



Transportation Committee Summary

Thursday, September 13, 2007

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Town Hall – Founder's Room

Committee Members:

Toni Valenzuela	- Council Member	Present
Robin Benning	- Chair	Present
Carlos Acuna	- Vice Chair	Present
Deryl Lamb	- Resident	Absent
Gary Wilson	- Resident	Present
Jeff Brown	- Resident	Present
Josh Ehmke	- Resident	Present
Kelly Kassa	- Resident	Present
Rick Ponzo	- Resident	Present
Silvia Centoz	- Non-Resident	Present

Town Staff Members:

Dick Schaner	- Transportation Director	Present
Don Noble	- Public Works Director	Present
John Kross	- Town Manager	Absent
Mark Young	- Sr. Management Assistant	Present
Mike Pacelli	- Traffic Engineer	Present
Norma Hernandez	- Management Assistant	Present
Terry Fawley	- CIP Program Manager	Present

Visitors:

Call to Order:

Robin called meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

Announcements:

Item A: Welcome and Introductions

All

Item B: Resigned Committee Member

Member Milos Mickey Pavicevich has resigned from the Committee.

Item C: Traffic Condition on Germann Road

Mike

Concern regarding traffic on 188th Street/Germann Road; it has become more difficult to turn left on to Germann while on 188th Street. Also, the speed limit on Germann Road east from Power Road was raised from 35 to 45 mph.

- This is an interim condition; ultimately, the road will be improved. The North half of Germann by Rittenhouse is to be widened and improved with development on that side. There is a permanent signal planned for 188th/Germann. We could conduct traffic counts to observe if a signal is warranted any sooner than projected. CIP will build Rittenhouse Road so that traffic heading north will continue north. There will be a crossing of the Railroad at Sossaman and Germann roads.
- With all the improvements being done, traffic will be better. We can do some traffic counts to see if a traffic signal is warranted now and we can put a message board on Germann week of September 17. We can talk to the sheriff; Power from Ocotillo to Pecos gets double coverage – from Gilbert PD and MCSO.

Item D: Regional Transportation – Bus System

Mark

Major concern from the public was the lack of advertising on the bus route. Are we maybe not at that density? Rideshare in Queen Creek?

- We have to get a route that will be helpful and advertise – get the word out. Possible partnerships with Pinal County and Gilbert: We have been talking to Pinal County about a bus route. There is a bus route on Chandler Boulevard – Williams Gateway Airport to Chandler Blvd. to Chandler Fashion Square Mall. Handout states where the stops are. Every 30 minutes out of Williams Gateway Airport.
- Cities pay for a portion of the bus route. Queen Creek had to pay out of General Fund; the cost was high for minimal passengers. There are health benefits to riding a bus – less stress, less cars on the road, and less pollution. Queen Creek looked at van pooling and smaller buses too, large over head is paying for the driver. Van pool split gas cost (passenger) which is very economic.
- Handout on public hearings.

Item E: Community Outreach – Open House

Terry

CIP project exhibits were provided at the Open House. Over 50 residents and general public attended. Private consultants, engineering firms, are very receptive we are communicating to the public. There is an extensive amount of projects of the south end of Town. We are trying to coordinate with MCDOT, Gilbert, internally, and with utility companies.

- Future meeting: Open House on October 16th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Queen Creek Elementary School.
- Power and south of Ocotillo will have some significant road impacts in the next few weeks.
- CIP Project Map handed out to members for review of all current/upcoming projects.

Item F: Roadway Maintenance

Don

There is no communication with the private street residents. It is the responsibility of them and their HOA. When we do have private streets built in town we do inspect to make sure the structure is in compliance.

We do have a traffic calming process in place that we follow and respond to resident concerns. We do have a budget for the traffic calming. We have been talking to the HOA at Queensland Manor about some possible crosswalks.

Item G: Update on Solid Waste Study

Don

The landfill was closed in May – we were concerned with what residents were going to do with their waste. We established an interim solid waste removal site, currently; we have several haulers coming in twice a week picking up trash. We are concerned due to the streets being damaged by these heavy trucks. We have selected a consultant to conduct a study; we will receive recommendations in February 2008.

Item H: Update on the Interim Public Works Corporation Yard

Don

Last year the Town purchased a 130 acre site for a Municipal Maintenance Yard and a park site; it is located north of Queen Creek Road and east of Signal Butte. A consultant conducted a Master Plan and determined what is needed to accommodate additional staff/equipment. Maintenance staff and equipment will be moved to site. Four years before completion.

Item I: Project Status on Ellsworth Loop Road

Dick

Railroad work has delayed the project; the railroad can't do the shoe fly track until September 24. Main areas being worked on are on Ocotillo Road and connections at both ends of the underpass. Originally scheduled to start work at the underpass the first quarter of 2007, now it's to be Oct 07, and June 2008 be opened to traffic.

Bid Spring of 2006. Improvement District regulates timeframes established by law. They said we would have our agreement by December. We didn't get it until late January. We didn't get started until 6 weeks later. The RR permit is over \$200,000. \$30,000 for utility crossing and 1.4 million for railroad work. We are paying for 100% of the project.

Item J: Schedule future meeting

Next meeting: October 11, 2007

Adjourn: