



**APPROVED 11/16/2022**

**\*SUMMARIZED MEETING MINUTES\***

City of Scottsdale  
Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC)  
**Regular Meeting**

**5:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 19, 2022**  
Community Design Studio Nave  
7506 E. Indian School Road, Scottsdale, 85251

**Call to Order 5:05 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Chair Natalie Chrisman Lazarr; Vice Chair Anthony Coletta; Commission Members: Tammy Bosse (arrived 5:09 p.m.), Ute Brady, Walter Cuculic (arrived 5:09 p.m.), Ryan Johnson (virtually; departed 6:39 p.m.)

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Andrew Scheck

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director; Tim Conner, Manager, Anthony Floyd and Sam Brown - Office of Environmental Initiatives; Caitlyn Gulsvig - Current Planning; Cindi Eberhardt, Acting Planning & Development Area Director; Mark Melnychenko and Christina Lenko, Transportation and Streets; Dale Wiebusch, Government Relations.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Two members of the public were present. Public comment was shared for Item #4.

**1) Approve Regular Meeting Minutes for September 21, 2022**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the Summarized Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2022, with Vice Chair Coletta providing a Second for the motion, which carried 4-0. All members present voted for APPROVAL; Commissioners Bosse and Cuculic were not present at the time of the vote. Commissioner Scheck was absent.

**2) Transportation and Streets Department**

Mark Melnychenko, Director, presented on the City of Scottsdale's transportation programs, the recently adopted Transportation Action Plan (TAP) and some of the sustainability efforts being undertaken by staff. The presentation included information on the range of functions in the department – from transit to streets to paving. A main goal of the TAP is to prioritize people and to make Scottsdale more sustainable and livable. Using resident feedback on pedestrian safety, the plan included removing travel lanes and looking at streets differently. There is an emphasis on adding other modes of transportation, using the right of way more efficiently, and focusing on data-driven solutions. The TAP also seeks to expand the use of resources that are unique to Scottsdale (like the Preserve and the Indian Bend Wash) to build a sense of place and accommodate all users of our transportation system.

The department is exploring micro-transit options for last mile connections or circulation between restaurants and parking structures and looking to add new neighborhood bikeway designations. Scottsdale is one of only 39 Gold Bike-Friendly Communities in the country. Transportation is looking to improve trails and provide greater connectivity to Preserve trailheads. Since 95% of travel lanes are already in place, the department is also looking to modify some street classifications or remove center turn lanes (where there is no side road access) to add buffered bike lanes. For pedestrians, work will improve shade, eliminate neighborhood barriers, and reduce length of perimeter walls that have no connection to the street. The department has a recycled asphalt program and uses material deposited on roads by storms as fill where roads have been undermined by the storm.

Commissioner Bosse asked about the use of cool pavement, and Director Melnychenko shared that maintenance and reflectivity can be issues, but they are exploring use of a future pilot location for this material. Commissioner Bosse also asked about adding more solar shade structures, which were included in a federal grant funding proposal to make significant changes to a portion of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Old Town. Commissioner Brady asked about light rail, which was eliminated in General Plan and so can't be considered. Director Melnychenko added that he is working on improving connectivity via bus to Tempe and Phoenix and also increasing the frequency of service. Commissioner Cuculic asked about whether the city could use other materials in recycled concrete (like crushed glass) and encouraged the city to investigate this further. Chair Chrisman Lazarr and Commissioner Bosse shared that it is difficult to get people to major work centers by bus, which adds to current labor challenges. Commissioner Brady asked about separating runners/pedestrians and bicyclists and about adding more shade in the Greenbelt. Director Melnychenko discussed the plans to widen some multi-use paths, and that adding trees in the Greenbelt can be difficult because it is in the floodplain and roots can impact paths.

### **3) Scottsdale's Legislative Agenda**

Dale Wiebusch, Government Relations Director, shared information on the process for preparing the 2023 legislative agenda and how he works with the state legislature and other jurisdictions. The 2023 agenda has not yet been adopted but is expected to include language similar to last year in support of sustainability goals. He anticipates that the city could support changes relating to recycling mandates under existing language and that having a specific statement about recycling would risk being too narrow. Commissioner Brady asked about the position on water financing. Chair Chrisman Lazarr asked for updates depending on what issues come before the legislature, especially if something related to recycling is introduced. Commissioner Bosse asked that Director Wiebusch be invited to a future meeting.

### **4) Energy and Green Construction Code Updates**

Anthony Floyd shared information about the input received at the community workshop, which more than 80 people attended. Comments are still being accepted online until October 24<sup>th</sup>. A summary of the public comments will be included in the Council Report. Some concerns had been raised about the requirement for R-49 (ceiling insulation) for residential buildings. During the public comment period, Stephen Mogowski shared his view that R38 is sufficient and that there are diminishing returns to R-49. Ceiling heights might need to be lowered. He suggested that the enforcement of current ceiling insulation requirements would result in greater energy savings.

Commissioners discussed the proposal to delay the effective date for mandatory IgCC requirements to Jan 1, 2024.

Commissioner Bosse made a motion to designate Chair Chrisman Lazarr to speak about the Commission's recommendations on the code updates at the November City Council meeting (with

Commissioner Cuculic as an alternate), with Commissioner Brady providing a Second for the motion, which carried 5-0. All members present voted for APPROVAL; Commissioners Scheck and Johnson were not present at the time of the vote.

**5) Development of the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan**

Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director, shared an update on the status of the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan and the timeline for adoption. She shared details on the upcoming community workshops and offered to schedule individual meetings with Commissioners to get their feedback on the plan. There was discussion about communications and engagement related to the plan.

**6) Pilot tree inventory project**

Chair Chrisman Lazarr shared that she had presented on the inventory to the Mayor's Youth Council and at Saguaro High School.

**7) Staff Updates**

There were no staff updates.

**8) Identification of Future Agenda Items**

Suggested agenda items included the Net Zero Strategic Energy Plan and municipal renewable energy installations, a discussion on equalizing the residential and commercial building codes, presentations on federal funding opportunities and strategies for community engagement, and an update on green purchasing.

**9) Date for December 2022 Meeting**

Commissioner Bosse made a motion to change the December 2022 meeting date to December 13 (instead of December 14), with Commissioner Cuculic providing a Second for the motion, which carried 5-0. All members present voted for APPROVAL; Commissioners Scheck and Johnson were not present at the time of the vote.

**Adjournment 7:29 p.m.**



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