



## **Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes**

Thursday, November 6, 2008

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Development Services Building – San Tan Room

### **Committee Members:**

Bill Fischbach	Present
Carlos Acuna	Present
Chris Clark	Present
Jeff Brown	Absent
Kyle Robinson	Absent
Milos Pavicevich	Present
Robin Benning	Present
Silvia Centoz	Present
Thomas McCarthy	Present

### **Town Staff Members:**

Bill Birdwell, Traffic Analyst	Present
Dick Schaner, Transportation Director	Present
Mark Young, QC Government Liaison	Absent
Mike Pacelli, Traffic Engineer	Present
Norma Hernandez, Management Assistant	Present
Shane Dille, Asst Town Manager/Interim PW Director	Present

### **Visitors/Observers:**

Angela Troge, resident/business owner  
Bob Hildebrandt, resident  
Jill Charette, resident  
Richard Stewart, resident  
Teresa Makinen, LL Decker & Associates

### **Call to Order:**

Robin called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

### **Introductions:**

**All**

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All members and staff introduced themselves and welcomed guests.

### **Items of Discussion**

#### **Item A: Approval of October 16 minutes**

**All**

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Motion to approve the October 16, 2008 minutes (Robin Benning/Bill Fischbach /Unanimous/Approved).

## **Item B: Access Management**

**Theresa**

### **Survey Review**

Teresa reviewed the results from the “Conveying Survey of Members” survey that Lance sent to all members. Teresa and staff answered the areas that two or more members rejected or questioned the statements; all members agreed that all the items in question were clarified.

Shane reminded members that the group needs to focus on roads that have not been built. The group will need to address additional issues in the upcoming months; however Council’s direction to the group is to implement a policy. Shane suggested maybe doing the review in two parts; first implementing a policy and providing it to Council, and then reviewing further in more detail.

Mike P added that the group needs to focus on traffic circulation/access to the properties; for example, does the group want to allow parking on the street or not.

Bill F said he thinks the group should focus on everything right now; he is worried that developments/projects will be approved prior to the Access Management Policy being approved.

Dick informed the group that PAD’s take an average of nine months to be approved, there are no current requests that will be completed by the time the TAC provides their recommendation to Council. Once the policy is approved, all projects will be reviewed according to the new policy.

- *Storage Bin* (items to be discussed at a later date):  
Bill F: Review PAD’s in order for projects not to be approved between now and when final policy put in place.

### **Traffic Calming and Access Management Presentation**

Mike Pacelli and Bill Birdwell reviewed the Traffic Calming and Access Management Presentation; (a disclaimer that the general information tools in the presentation are to try to lower speeds, this does not guarantee it). The main objective is how can traffic calming be used to reduce volume and speed on selected roads where calming is used (presentation included in packet with these minutes).

### **Public Comment:**

Angela Troge - People don’t want big box retailers. In the presentation there was mention of a town in Iowa – how does Queen Creek compare with Iowa. Small business owners are drowning. I have lost 40% of my business. The Ellsworth Loop took away all the traffic.

Jill Charette – How does traffic calming deal with Ellsworth/Ocotillo? Have there been any studies done in this area?

Richard Stewart – On Ocotillo/205<sup>th</sup> Place there are no turns. What are we supposed to do – this is very inconvenient for us.

Bob Hilderbrandt – Why do we need concrete on the roads? Why can’t we have middle turning lanes without any medians? There was a 35 MPH speed limit sign and a “no turn” sign put up – how do we turn in to the houses?

Bill Fischbach – The Dibble design does not call what the current town center design is. The DCR does not have traffic counts – why were there no counts done? Dibble design 30% is costing \$350K, is this going to overlap with what our recommendation is? There was a change in plans and a cost to change. We have a Town Center Design already in place, why do we need another one? I studied all current traffic counts in a lot of surrounding cities; Ocotillo E/W does not carry the volume, why do we need another plan.

Silvia Centoz – What is reasonable cost? Later on the cost to make changes to the town center will cost more because labor and materials will cost more. Why don't we do things right to begin with, this is going to come back and "bite us". Why were there no traffic counts? We need to consider the current cars and people. We need to make pedestrian friendly.

Robin Benning – What is the community concern – what are staff concerns?

### **Staff**

Mike Pacelli – The incorrect sign was put up, the correct sign will be installed soon. Ellsworth Loop was designed to carry large amounts of cars. The DCR is focusing on the aesthetics, bike lanes, walking areas, etc... We are projecting what the lanes need to be. We are designing for the future. Ocotillo is a high volume roadway, Ellsworth Road is not.

Dick Schaner – Town Center Plan is Phase 1, Phase 2 is the DCR. Construction drawings are at 30% design right now. Plans will not be done until after the TAC group makes a recommendation to Council. Ellsworth Road in Town Center will be a "walking area".

There are basically "four legs" that the group needs to review;

1. Ellsworth north of Ocotillo - North leg can be extended to the north connector. This phase is under design now. North Ellsworth – what kind of Access Management do we need there?
2. Ocotillo east of Ellsworth – we need to make sure we don't make limitless driveway openings, how are people going to safely walk across these wide driveway areas; i.e. sidewalks, driveway access.
3. Ellsworth south of Ocotillo – Parallel parking on the east side of the road was kept in the design concept report. A bike lane on each side of the road as well was added. This was kept in order to develop a walking friendly area.
4. Ocotillo west of Ellsworth – Access management, what will the access points be, will there be sidewalks, etc...

Action items:

1. Members are to study DCR (was handed out at the meeting), make comments and send to Lance Decker within two weeks, by November 20.

**Item C: Scheduled future meeting**

**All**

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Next meeting: December 4, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Announcements**

**All**

Carlos Acuna put in his resignation effective January 2009. Carlos was one of the original members when TAC began in January 2006. Staff would like to thank Carlos for his time and dedication; and also mention that he only missed one meeting in the past three years.

**Adjourn**

**All**

Motion to adjourn (Robin Benning/Milos Pavicevich/Unanimous) meeting adjourned: 8:45 p.m.

Attachments:

Traffic Calming and Access Management Presentation

DRAFT