflict Check



TTC Permit Monitoring

- **Correct fee for number of days**
- **Field check barricading**
- **Respond to complaints/questions**

Similar Programs

- Phoenix
- Glendale
- Chandler
- Tempe
- Gilbert
- Scottsdale
- Goodyear
- Avondale
- Tucson

Outreach

- ATSSA
- Barricade Companies
- Developer Advisory Forum
- Utility Coordinating Committee

Trial Implementation

- Transportation
- Energy Resources
- Water Resources
- Engineering
- Others

Comments & Questions

