



Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, May 1, 2008

6:30 - 8:35 p.m.

Development Services Building – San Tan Room

Committee Members:

Anthony Edwards	Present
Carlos Acuna	Present
Dorian Bond	Present
Gary Wilson	Absent
Jeff Brown	Absent
Kyle Robinson	Present
Robin Benning	Present
Silvia Centoz	Present
Thomas McCarthy	Present

Town Staff Members:

Dick Schaner, Transportation Director	Present
Don Noble, Public Works Director	Present
Mark Young, QC Government Liaison	Present
Mike Pacelli, Traffic Engineer	Present
Norma Hernandez, Management Assistant	Present

Visitors:

Marnie Schubert, Communications & Marketing Manager

Call to Order:

Robin Benning, Chair called meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Group welcomed Anthony, Dorian, Kyle, and Thomas; the four new committee members and all members introduced themselves. Robin Benning, Chair, provided a general outline of the committee goals and discussions.

Item A: Approval of February 7 minutes All

Motion to approve the February 7, 2008 minutes (Silvia Centoz/Carlos Acuna/Unanimous).

Item C: Solid Waste Study (item moved up on agenda) Marnie Schubert

Marnie Schubert informed the members that it is typical for a town/city to provide solid waste services to the residents. Currently, Queen Creek does not provide this service for either residential or commercial; however, a Solid Waste Study was done and taken to Council on March 5, 2008. The direction given by Town Council was for staff to conduct a survey to

obtain feedback from the residents. The survey is now posted on the website and available until the end of June.

Questions asked by members:

Q: Is trash collection considered money making service for the Town?

A: It is a break even service.

Q: Do we have a feasibility study to see what the cost would be?

A: No, we do not; we did not go that far into the study. Last May the landfill closed, we received a lot of calls from residents wondering about trash services and recycling. We put in place an Interim Solid Waste Program, residents could drop off their trash on a specified Saturday between 8-noon, this program ends May 24. We hired a consultant to review our circumstances, and other towns, now we need to do the survey. One concern we have is of all the different trash haulers coming in to town, currently there are five different haulers, that service the area two times a week, this is a lot of hauling trips per week; a lot of wear and tear on our roads. The survey will be collected from May to the end of June. We will review the information and take to Council for final decision.

Q: What is the cost of the services if the town provides?

A: We have general information available, if Council determines we will have only one hauler, there will be a bid process; the company will have to provide information on what service they will provide, how often, and if recycling is included. There are a lot of variables involved that need to be addressed.

Q: Could we look at another town our size to see what they are doing?

A: We may, that is something Council will decide.

Item B: SR802/Williams Gateway Freeway Mark Young

Mark Young provided a presentation and he asked members for their recommendation on the SR802 update, Williams Gateway Freeway, completion of the TIER 1 analysis.

Comments asked by members:

Kyle said some of the comments at the General Plan Meeting were that it is more costly to do route 3 or 4, but it may benefit many residents.

Silvia informed the members that there are some environmental issues; i.e. fissures in all the areas. She cannot support option 4 because of these issues.

Robin informed the group that the TAC members could make a recommendation as well as request that the environmental issues be addressed. Silvia and members agreed.

The recommendation is as follows:

"The Transportation Advisory Committee members, having reviewed the four proposed corridor/alignments for the Williams Gateway Freeway (SR802), strongly support the southerly corridor, "Option 4" as shown on the map provided. We have significant concerns related to geological and environmental issues for all four corridors, however we believe "Option 4" provides the greatest relief to traffic congestion caused by pass-through traffic in the Town of Queen Creek. In addition, "Option 4" provides the greatest opportunity for

economic development within the Town's planning area. We recommend the Council draft a letter stating the Town of Queen Creek supports the freeway corridor alignment identified as "Option 4".

Item C: Misc Updates

Don Noble/Dick Schaner

1. Gilbert CAP Line: Don Noble informed the members that the CAP Line is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2008. There were some delays on Ellsworth/Queen Creek due to a waterline break and a sewer line break. Town staff did negotiate two turn outs, one at NE park, and the other at NW park. If excess water is available, Gilbert will provide to Queen Creek.
2. PM-10 Dust Control: Don Noble informed the members that the Town is in full force training town staff on the dust control regulations put in place by the EPA; we have been told by EPA that municipalities need to clean the air. They have informed us what we need to and how to do it; however, no funds were provided for additional staff or training. We are all struggling with funds but this is one area that needs quick attention, and the town will do what is necessary to comply with the regulations.

Questions asked by members:

Q: Who controls the unincorporated areas; there are several acreage properties in the county?

A: There may be a lot of issues that arise and we will enforce and clean up our own as needed. We are paving some of the shoulders to stabilize the dust. According to the EPA, we inhale about 4 pounds of dirt per year, we can reduce the dust but we cannot get all of it out of the air. There are many dust causing health issues, especially with kids and seniors.

3. Traffic Signals: Mike Pacelli informed the members that there are currently 26 traffic signals; 23 are fixed, and 3 are portable trailers. Signal # 27 will be turned on between 2-3 weeks on realigned Rittenhouse/Germann. We anticipate that by the end of the year, Village Loop North by the clubhouse will be turned on.

We are partners with MCDOT on traffic signal and turn lanes for Riggs/Power and Riggs/Sossaman, we are currently working on them, however it may be three months for the signal at Power to be turned on, and a little longer for Sossaman as this traffic signal will be phased in with the school project improvements.

Current alignment of Rittenhouse by Sossaman - there is a curved temporary road north of Home Depot, that piece will tie in to the existing alignment. Signal at Sossaman/Rittenhouse will be going in; we have not started the process yet. Realigned Rittenhouse north of Germann is nearly ready to open, but we need the street light first.

We are going to apply for some grant funds, possibly about \$250K. QC/MCDOT/Mesa/RR are doing a DCR (Design Concept Report) for the Germann/Sossaman area, we are taking the lead on this.

Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport is paying for most of the cost for the traffic signal at Sossaman & Rittenhouse.

4. Riggs Road: Dick Schaner informed members that Riggs between Ellsworth/Meridian has sent the 60% plans to ADOT; we have not received back yet. Currently there is no money for this project. Ellsworth widening anticipated starting June 1.

North Ellsworth Road: The extension of the six lanes, south connector to Cloud is anticipated to be under construction by June.

Rittenhouse Road: Contract we have doing design will be another 6-8M to design down to Vestar.

Ellsworth Loop: Contractor is hauling dirt away, excavating should be complete. Road anticipated to be open to traffic end of July/August sometime. There is a lot of work on storm drains/electrical on this project.

Item D: Council Items **Dick Schaner**

Dick Schaner reviewed the Council items slated for May 7 Council Meeting.

Item E: TAC Work Program **Norma Hernandez**

Norma Hernandez provided the members with a blank form for the Committee Goals and Objectives Work Program for FY 08-09. Members are to email their recommendations by May 13. Last year's Work Program was given to the members for reference.

Item F: Schedule future meeting **All**

Next meeting: June 5, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn (Dorian Bond/Robin Benning/Unanimous) meeting adjourned: 8:35 p.m.