



SUMMARIZED MINUTES

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, February 16, 2023
Kiva-City Hall
3939 N. Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Iacovo called the regular meeting of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission to order at 5:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Pamela Iacovo, Chair
Don Anderson, Vice Chair
Karen Kowal
Kerry Wilcoxon
Emmie Cardella

ABSENT: Mary Ann Miller
B. Kent Lall

STAFF: Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner
Mark Melnychenko, Transportation & Streets Director
Cristina Lenko, Public Information Officer
Kiran Guntupalli, Principal Traffic Engineer
Kyle Lofgren, Office Manager
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner
Phil Kercher, Traffic Engineer & Ops Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no spoken comments, however, two written comments were submitted and included in the agenda packet.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Iacovo called for changes to the minutes. One correction was made.

VICE CHAIR ANDERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF JANUARY 19, 2023 AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER WILCOXON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON AND COMMISSIONERS CARDELLA, KOWAL AND WILCOXON VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

COMMISSIONER KOWAL MOVED TO NOMINATE PAMELA IACOVO TO CONTINUE AS CHAIR. COMMISSIONER WILCOXON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON AND COMMISSIONERS CARDELLA, KOWAL AND WILCOXON VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

CHAIR IACOVO MOVED TO NOMINATE DON ANDERSON TO CONTINUE AS VICE CHAIR. COMMISSIONER WILCOXON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED 5-0 WITH CHAIR IACOVO, VICE CHAIR ANDERSON AND COMMISSIONERS CARDELLA, KOWAL AND WILCOXON VOTING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. TRAFFIC ENGINEERING UPDATES

Kiran Guntupalli, Principal Traffic Engineer, gave a presentation updating the Commission on Traffic Engineering's programs and work efforts by discussing the evaluation and decision-making process used for programs and projects.

A overview was provided of the traffic engineering project process:

- Step 1: Input
 - Resident input
 - Traffic Volume and Collision manual
 - Traffic Management Center reports
 - Development projects
 - School officials and resource officers
 - Special events
 - Construction projects
 - Staff observations

- Step 2: Analysis
 - Road safety assessments
 - Traffic control studies
 - Traffic impact and mitigation analysis report review
 - Barricade plan review
 - School operations observations

- Capital improvement project
 - Neighborhood meetings
- Step 3: Design and construction
- Traffic signal design/modification
 - Traffic control changes: Signing/markings
 - Development case stipulations
 - Capital improvement projects
 - Approved barricade plans
 - Special event management
 - Construction projects
 - Traffic calming device installation
 - Signal phasing and timing changes

In response to a Commissioner question, Mr. Guntupalli stated that traffic counts have not yet been completed to determine whether the striping done in the area of the Corriente Condominiums have helped to slow traffic. Commissioner further commented that if effective, this could be a low cost countermeasure to be used in other appropriate locations. Commissioner inquired as to the process that occurs after completion in order to measure effectiveness. Mr. Guntupalli stated that for proven countermeasures such as installation of speed cushions and speed feedback signs, after-studies are not typically conducted.

In response to a Commissioner question, Mr. Guntupalli stated that before school begins each year, traffic technicians are in the field to ensure that all school signage is in place and crosswalks are in good condition.

Chair referred to step two, analysis, and asked whether a weighting system is used in the analysis. Mr. Guntupalli stated that staff typically follows the manual on uniform traffic control devices as well as other relevant reference material, including state and local guidelines and standards.

Mr. Guntupalli discussed Road Safety Assessments (RSAs), which are defined as: A formal assessment of the safety performance of an existing or planned road segment or intersection. In Scottsdale, these are carried out by an independent multidisciplinary RSA team. This team consists of engineers, technicians, operations staff, and enforcement personnel. A review of road safety assessments for the current year was provided.

Commissioner asked whether RSAs are held internally or released to the public. Mr. Guntupalli stated that the RSA generates one of three countermeasures and is utilized by staff for implementation: Short term, mid term and long term. Long-term countermeasures typically have a significant cost and may include the development of a capital improvement project. Mid-term countermeasures can be handled in the existing budget, however, they still require design and implementation phases. Short-term countermeasures include items such as signage changes, striping, or installation of an additional signal head. They are funded under standard operating expenses. Phil Kercher, Traffic Engineer & Ops Manager, added that the public is not typically notified, unless there is a submission of a public records request.

Mr. Guntupalli provided an overview of pedestrian improvement projects:

- In design
 - Miller Road and Earll Drive
 - Miller Road and Jackrabbit Trail

- In construction/complete
 - Mountain View Road at Loop 101 path crossing
 - Camelback Road sidewalk
 - PHB at Camelback Road and Saddlebag Trail

4. TRAIL MAINTENANCE PUBLIC OUTREACH PROGRAM

Cristina Lenko, Public Information Officer, gave a brief background of the Trail Maintenance Outreach Plan, which consists of 153 miles of existing non-Preserve trails, City right-of-way and easements. A trail maintenance communication plan is currently in development. The previous inventory was completed in 2012 and the current inventory was completed in July, 2022. City code dictates the property owner's responsibility for trail maintenance. Trail elements in the Transportation Action Plan (TAP) include public education about easements and maintenance responsibilities associated with the trail network, trail obstruction policies and performance measures for mileage of rehabilitated trails. The Trail Maintenance Outreach Plan includes participation by Code Enforcement, Citizen Services, Scottsdale Video Network and the City Attorney's Office.

A breakdown of inventory by ownership is as follows:

- 63 percent: HOAs and commercial properties – 2,800 parcels
- 21 percent: Individual property owners – 425 parcels
- 16 percent: City-owned or public agency properties – 175 parcels

Ms. Lenko reviewed a list of other City workgroups and entities who have received similar presentations on the Trail Maintenance Outreach Plan. Input from all groups was included in the updated Plan. A trail maintenance link has also been created on the City's website, which allows residents to report trail condition concerns. It will also assist staff with tracking and evaluating plan effectiveness. Other education outreach includes trail maintenance video, newsletter articles for HOAs and neighborhood associations, articles in the Scottsdale Update, social media posts and presentations to local realtor associations. Opportunities to promote annual trail maintenance and cleanup include Earth Day, Keep America Beautiful, National Trails Day, National Cleanup Day and Make a Difference Day. The City is scheduling a maintenance and cleanup campaign immediately following monsoon season. Feedback from the City Attorney's Office and City boards and commissions led to the development of a trail maintenance pilot program. This will include notification to property owners whose trails require maintenance. Participants will be invited to a Meet the Planner Tailgate Meeting in the neighborhood. A questionnaire will collect feedback on the program. Another pilot program will target HOAs and commercial properties. Feedback from all groups will be used in the final version of the Plan.

5. ELECTRIC BICYCLES, SCOOTERS AND SIMILAR DEVICES

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, provided a brief history and background of devices in the City. Revised regulations governing use of the devices was presented to City Council on January 19, 2021.

The proposed regulations included:

- Prohibit riding on sidewalks in Transportation Safety Zone
- Usage times
- Parking of devices
- Permission of underage users
- Fees

Staff also proposed a draft licensing ordinance for providers with a fee based on total number of devices. Mayor Ortega and City Council members expressed concerns regarding sidewalk restrictions, parking restrictions, hours of operation for rental devices and minimum age restrictions. Ultimately, City Council directed staff to revise the proposed regulations.

The following outline shows progress and events since that time:

- 2021 Transportation Commission and Paths & Trails Subcommittee updates
- Regular meetings with device sharing companies and coordinating by email
- Evaluating operations and Scottsdale EZ requests
- Listening to public feedback
- Monthly meeting with cities in region and Arizona State University
- Five companies operating in Scottsdale – e-bikes and scooters
- Paths & Trails Subcommittee update February 7, 2023

Steps include:

➤ Short-term

- Website updated to educate the public on regulations
- Monthly meetings with companies and regular email communications
- Restricted areas map revised
- Temporary restrictions during “Super Season”
- Working with Police Department staff and the owner companies

➤ Mid-term

- Device dashboard for City staff
- Will show locations or rental e-bikes and scooters in real time by company and device type
- Devices that are out of compliance
- Automatic notifications through Scottsdale EZ

- Public outreach strategies
- Long-term: Work with City Attorneys on code updates
 - Minor language updates to match the State of Arizona
 - Sidewalk riding restrictions in Old Town
 - Requiring parking in bike racks or designated areas
- Next steps
 - Continue to monitor and evaluate the program
 - Regularly meet and correspond with companies and City staff
 - Take further action or make additional recommendations to the Paths & Trails Subcommittee, Transportation Commission and City Council as needed

In response to Commissioner question, Ms. Conklu confirmed that there currently are no fees to companies operating the vehicles. The proposed fees would be enacted, should licensing be required through ordinance enactment. In addition, there is currently no requirement for companies to provide ridership data. However, the dashboard being developed by City will include a wider range of data collection in conjunction with the companies' cooperation in providing device ID information.

Commissioner inquired as to the volume of devices in service. Ms. Conklu stated that this data has not been collected recently. However, most Scottsdale companies are operating fewer devices than in the early days of operation. There are approximately 200 to 250 at this time. This is in stark contrast to the 4,000 bikes operating in the City in the past. Commissioner surmised that it would be feasible to request companies to provide monthly statistics on the number of vehicles and their utilization.

Chair asked whether the scooters have markings for nighttime use. Ms. Conklu said that State requirements are for a white headlight visible from a minimum distance and a rear reflector.

6. COMMISSION IDENTIFICATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following agenda items were identified:

- Presentation by Sensagrate
- Pavement cut ordinance

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Wilcoxon and seconded by Commissioner Kowal, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

AYES: Chair Iacovo, Vice Chair Anderson, Commissioners Kowal, Cardella and Wilcoxon
NAYS: None

SUBMITTED BY:

eScribers, LLC

***Note: These are summary action meeting minutes only. A complete copy of the audio/video recording is available at <http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/boards/transp.asp>**