

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

APPROVED

HELD ON DECEMBER 17, 2013

TAB Members Present

Dawn Fortuna, Chairperson
Bruce Hallsted, Vice Chairperson
Ron Barnes
Kay Henry
Jim LeCheminant
Ian Murray
Mike Schmidt
Ron Wilson

TAB Members Absent

Ian Bennett (Excused)
Jennifer Love (Excused)
Troy Peterson (Excused)

Others Present

Renate Ehm
Sabine Ellis
James Hash
Sgt. David Meicke
Amanda McKeever
Alan Sanderson
Mark Venti

Chairperson Dawn Fortuna called the December 17, 2013 Transportation Advisory Board meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

Item 1. Approval of the minutes of the Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on October 15, 2013.

Board Member Kay Henry moved to approve the minutes as written. Board Member Ron Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Items from citizens present.

None.

Item 3. Hear a presentation and discuss the draft Introductions, Goals & Objectives chapter of the City of Mesa Transportation Plan update. (Citywide).

Senior Transportation Engineer Mark Venti began by introducing himself and Senior Planner Jim Hash. Mr. Venti explained that based on the Board's feedback, staff reexamined the Introduction of the Mesa Transportation Plan (Plan) and then worked on the Goals and Objectives sections of the Plan.

Mr. Hash described staff's approach and methods on working on the Plan. Mr. Hash explained that the Plan has been broken down into three different parts. The first part lays out the framework for the Plan. It describes the paradigm shift taking place in Mesa, gives a brief history of Mesa's development, and the desires of current Mesa residents and what they desire of their street system. He explained that this portion of the Plan goes on to describe the health benefits of walking, and how the City will work to encourage a sense of place.

Mr. Venti then described the Goals and Objectives portion of the Plan. Mr. Venti described the sources staff used to create this portion of the Plan. Mr. Venti then described each source in detail. Mr. Venti went on to explain how staff used the source information to create the Goals and Objectives included in the Plan. Mr. Venti continued by describing how staff established the Vision Statement of the Plan.

Mr. Hash then explained how staff plans to proceed with the remainder of the Plan. Mr. Hash outlined each of the elements that will be coming before the Board for review. Mr. Hash explained that the Board's comments and feedback will be incorporated into the Draft Plan and that Plan will then be presented to the public for feedback and comment in the spring of 2014. The public outreach results will then be presented to the Board and a final Plan will be complete in the summer of 2014.

Mr. Venti explained that staff is working to have the Plan portions available to the Board in advance for review. Mr. Venti explained the largest portion of the Plan is the Roadway portion and that staff will present that portion of the Plan in early 2014

Based on Board Member Ron Barnes' and Chairperson Fortuna's questions regarding how Transit Services were incorporated into the Plan, Mr. Venti explained that the Transit section would have its own Goals and Objectives and that staff believes the Vision Statement included in the Plan does incorporate Transit Services.

When Chairperson Fortuna commented that it was interesting that staff prepared a Vision Statement in addition to the Goals and Objectives, Traffic Engineer Alan Sanderson explained that staff is trying to create a more broad and more inclusive Plan versus previous plans. Mr. Sanderson explained that Transit Services has a different need for their Plan update, and theirs will be more specific and used for immediate future planning. Mr. Sanderson stated that the Transportation Plan has less need to be specific and that instead staff is working to create guiding principles, and that while the two have different needs, their Plan updates will be compatible.

Mr. Venti added that the Transit Services Plan will be similar to the Bike Plan that the Board had seen before in that it will include and describe specific elements, and that the Transit Plan will be incorporated in the upcoming Capital Improvement Plan. The Transportation Plan is broader.

When Board Member Wilson asked how the Goals and Objectives will be incorporated into planning and zoning in commercial buildings, Mr. Hash explained that the Transportation Plan supports the General Plan and that it is in direct alignment with the General Plan. He explained that Transportation can help the General Plan influence land use and streetscape, but that Transportation cannot write policy. Mr. Venti added that many Transportation elements are included in the General Plan for the Central Main district of City.

Board Member Barnes explained that he represents the Board on the General Plan Update Committee and that the General Plan Update Committee is also evaluating how each aspect of the plan will fit long-term policy. He explained that the three pillars used in developing the General Plan are important. He suggested staff revise the Vision Statement to include integrated transportation system so that Transit can fit within the statement.

Mr. Venti explained that multi-modal alternatives are intended for Transportation to work with Transit and staff will incorporate those changes.

Chairperson Fortuna thanked staff for their work and presentation.

Item 4. Take action on the following Transportation staff reports.

Consent Agenda

The following items will be considered as a group by the Transportation Advisory Board and will be voted on with one motion. There will be no separate vote on these items unless a Board Member or Citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item.

- a) Discuss and take action on staff recommendation to establish a speed limit of 40 mph on Williams Field Road from the west City limits to Innovation Way. (Williams Field Road east of Power Road, Council District 6)
- b) Discuss and take action on staff recommendation to establish a speed limit of 35 mph on Point Twenty-Two Boulevard from Ellsworth Road to Signal Butte Road and on Eastmark Parkway from the north City limits to the south City limits. (Eastmark Development near Ellsworth and Ray Roads, Council District 6)

When Board Member Ian Murray had questions regarding the reduction of the speed limit from 45 mph to 40 mph as proposed in item a), Mr. Sanderson provided staff's thought process on speed reduction. Mr. Sanderson continued to explain item b) further based on questions from the Board as well.

Board Member Barnes moved to accept staff's recommendation of the items on the consent agenda. Board Member Mike Schmidt seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.