



Minutes City Council's Transportation & Affordable Housing Committee October 24, 2006

Minutes of the City Council's Transportation & Affordable Housing Committee held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006, 3:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Shana Ellis, Chair
Vice Mayor Hut Hutson

City Staff Present:

Tim Bulson, Police Dept. Traffic
Neil Calfee, Deputy Comm Dev Mgr
Liz Chavez, Housing Services
Carlos de Leon, Deputy Public Works Mgr
Kathy Gasperich, Council Aide
Gregg Kent, Light Rail
Glenn Kephart, Public Works Manager
Jyme Sue McLaren, LRT Project Manager
Amanda Nelson, Comm Outreach Marketing
Bonnie Richardson, Principal Planner
Chris Salomone, Community Dev Manager
Larry Schmalz, Prin. Planner/Downtown & Apache
Shelly Seyler, Transportation Studies & Design
Amber Wakeman, Gov't Relations Director
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Dir
Robert Yabes, Principal Planner

Guests Present:

Don Cassano, Transportation Commission
Brooke Cadiente, ASU
Annalyn Censky, ASU State Press
John Farry, METRO
Beth Fiorenza, Tempe Community Action
Catherine Mayorga, Tempe Chamber
Brian Tumminelli, ASU
Kenny Wong, ASU

Councilmember Shana Ellis called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – LRT Update 1101-01

Gregg Kent gave a presentation covering the overview of the Light Rail Project and an update of the construction progress.

- Light Rail Route & Station Locations
 - Phoenix, Tempe & Mesa
- Vehicle Features
 - Tinted windows and large A/C units
 - Low floor – entry at same height as platform
 - 4 bikes per vehicle
 - 4 wheelchair spaces per vehicle

- 50 light rail vehicles on order
- Operating Statistics
 - Peak period frequency: 10 min
 - Off-peak frequency: 20-30 min
 - Operating hours: 18-20 hrs/day, 7 days/wk
 - Opening day ridership: 26,000
 - 2020 ridership: 50,000
- Project Status
 - Began construction Nov. 2004
 - Entire route now under construction
 - Construction to be complete by mid 2008
 - System testing to begin early 2007
 - Initial line opens in Dec. 2008
 - Planning for first extensions begun
- Future METRO Extensions
- METRO Construction Update
- Upcoming Milestones
 - Two to three weekend Loop 101 closures anticipated
 - ASU Promenade to be completed by 12/06
 - Bridge lighting during Tempe Town Lake Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade
 - First rail cars scheduled to arrive 1/07

Agenda Item 2 – Work Plan 0101-01-03

Carlos de Leon reviewed the Transportation Work Plan. Vice Mayor Hutson would like to add: "The feasibility of licensing for professional rickshaw bicycles." Jyme Sue McLaren would like to add: "Evaluate the North/South Corridor Study for future light rail extension."

Chris Salomone reviewed the Work Plan for Affordable Housing. Shauna Warner requested an addition to monitor HOPE (Homeless Outreach Program).

The amended Work Plan will be presented to City Council at the November 2nd Issue Review Session.

Agenda Item 3 – ASU and Youth Bus Pass Program Update 1101-01

Amanda Nelson gave an update on the Youth Bus Pass Program.

- Tempe's Youth Bus Pass Program began August 1, 2005.
- Youth ages 6 to 18, who live in Tempe, can ride all Valley bus routes free.
- Passes with a photo are issued to help ensure that only the person to whom the pass is issued uses it.
- Passes are valid for one year.
- For the first year ending July 31, 2006, 2,319 Tempe youth received the free passes.
- Passes are available at the Transit Store at 5th & College.
- The average use per card is 25 rides each month.
- The 14 and 15 year-old age group had the highest participation rate.
- Tempe High School has the largest number of students enrolled in the program (440).
- Highest used routes – Route 81 – McClintock, Route 92 – 48th Street/Guadalupe.
- Usage cost \$122,364.65 for the first year, 80% will be credited back to the City because the boardings occurred within the City.

Amanda Nelson stated that they have received a lot of positive feedback and they are pushing for this to become a regional program.

Robert Yabas gave an update on the ASU U-Pass Program

- The U-Pass Program allows ASU faculty, staff and students with a valid ASU ID card to ride existing Valley Metro bus routes free.
- ASU paid \$606,000 for the program.
- Staff estimated 484,000 boardings annually.
- The total amount of boardings was over 1,000,000 during the first year.
- 81% using the U-Pass are ASU students.
- 16% of the eligible ASU population is enrolled in this program.
- 58% of the boardings occurred in Tempe, 24% in Phoenix.
- 1,042,000 boardings occurred on local routes, and 14,500 occurred on Express and Rapid routes
- Frequently used routes: Route 72 – Rural/Scottsdale Rd. and Red Line.
- The program has been extended until December 2006, and ASU is currently negotiating the extension of the program

Shana Ellis requested that an update on the Youth Bus Pass Program and the ASU U-Pass Program be presented to City Council at an Issue Review Session in January.

Agenda Item 4 – Neighborhood Traffic Management Program *0112-12-03*

Shelly Seyler gave an overview of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. On October 5th, Transportation staff provided an update to the City Council on the current process to revise and update the policies and procedures of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Transportation staff has been working with HDR/S.R. Beard & Associates and the Transportation Commission to identify changes to the process that will ultimately produce a manual to outline the process, tools and forms necessary for neighborhoods to initiate the process. The goals of this process are to:

- Streamline the process for citizens to make it easier to install a variety of tools that help solve neighborhood concerns.
- Consolidate the processes for small scale and large scale projects so that a prioritization list of projects can be created.
- Broaden the number of tools available to neighborhoods.

Once the draft manual is complete, a series of public meetings will be conducted allowing residents the opportunity to provide feedback on the document. The draft document will be taken to City Council for input and final adoption in early 2007.

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Motorized Play Vehicle Ordinance *0503-19*

Tim Bulson reviewed the draft changes made to Ordinance No. 2006.28 amending Chapter 19 of the Tempe City Code relating to Electric Bicycles.

Sec. 19-1. Definitions

- (6) Motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle means a bicycle or tricycle that has fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power, and has a helper motor that meets all of the following requirements:

- A. Has a maximum piston displacement of forty eight (48) cubic centimeters or less;
- B. Is incapable of propelling the device at a speed of more than twenty (20) miles per hour on level ground;
- C. Is incapable of further increasing the speed of the bicycle or tricycle when human power is used, in conjunction with a helper motor, to propel the bicycle or tricycle faster than twenty (20) miles per hour; and
- D. Has no deck or foot board on which a person can place their feet upon.

Sec. 19-20. Application of traffic laws.

- (D) Motorized electric or gas powered bicycles or tricycles propelled by a helper motor or Human Power are required to adhere to all state and local traffic laws that apply to bicycles.

Sec. 19-22. Prohibited operation.

- (F) No person shall operate any motorized or electric means of transportation on any public roadway if the means of transportation does not meet the requirements for registration under state law or meet the requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 19-24. Operating restrictions on roadway.

- (D) Gas-powered play vehicles and gas powered skateboards may only be operated between the hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sec. 19-31. Vendor/Dealer notification.

- (A) Any vendor or dealer who sells a motorized play vehicle, motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle, or a motorized skateboard in the city must display at the place of sale a copy of Tempe City code, 19-1 through 19-30.
- (B) Any vendor or dealer who sells a motorized play vehicle, motorized electric or gas powered bicycle or tricycle, or a motorized skateboard in the city by mail-order shipment to an address in the city must include a copy of Tempe City Code, 19-1 through 19-30.

This item will be placed on the November agenda for discussion.

Agenda Item 6 – Proposed Transportation Overlay District (TOD) Density Bonus Program

Larry Schmalz discussed the Density Bonus Program.

*No Material
1101-01*

- Height/density allowed
- A percentage needs to be affordable housing (workforce housing)
- A consultant was hired to:
 - look at the best practices of other cities & ordinances
 - make recommendations to modify our overlay district
- Developments on Apache due to Light Rail
- Working with APAC (Apache Project Area Committee)
 - Formed when the City formed the Redevelopment District
 - A review body with a staff liaison
 - Review plans/make comments to Council & Development Services

- Look at neighborhood issues/developments/parks
- Work closely with the Police Department
- A community-based group
- Members are neighborhood chairs/homeowner associations/business owners

After this report is finalized it will be brought back to the Committee with recommendations.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

Community/Business Outreach for Rail Project (Amanda Nelson)
Neighborhood Traffic Management Program – Draft Manual (Shelly Seyler)
Proposed motorized Play Vehicle Ordinance - Discussion (Tim Bulson)
Density Bonus Program – Results of Report (Larry Schmalz)
Strategy for Affordable Housing (Chris Salamone)

Future Meeting Dates

Monday, November 20th at 3:00

Tuesday, December 19th at 1:00

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Julie Stennerson

Reviewed by: Connie Krosschell


Connie Krosschell
Connie Krosschell
Acting City Clerk