



Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, June 3, 2010

6:30 - 8 p.m.

San Tan Room – Development Services Building

Committee Members:

Alexander Matheson	Present
Chris Clark	Present
David Brandhorst	Absent
Debbie Reyes	Present
Gregory Arrington	Present
Kim Mlazgar	Absent
Kyle Robinson	Present
Milos Pavicevich	Present
Richard Turman	Present
Robin Benning	Present
Ryan Nichols	Present

Town Staff Members:

Bill Birdwell, Traffic Analyst	Present
Norma Hernandez, Management Assistant	Present
Tom Condit, Development Services Director	Present
Troy White, Public Works Division Manager	Present

Public:

Sara Christopherson

Call to Order:

Committee Chairman, Ryan Nichols, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Introductions:

Everyone welcomed and introductions were made.

Public Comment:

No public comments were made.

Item A: Approval of April 1, 2010 minutes

All

Motion to approve the April 1, 2010 minutes, (Robinson/Pavicevich/Unanimous).

Items for Discussion

Item B Organizational Changes

Tom Condit

Tom Condit, Development Services Director, informed the members of the recent changes in staff, the consolidation of departments, and how these changes needed to be done in an effort to move forward and be more in line with the budget and town needs. Some of the specific changes include downsizing the number of departments to be from nine to six departments; Public Works will be combined with Community Development, which will be changed to Development Services; and staff members to be moved as well. These changes will be in effect by July 1, 2010.

Item C: Update on Barney GPA Wayne Balmer & Tom Condit

Wayne Balmer, Community Development Division Manager, updated the members on the Major General Plan Amendment GP09-28 – Barney Farms; he also provided the presentation handout. The alternative approved by Council moves the proposed realigned road north; this will not impact the park and will actually allow the park to have a north entrance, as well as a south entrance. There is a collector road that runs on the edge of the park from north to south. The Municipal Corporation Yard will have its own entry and will not need to enter at the south entrance of the park and drive through the park to get to the Corp Yard. Council did approve this alternative and it seems like this is the best resolution.

Mr. Condit discussed the regional road improvements, timing and schedule, along with the phasing of the 802 freeway. We want to work with the City of Mesa on the possibility of moving allocated funds from Meridian Road (proposition 400), to Signal Butte, in order to expedite construction of this gateway road. Mr. Condit also wants to work closely with Mesa to try and develop an accelerated 802 freeway construction schedule on the segment from Ellsworth to Signal Butte. In the future, commuter rail may possibly have a connection to Queen Creek. Union Pacific Railroad to Phoenix is a major corridor to Queen Creek. The southeast branch was ranked #1 by the consultant for the MAG Commuter Rail Committee.

Questions:

Q: With the road curving as it is proposed, will the speed limit be decreased?

A: Possibly, it depends on the surrounding area, what ends up to industrial, commercial, or residential.

Q: What will the right of way be?

A: The right of way will be 140'.

Q: Was the park in the design phase when the decision to move the road was decided?

A: The park has been at the conceptual design stage since the completion of the Five-Park Master Plan several years ago.

Q: How many parking spaces will the park have?

A: 1,000+. This park's purpose will be to hold major regional sports events, to have several ball fields available; this is not going to be an ordinary neighborhood park.

Item D: Update on traffic projects

Bill Birdwell

Bill Birdwell, Traffic Analyst, updated the members on the progress of the Town Center ITS Project (Phase I of the Towns ITS Master Plan). The Town received a federal grant for the project through MAG for a traffic signal system, which is to include the equipment and installation. At this time, everything has recently been installed, and staff is working with the vendor to complete integration of the system and training (currently at about 25%).

Once the system is fully operational, staff will work with our MAG Traffic Engineering firm (Transcore), to optimize the signal timing on Ellsworth Loop Road and Rittenhouse Road. The goal with optimization is to provide timing that will allow those signals to run in coordination with each other, and hopefully allow those corridors to operate more efficiently. Once the system is fully operational (August/September), the TAC members will receive a tour of the TMC (Traffic Management Center).

Phase II – staff is currently working with ADOT; the PA (Project Assessment) will be sent over in the next couple of weeks. Funding for Phase II can be released in October.

Phase II will connect an additional 20 signals and 12 CCTV camera's to the Traffic Signal System.

Phase III – staff has begun discussions with ADOT regarding this project; funding will be available in October 2011. Phase III will connect an additional 6 signals and 6 CCTV camera's to the Traffic Signal System.

Bill demonstrated a video produced by MAG – MAG is very interested in connecting Queen Creek to the regional ITS system.

Update on CIP project

Troy White

Troy White, Public Works Division Manger, reviewed the handout showing the Capital Improvement Projects.

- A204 –Ellsworth Road: Cloud to Empire: The project bid opening on June 9 resulted in a low bid of \$8,928,544.75; this is lower than the Engineers Estimate of \$11,952,011.22. The contract execution is currently in progress, and construction is anticipated to begin in August. All utilities, with the exception of Qwest, have been relocated.
- Town Center – Qwest and Cox relocations will be completed during construction of the storm drain. The contractor has begun work on the survey, and on some

potholes. The bulk of the project that consists of the roadwork between Ocotillo Road and Rittenhouse Road, is anticipated to bid in August.

- Riggs – Processing of the IGA has not been approved by the Town or County. County is willing to contribute \$2 million to help with right of way purchases.
- Cloud/Rittenhouse – Completed turn lane
- Ocotillo/220th Street – Complete
- Germann/188th Street - Intersection design is in process for a fully signalized 4 way operation. Construction will begin upon completion of design which is scheduled for late spring 2010.
- Ellsworth/Maya – Part of Town Center
- Council did approve priorities that TAC previously approved and suggested to be sent to Council. Staff can get started on projects south of Ocotillo.

Item E: Discussion of upcoming agenda items/schedule next meeting

1. Commuter Rail – MAG Process
2. CIP and ITS updates

Announcements:

Ice Cream Social and Farmer's Market on Saturday, June 5 at the library 10-noon.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

PREPARED BY: Norma Hernandez, June 7, 2010

PASSED AND APPROVED ON: August 5, 2010



Ryan Nichols, TAC Committee Chair