



# COUNCIL MINUTES

October 19, 2006

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on October 19, 2006 at 7:30 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker  
Rex Griswold  
Kyle Jones  
Scott Somers  
Claudia Walters  
Mike Whalen

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Tom Rawles

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Debbie Spinner  
Barbara Jones

Mayor Hawker excused Councilmember Rawles from the entire meeting.

1. Hear a presentation, discuss and provide direction on the possible construction closure of Brown Road at Loop 202.

Acting Transportation Director Dan Cleavenger displayed a PowerPoint presentation (a copy is available for review in the City Clerk's Office), and he stated that Pulice Construction, Inc., has requested a closure of Brown Road in order to facilitate the construction of the Red Mountain Freeway. He advised that Pulice Construction has three contracts with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) relative to the completion of the Red Mountain Freeway.

Mr. Cleavenger noted that the current closure of McKellips Road has resulted in minimal negative impacts on traffic flow and that the project is progressing ahead of schedule. He reported that the City has received \$167,000 in road rental fees and that Pulice Construction and ADOT have shared cost savings in the amount of \$185,000.

Mr. Cleavenger advised that the proposed Brown Road closure should reduce construction time from 360 to 225 days and that the proposal eliminates the confusion associated with constantly changing closures and restrictions. He stated that University Drive and McKellips Road would be unimpeded during the Brown Road closure. He said that the negative impacts of closing Brown Road include increased congestion on area streets and delays at surrounding intersections. Mr. Cleavenger further advised that the possibility of increased emergency response time is being coordinated with emergency response providers and that staff is communicating with area homeowners, churches and Mesa Public Schools.

Mr. Cleavenger outlined the proposed agreement with Pulice Construction as follows:

- Mesa will receive \$25,000 for each 30-day period of road closure as a rental fee (approximately \$187,500 for 225 days).
- The rental fee will increase to \$1,500 per day on day 226 and to \$2,000 per day on day 256.
- Left turn signals and traffic monitoring cameras are already in place.
- City staff will review all traffic control plans.
- The City has the authority to revoke the Brown Road closure.

Mr. Cleavenger advised that the City's expense relative to the closure includes limited staff labor costs for signal programming and timing revisions, review and approval of traffic control plans, and monitoring of traffic conditions. Mr. Cleavenger summarized that Council approval of the Brown Road closure, which would begin no sooner than January 3, 2007, would provide the following benefits:

- Mesa would receive \$25,000 per month in rental fees plus permanent traffic control and monitoring improvements.
- Pulice Construction receives a clear construction path that improves efficiency and quality.
- ADOT saves money.
- Motorists know what to expect for the duration of the Brown Road closure.

Councilmember Griswold stated the opinion that area residents would not object to the proposal provided McKellips Road and University Drive are open to traffic during the Brown Road closure. He said that implementing a northbound left-hand turn on Ellsworth Road at McKellips Road and delaying the Hawes Road project by 15 to 40 days would improve traffic flow.

Mr. Cleavenger advised that he and City Engineer Keith Nath are discussing the Hawes Road project and anticipate that the project will be delayed.

Mayor Hawker asked if the City has a consistent policy in place regarding street closures that could be applicable to future development in the Williams Gateway area.

Development Services Manager Jack Friedline advised that the completion of the Red Mountain Freeway and the canal bridge posed a unique situation.

City Attorney Debbie Spinner advised that the contract with Pulice Construction specifically addresses street closures and includes a requirement for Council direction regarding the closures.

In response to a question from Mayor Hawker, Mr. Nath confirmed that the requirement to maintain traffic flow was included in the bid document and that all bidders were provided with the same information.

Councilmember Griswold stated that his support for the plan is contingent on McKellips Road, University Drive and McDowell Road being completely open before Brown Road is closed and installing a northbound left-hand turn on Ellsworth Road at McKellips Road.

Mayor Hawker stated that the consensus of the Council is to move forward and that staff has direction based on the Council's discussion.

2. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- a. Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on August 15, 2006.
- b. Board of Adjustment meeting held September 12, 2006.
- c. Museum and Cultural Advisory Board meeting held on September 13, 2006.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Walters, seconded by Councilmember Jones, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Hawker-Griswold-Jones-Somers-Walters-Whalen  
NAYS – None  
ABSENT– Rawles

Mayor Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Hear reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

Mayor Hawker: Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board  
(CAWCD) candidate debate.

Vice Mayor Walters: Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) taskforce meeting  
on human services and senior transportation coordination.  
Mayor's Youth Committee meeting.

Councilmember Griswold: Joint meeting with Mesa Public Schools.  
Meeting regarding the results of a study addressing  
Boeing Corporation's financial impact on the community.  
Wayne Balmer's retirement party.

4. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, October 24, 2006, 6:00 p.m. – Dinner meeting at Arizona State University Polytechnic

Thursday, October 26, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Monday, October 30, 2006, TBA – Special Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 31, 2006, 10:30 a.m. – Transportation Committee Meeting

Monday, November 6, 2006, TBA – Study Session

Monday, November 6, 2006, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

6. Items from citizens present.

Earnie Johnson, 1414 North Hibbert, addressed the Council in support of the Waveyard development opportunity in West Mesa.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 7:51 a.m.

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KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 2006. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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