
Minutes City of Tempe Transportation Commission December 8, 2009

Minutes of the City of Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, 7:30 a.m., at the Transportation Center Don Cassano Community Room, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Don Cassano, Ben Goren, Bill Haas, Marcellus Lisotta, Jayson Matthews, Gary Roberts, Steven Saiz, Edward Smith, David Strang, Joan Westlake, Bryan Young, Marco Valenzuela

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Catherine Mayorga, Peter Schelstraete, Augustus Shaw IV

City Staff Present:

Joe Clements, Dawn Coomer, Carlos de Leon, Jerry Hart, Glenn Kephart, Elizabeth Mieth, Amanda Nelson, R.C. Noderer, Sue Taaffe, Shaun Yunt

Guests Present:

Pen Johnson

Jayson Matthews called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes

Don Cassano made a motion to approve all minutes. David Strang seconded the motion. The following minutes were approved:

- Public Involvement/Marketing Committee – November 17, 2009
- Transportation Commission Minutes – November 17, 2009

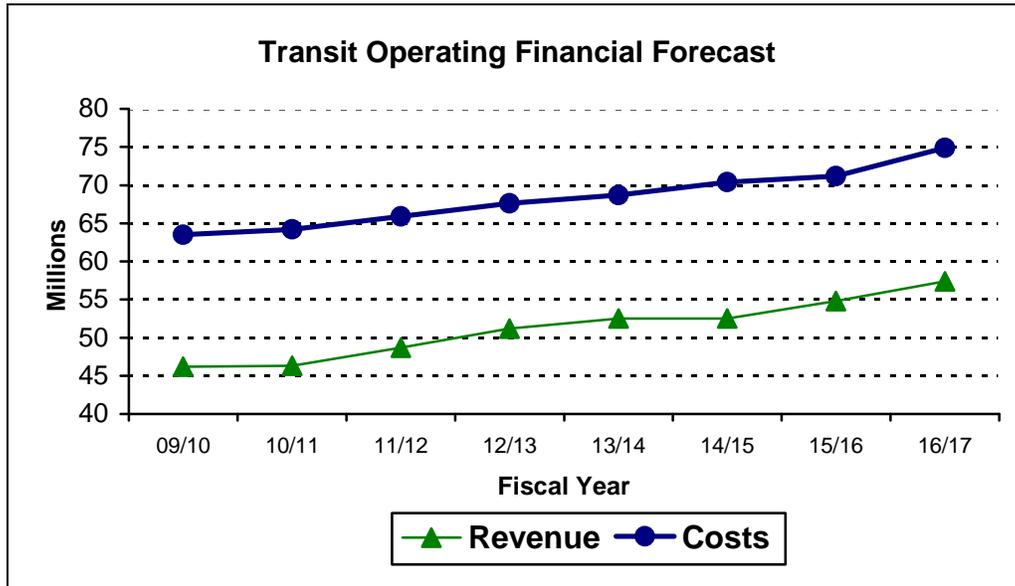
Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

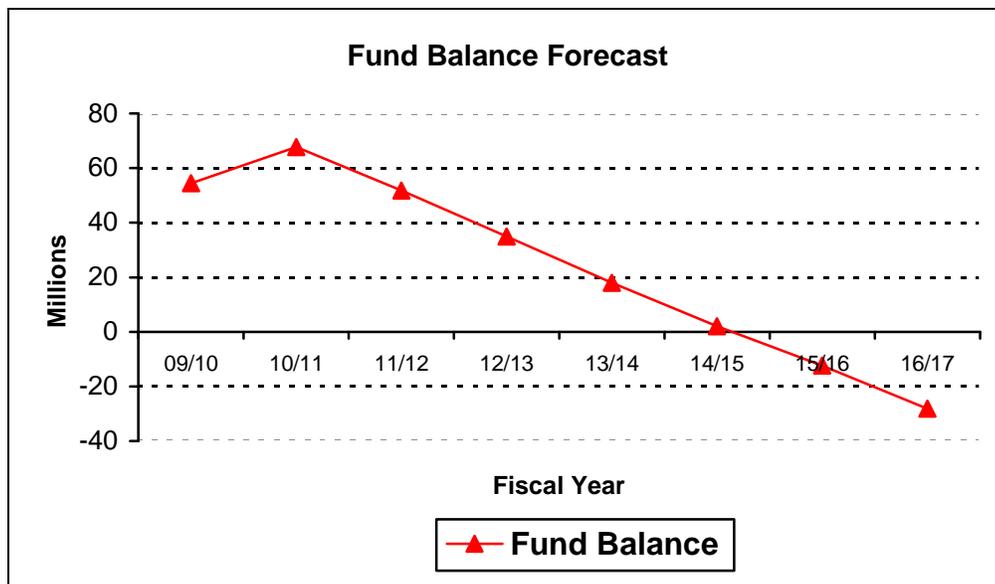
Agenda Item 3 – Long Range Transit Fund Financial Update

Carlos de Leon presented the following information:

- The most current operating financial forecast for the Transit Fund, which assumes approval of bus service changes for January 2010, is depicted in the graph below. This highlights the structural operating deficit (the amount annual expenditures exceed revenues) of approximately \$16 million.



- The long term forecast for the fund balance, assuming that no additional action is taken, is shown on the graph below. The spike in fund balance in FY2010-11 is due to a one time capital reimbursement for light rail construction. The major variables which are affecting the structural operating deficit are the actual and projected local sales tax revenue and the anticipated reduction in regional PTF funds.



- Even though Tempe staff prioritized the funding of the five existing bus routes in the working group alternative, funding for these routes will be delayed and/or reduced. The following table provides the specific changes for each route in the working group alternative.

Route	Proposed Change
Baseline Rd. (Route 77)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding delayed 4 years until FY2014-15. 15 minute peak trips eliminated.
University Dr.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding delayed 4 years until FY2015-16.

(Route 30)		▪ Weekend frequency reduced from 30 minutes to 60 minutes.
Broadway Rd. (Route 45)		▪ Funding delayed 7 years until FY2019-20.
McClintock Rd. (Route 81)		▪ Funding delayed 6 years until FY2020-21.
Elliot Rd. (Route 108)		▪ Funding delayed beyond FY2025-26.

- As a result, the Transit Fund would need to provide \$26.1 million through fiscal year 2025-26 in order to sustain these routes. The estimated costs to the Transit Fund for the next five years are shown in the following table.

Fiscal Year	Costs
FY 2010-11	\$775,851
FY 2011-12	\$1,772,957
FY 2012-13	\$2,737,888
FY 2013-14	\$2,806,466
FY 2014-15	\$3,744,616

- Beginning of next year the Ad Hoc Committee will meet again to go over financial strategy.
- Accountability and Governance Committee will next year to develop what the new bus network will look like given the new scenario.

Commissioner Gary Roberts inquired about the fund balance forecast chart does the projection include the route changes that were already discussed. Carlos de Leon stated that yes it does include it.

Commissioner Ben Goren inquired that cuts are getting deeper and deeper has anyone looked at a tax increase. Jayson Matthews stated that the City Manager has a workgroup assessing the financial situation and external revenue sources.

Commissioner Steven Saiz inquired is there a campaign to raise awareness to the citizens of Tempe to encourage them to patronize Tempe. Amanda Nelson stated there is a social media campaign to pushing that message.

Commissioner David Strang stated that on the March ballot there is a referendum to increase the bed tax. The Convention Visitors Bureau is in negation with the City what percentage of that will go to the general fund.

Agenda Item 4 – Outgoing Commission Member Acknowledgement

Jayson Matthews presented the following information:

- Today we recognize outgoing commissioner Don Cassano for his steadfast support of transportation issues throughout his more than 25 years of service as a Tempe Councilmember, Vice Mayor and Transportation Commissioner.
- Through his leadership roles for both the Tempe Chamber of Commerce and the city's Transportation Commission, Don worked diligently to get Proposition 400 on the 1996 Tempe city ballot and passed by Tempe voters, resulting in our multi-modal, balanced system as we know it today.
- On behalf of the entire commission and City staff, we thank you, Don, for all that you've done for this community, and present you with this gift – a framed print of the 2003 Tour de Tempe artwork, painted by a local artist, Casebeer.

Agenda Item 5 – Transportation Commission Business

Jayson Matthews presented the following information:

- Reappointed Commissioners
 - Reappointment of Commissioners is happening Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the Council Meeting. Four Commissioners have agreed to extend their term Marcellus Lisotta, Catherine Mayorga, Steven Saiz and David Strang.
- Commission Vacancies
 - There is one vacancy to be filled.
- Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
 - Next month there will be an election.
 - The Chair and Vice-Chair can serve two consecutive terms before stepping down.

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

- Commuter Rail

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

The Commission's next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, January 12, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. in the Don Cassano Community Room, 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Prepared by:
Elizabeth Mieth

Reviewed by:
Carlos de Leon