



# COUNCIL MINUTES

June 5, 2023

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 June 5, 2023, at 5:15 p.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles  
Francisco Heredia  
Jennifer Duff  
Mark Freeman  
Alicia Goforth  
Julie Spilsbury

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Scott Somers

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Holly Moseley  
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

Mayor Giles excused Councilmember Somers from the entire meeting.

1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the June 5, 2023, Regular Council meeting and Special Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None

Items removed from the consent agenda: None

Responding to a question from Councilmember Goforth regarding Item 9-a, **(SUB22-00881 “Replat of Lot 2 of Crismon Business Park” (District 5))**, on the Regular Council meeting agenda, Planning Director Mary Kopaskie-Brown explained the item is a replat that was previously approved and there were no changes from the preliminary plat. She added the other two subdivision lots are not part of this item.

2-a. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide an update on the Transit Master Plan.

Transit Service Director Jodi Sorrell displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Ms. Sorrell identified the various transit options available in the City of Mesa (COM) and the importance of having choices. (See Pages 1 and 2 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Sorrell stated in 2022, 3.4 million transit trips were provided to the residents and ridership continues to grow after the pandemic. She explained the Transit Master Plan feeds into the

Transportation Master Plan, which then is part of the General Plan. She reported on the community outreach that has been accomplished to understand the needs of the residents. She identified the results of the survey. (See Pages 3 through 7 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Sorrell pointed out the COM was able to partner with Pinnacle Prevention who had a Department of Health grant to conduct outreach regarding transit solutions. She outlined the next steps in the Transit Master Plan process. (See Pages 8 and 9 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff, Ms. Sorrell said the next survey will request information on that first mile, last mile connections and how the public is getting to the transit sites to provide further options for creating pedestrian or bicycle paths.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor Heredia, Ms. Sorrell stated the Transit Master Plan will define the most productive services for the COM, which then feeds into the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) plan and the streetcar study.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Spilsbury, Ms. Sorrell remarked that Pinnacle Prevention is a Chandler non-profit that identifies gaps in transit issues, such as being able to access food, and creates an ability to connect with services through public transit.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Freeman, Ms. Sorrell indicated that the light rail and fixed bus routes have the highest ridership. She said Valley Metro employs an individual that is specifically dedicated to working on transit safety issues and will be starting a program where officers in certain service areas will be getting on routes to show their presence. She mentioned the next survey will have a specific question on safety.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

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

3-a. Sustainability and Transportation Committee meeting held on May 15, 2023.

It was moved by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Spilsbury, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles–Heredia–Duff–Freeman–Goforth–Spilsbury

NAYS – None

ABSENT – Somers

Mayor Giles declared the motion passed unanimously by those present.

4. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Mayor Giles and Councilmembers highlighted the events, meetings and conferences recently attended.

5. Scheduling of meetings.

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

Thursday, June 8, 2023, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, June 8, 2023, 8:00 a.m. – Sustainability and Transportation Committee

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:37 p.m.



*John Giles*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

*Holly Moseley*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HOLLY MOSELEY, 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

*Holly Moseley*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

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(Attachments – 1)

**City of Mesa**

# TRANSIT MASTER PLAN



## **City Council Study Session**

June 5, 2023





# What is Transit?

A public service that helps people move around if they don't have access to a car or want to skip the drive.



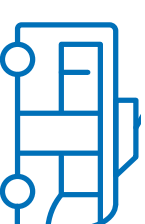
Light Rail



Streetcar



Local & Express Bus



Neighborhood Circulator



Microtransit



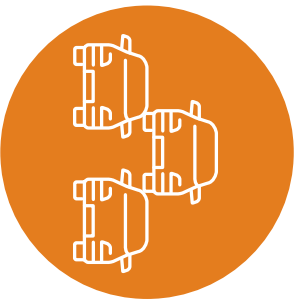
Paratransit

# Why is Transit Important?

Besides being especially helpful for people without access to a car or who are unable to drive, transit can help more people at one time and help reduce congestion and pollution.



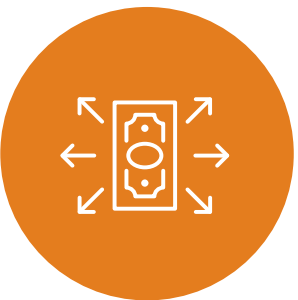
Improves  
Quality of Life



Reduces Traffic  
Congestion



Social Equity  
Resource



Economic  
Growth



Sustainable  
Future





# Mesa's Transit Today

In 2022, Mesa's transit services provided more than **3.4 million** rides.



## Mesa Transit Snapshot



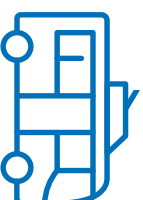
### Light Rail

5.5 Miles  
7 Stations in Mesa



### Local & Express Bus

19 Routes in Mesa  
700 Bus Stops  
4 Park and Rides  
3 Transit Centers



### BUZZ Circulator

2 Neighborhood Routes  
Downtown BUZZ & Fiesta BUZZ



### Paratransit & RideChoice

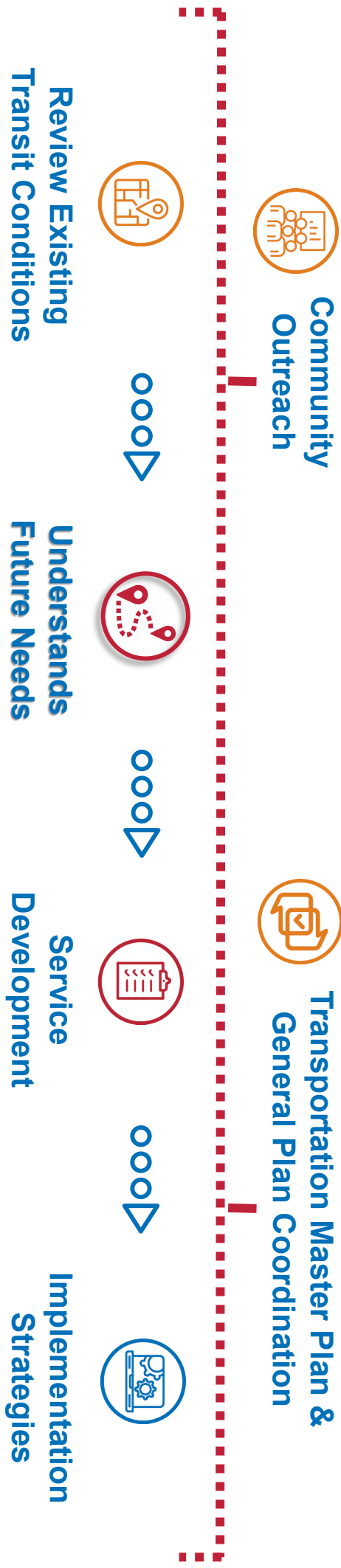
Door-to-Door / Curb-to-Curb  
Service for People with Disabilities





# Mesa's Transit Master Plan

- Enhances existing transit services and explores innovative transit programs for Mesa
- Creates a road map to reach Mesa's short-term (2030) and long-term (2050) transit goals



**We Are Here**











# Community Outreach

Feedback will be used to understand Mesa community's needs and vision for transit services and developments.

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## **In-Person Engagement Activities**

- Leadership Interviews (Mayor and Councilmembers)
- Bus Operator Survey
- Hacktivate Mesa
- Asian Festival 
- Mayor's Youth Committee
- Mesa Human Relations Advisory Board Meeting 
- I Love Mesa Day 
- Celebrate Mesa 

## **Mesa Transit Plan Webpage**

- Webpage launched January 26, 2023
- 399 site visitors as of May 25, 2023



In coordination with General Plan and Transportation Master Plan





## **Public Survey**

Feedback will be used to understand Mesa community's needs and vision for transit services and developments.

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**47** **Hackivate Mesa Live Polling**  
responses received

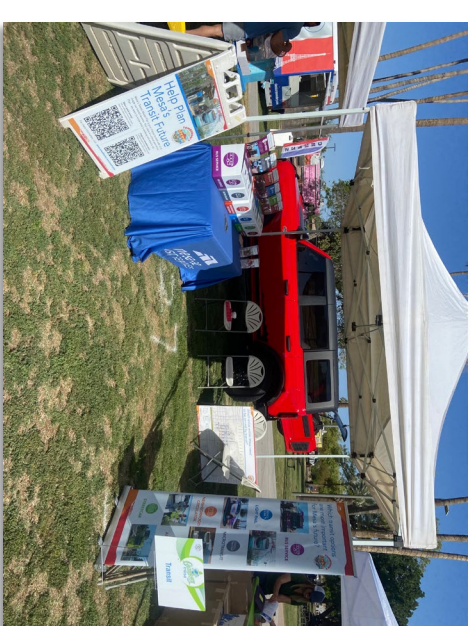
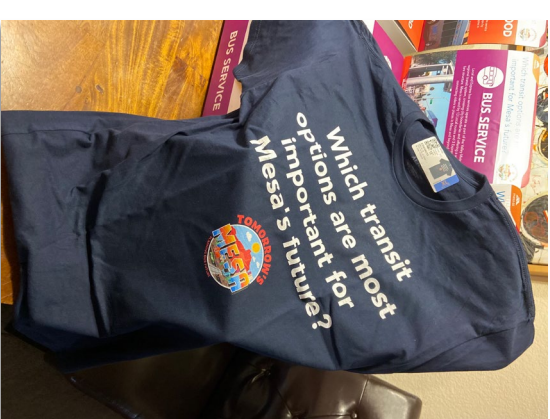
**2,303** **Transit Master Plan Online Survey**  
responses received



# Public Survey

## Preliminary Results

- More than 80% do not use transit
- Approximately 90% use personal vehicles to get around Mesa
- Light rail is viewed as most important transit mode for the future
- What would make people want to use transit?
  - Expansion of service (frequency and geography)
  - More park and ride locations and shaded bus shelters
  - More convenience, accessibility, affordability, and efficiency
  - Increased safety, security, and cleanliness
  - Better information on how to use it
  - Limited availability or prohibitive cost of fuel





# Pinnacle Prevention

Coordinated outreach efforts have been used to connect with west and central Mesa residents and community groups.

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## Strengthening Access and Connection In Mesa Through Transit-oriented Solutions

- Maricopa County Department of Public Health grant
- Led by Pinnacle Prevention - a non-profit organization
- Project will help Mesa residents use transit to gain access to food and community services.

### Engagement Activities

- Pinnacle Prevention Community Advisory Board
- Stakeholder Interviews and community conversations



## **Next Steps**

1. Assessment of needs (demographics, employment, and land use).
2. Develop vision, goals, and objectives.
3. Develop preliminary transit solutions.
4. Launch Transit Master Plan Online Survey 2



COM



City of Mesa  
**TRANSIT MASTER PLAN**

**Thank You!**



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