



FINAL

Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, June 2, 2011

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

San Tan Room – Development Services Building

Committee Members:

Ryan Nichols – Chair	Present
David Brandhorst – Vice Chair	Absent
Robin Benning – Council Member	Present
Chris Clark	Present
Gregory Arrington	Present
Kim Mlazgar	Absent
Nichelle Williams	Present
Patricia Conrad	Present
Richard Turman	Present

Public:

None

Town Staff Members:

Bill Birdwell, Traffic Analyst	Absent
Laura Catanese, Sr. Administrative Assistant	Present
Tom Condit, Development Services Director	Absent
Troy White, Public Works Division Manager	Present

1. Call to Order:

Committee Chairman, Ryan Nichols, called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

2. Introductions:

No introductions were made.

3. Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

4. Items for Discussion and possible action

Item A: Consideration and possible approval of April 7, 2011 minutes

Richard Turman made the first motion to approve the April 7, 2011 meeting minutes. Nichelle Williams made the second motion to approve the minutes. Motion was carried **UNANIMOSLY**.

Item B: Discussion and possible action on updated Traffic Calming Policy draft Troy White

Staff distributed the updated Town Traffic Calming Policy draft to the committee. Troy White explained that the draft contained less information than discussed at the previous meeting as the draft excludes any procedural implementation steps. Typically, Town committees only recommend policy changes to Council for approval; Town staff is responsible for writing the necessary procedures. If the updated draft was approved tonight by the committee, it would then be taken to Council for approval, minus any procedural process. Troy stated that Director Tom Condit appreciated the committee comments from the previous meeting and that many good ideas were expressed in the committees' discussion. The major difference between the updated policy draft and the current Town policy pertains to the financial responsibility of installing any approved traffic calming device. Chair Ryan Nichols gave the committee a few minutes to read through the updated draft.

Council member Benning expressed two concerns regarding the updated policy draft. First, there is the requirement of a vertical curb and gutter. What about the older subdivisions that do not meet this requirement? Are they to never to receive a traffic calming device even when warranted? His second concern was that not every subdivision had a HOA. Council member Benning recommended that special care in the exact wording of the policy be taken to avoid future liability issues. Chris Clark expressed a concern about residents being asked to fund a traffic calming device that may be the result of a poorly designed road whose flaws should have been caught when in the design phase. Chris would like to concentrate on developing some design standards for subdivision streets or at least have some input when plans are brought in for review and approval. Ryan Nichols stated that the wording of the policy could be "tweaked" so as not to favor a particular area of residents. Troy White responded that caution must be exercised as residents may tend to blame design if they know it will mean that the Town must pay for installation. Troy thought this would lead to friction in the process between residents and the Town and the policy should be very clear as to what specifically the Town would pay for. Ryan Nichols agreed, stating that if speed is a chronic condition in a specific area, then residents could make a claim that it was a design flaw, even if all the design standards were met during design, and therefore, request the Town to pay. Ryan Nichols asked if a clause could be added to the updated draft that states "residents have the right to petition the Town to pay/or share the cost of installing a traffic calming measure". Troy agreed that not listing specific reasons but allowing a petition to the Town just as a general rule would work better, adding something like "residents have the right to petition the Town to pay/or share the cost of installing a traffic calming measure, *when budget funds are available*". Patricia Conrad asked if the Town already had speed devices such as a mobile speed trailer or if such equipment would need to be purchased. Troy responded that the Town has mobile trailers but would like to purchase that can attach to traffic signs that flash the rate of speed and track traffic volume counts as well.

Ryan Nichols then asked the committee if they wanted to make a recommendation that the updated policy draft including the stipulations cited above be taken to Council for approval. Chris Clark made the first motion to approve. Patricia Conrad made the second motion to approve. Greg Arrington cast the single opposing vote. The motion was carried 5 to 1 with one member abstaining.

Item C: Update on current CIP projects Troy White

Staff gave a brief overview of the ITS project and discussed the different phases and equipment associated with each phase. Troy provided an update on the CIP projects with the following highlights:

Improvements to Ellsworth Road south of Chandler Heights Road are almost complete.

Ellsworth Road Improvements between Ocotillo and Rittenhouse roads were placed on hold by Council at the May 4 meeting. However, Victoria Lane improvements will be completed and will comprise an additional traffic lane, bike lane, and curb and gutter.

Rittenhouse & 198th Street: Meets warrants. The contract for construction will likely go to Council for approval in late July or early August.

Rittenhouse & Cloud Road: Meets warrants. However, so does the Villages South because of the close proximity of these two intersection, traffic engineering is conducting an analysis to see if installing one signal at only one location would mitigate the warrant conditions of the other intersection. Once this analysis is complete, a decision will be made on how to move forward with these two intersections.

Cloud Road Basin/Sossaman Road Drainage: this project is ongoing; the contractor is excavating for the basin and putting in new box culverts at the Fire station. Traffic slowdowns should be expected when the contractor begins installation of 48" pipes along Sossaman Road.

Sonoqui Wash Phase 2A1 should open within the next month and will look better than Phase 1 did after completion due to landscaping improvements in Phase 2.

Item D. Update/confirmation of Transportation Advisory Committee contact sheet **Troy White**
Member contact sheet were distributed. Members were asked to review their contact information and advise Laura Catanese of any contact changes or additional/alternate contact information.

Item F: Request for future agenda items **Chair Nichols**

Chair Ryan Nichols asked for future agenda items. Chris Clark suggested that the committee review design standards for subdivision streets. Ryan Nichols suggested compiling a list of residential streets that could then be reviewed (design standards). Ryan Nichols would like an update of the regional transportation projects.

5. Announcements

Richard Turman will not be able to attend the August meeting (Aug 4).

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

PREPARED BY: Laura Catanese
PASSED AND APPROVED ON: 8/4/11



Ryan Nichols, TAC Committee Chair