



Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

**Thursday, September 2, 2010 - 6:30 – 8:12 p.m.
San Tan Room – Development Services Building**

Present Committee Members

CM Robin Benning	Present
Chris Clark	Present
David Brandhorst- Vice Chair	Present
Debbie Reyes	Absent
Gregory Arrington	Absent
Kim Mlazgar	Absent
Milos Pavicevich	Absent
Nichelle Williams	Present
Patricia Conrad	Absent
Richard Turman	Present
Ryan Nichols - Chair	Present

Public

Sara Christopherson

Town Staff Members

Bill Birdwell, Traffic Engineering Supervisor	Present
Laura Catanese, Sr. Administrative Assistant	Present
Norma Hernandez, Management Assistant	Absent
Tom Condit, Development Services Director	Present
Troy White, Public Works Manager	Present

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairman, Ryan Nichols, called the meeting to order at 6:34PM.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Self introductions were made around the table. Laura Catanese is in attendance tonight to take notes in place of Management Assistant, Norma Hernandez. The TAC and staff welcomed new TAC member Nichelle Williams.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Item A: Consideration and possible approval of August 5, 2010 minutes

Chair, Ryan Nichols, requested that the following change be made to the meeting notes:

Item E: Update on Capital Improvement Projects: "Members were okay with developer funded projects progressing aside from the priority list; however, any projects to be funded from current project savings proceed in accordance with the prioritized list or that the project priorities are revisited by the committee prior to proceeding."

Richard Turner stated that he did not receive the meeting minutes from August 5. CM Benning made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from August 5 that included the requested change. Motion passed unanimously.

Item B: ADOT Transportation Plan - Tom Condit

Tom Condit handed out information at the August 5 meeting concerning ADOT's Long Range Transportation Plan Update, which is a 25 year look into the transportation future of Arizona. The ADOT materials identify eight primary goals and draft objectives with regard to transportation. Mr. Condit explained to the committee that ADOT was set on the listed goals but was still taking input on the draft objectives. Chair, Ryan Nichols, recommended that the Town as an entity make our opinion known to ADOT by completing the ADOT survey and that the committee's recommendation should be taken to Council. Some on the committee (Bradhorst) also wanted to fill out the ADOT survey as an individual. Those that wanted to fill out the ADOT survey on their own were asked to return the completed survey to Mr. Condit and he will make sure they get to ADOT. He offered to personally contact ADOT staff and let them know that a recommendation is forthcoming from the Town's Transportation Advisory Committee. The TAC then reviewed the ADOT goals and draft objectives (20 minutes given). The committee ranked the goals in order of importance for our area, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important:

Goal	Rank
Improve Mobility & Accessibility	3
Support Economic Development	4
Link Transportation and Land Use	2
Protect the Environment & Natural Resources	7
Enhance Safety & Security	5
Preserve and Maintain the Transportation System	1
Strengthen Partnerships	8
Promote Fiscal Stewardship	6

At the request of the TAC, and in the interest of time, Mr. Condit provided his own comments on the draft Objectives. The TAC recommended supporting those comments and then voted unanimously to forward both the priority ranking and comments to the draft Objectives along to Town Council for possible ratification.

Item C: TAC 2010-2011 Annual Work Plan -**Tom Condit**

Mr. Condit opened dialogue on the TAC's 2010-2011 Annual Work Plan. The TAC discussed the 2009-2010 adopted Work Plan, which has five core elements (including CIP / Transportation Projects; Defined Corridors; Regional Partners; Traffic Control; and Community Outreach). The time allocated to each of the five Priority items was discussed, and the following time allocations were proposed for FY 2010-2011:

Priority	Task	Time
1	CIP – Transportation Projects	30 minutes
2	Defined Corridors	25 minutes
3	Regional Partners	20 minutes
4	Emergency Events & Traffic Control Issues	10 minutes
5	Community Outreach	5 minutes

This item will be brought back to the October meeting and will include the current and ongoing projects from staff.

Item D: Quarterly update on Regional Transportation Projects - Tom Condit

Tom Condit had many updates for the committee, and informed the members of the following project highlights:

- I. Flood Control District: East Mesa Area Drainage Master Plan; Sonoqui Wash Phases II and III; and the Powerline, Vineyard, and Rittenhouse Flood Retention Structure Rehabilitation Project
- II. MCDOT: Ellsworth Road, Empire to Cloud; Meridian Road Design Concept Report; and Riggs Road at Sonoqui Wash (Riggs Road Bridge)
- III. Pinal County: Hunt Highway, Empire to Thompson; CAAG Regional Transportation Plan; and Transit Feasibility Study
- IV. City of Mesa: 802 Freeway, 202 to Ellsworth; Power Road, Pecos to Williams Field; Pecos Road, Meridian to Signal Butte; Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Eastside study
- V. Apache Junction: Southern / Meridian Intersection Improvements; AJ Comprehensive Transportation Study

Other: Germann Road, Meridian to Ironwood; Superstition Vistas Conceptual Plan (by Arizona State Land Department)

Item E: Updates on CIP (Capital Improvement Project) priorities and ITS (Intelligent Transportation System)

Bill Birdwell reported that the ITS has a new project manager and that the project assessment for Phase II was sent to ADOT (fiber optics instead of wireless conduit). Funds for the project are due to be released in October, and Mr. Birdwell does not foresee any problems in securing funding as there isn't any ROW that must be purchased or ground to be broken. He informed the group that Phase 1 was more difficult and challenging to obtain the necessary funds.

Troy White provided an update of the current Capital Improvement Projects:

Town Center - Ellsworth north of Ocotillo to Rittenhouse Road:

First phase of construction installing town utilities is complete. Phase II of this project consists of the roadwork along Ellsworth Road between Ocotillo and Rittenhouse and will be bid separately. Due to property acquisition issue, the Phase II bid date has been delayed from August to October, with construction anticipated to start in January, 2011.

Queen Creek Trail link to Desert Mountain Park:

Construction will begin September 8. Currently, the trail ends on the west side of Hawes Road but the link will now take the trail through Desert Mountain Park on the north bank to connect it to the park trail. Eventually the Town plans to extend the trail to Crismon Road but grant funding is pending.

Cloud and Sossaman Basin & Outfall Stormdrain Design:

The Town is in partnership with the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (FCDMC). Construction start is anticipated to be in Feb/March 2011. The county will pay their portion of the project by the end of the fiscal year. Council Member Benning thought it was critical that the Town do very thorough and complete public outreach on this project. Mr. White promised to bring more information to the next meeting regarding the Chandler Height/Sossaman Road Improvements.

Item F: Request for future agenda items

- Tom Condit will bring the final Meridian project report to the next meeting.
- The committee will revisit the Annual Work Plan (#4, C).

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:12PM.