

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING
Chandler City Hall
4th Floor Large Conference Room
175 S. Arizona Avenue, Chandler, Arizona
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Dan Henderson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The following members answered roll call:

Chairman Dan Henderson* left the meeting at 5:11 pm
Vice Chairman John Repar
Commissioner Dean Brennan
Commissioner Samuel Enoch (Via Webex)
Commissioner Ron Hardin (Via Webex)
Commissioner David Heineking* joined the meeting at 4:05 p.m.
Commissioner Donald Smith

Staff and Guests in attendance:

Jason Crampton, Transportation Planning Supervisor
Nancy Jackson, Transportation Planning Coordinator
Sasha Pachito, Transportation Planning Coordinator
Ryan Peters, Government Relations & Policy Manager
Alexis Apodaca, Government Relations Coordinator
John Knudson, Public Works & Utilities Director
Kevin Lair, Transportation Manager
Kimberly Moon, Principal Engineer
Jennifer Honea, Public Information Officer

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of Wednesday, July 21, 2021

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Repar, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes of July 21, 2021, as presented. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

3. SCHEDULED/UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES/CALL TO PUBLIC

None

4. ACTION AGENDA

a. Valley Metro Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment:

Transportation Planning Coordinator NANCY JACKSON spoke to the commission about the city's Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) for fixed route bus, paratransit and RideChoice services.

Ms. Jackson highlighted various points of the agreement including:

- The amendment is the third of six annual amendments to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 – FY 2025.
- The amendment sets service levels and provides cost estimates for FY 2021-22.
- Future year service levels and costs will be established by subsequent annual amendments to the FY 2019 – FY 2025 agreement.
- The amendment represents a local funding decrease of 53% over FY 2020-21 due to the increase of federal funding

In response from questions from the commission, Transportation Planning Supervisor JASON CRAMPTON joined Ms. Jackson in addressing questions from the commission regarding funding. They explained that the local share of funding was reduced this year due to having received a larger amount of federal funds. Mr. Crampton noted that though the city's contribution had gone down, overall costs had gone up. He also confirmed that due to ridership decreasing because of the pandemic, costs per rider had gone up. He added that increases to the agreement per were typical and stated that the typical increases were 3-5% per year,

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Repar, seconded by Commissioner Brennan to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment with the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) to provide fixed route bus, paratransit and RideChoice service for FY 2021-22 in an estimated amount of \$789,030. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

b. Chandler Heights Road Project Agreement:

Transportation Planning Supervisor JASON CRAMPTON gave an overview to the commission about the Chandler Heights Road Project and agreement with the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG).

Mr. Crampton noted the following items from the scope of work:

- Project to provide an additional travel lane in the eastbound and westbound directions from White Place to Val Vista Drive
- Installation of raised landscaped median, curbing, gutters, sidewalks, ADA upgrades, traffic signal upgrades, streetlighting, communication and traffic signal system, storm drainage, irrigation and utility relocations, and landscaping and fencing restoration.
- The most recent construction cost estimate for the project was \$10,646,000 but might increase. The reimbursement amount of \$7,699,462.18 would be adjusted for inflation in accordance with MAG's policies.
- Up to 70% of federal money can be used for the cost of project.
- The project agreement does not cover right-of-way costs, only construction costs.

COMMISSIONER BRENNAN inquired about bike lanes being constructed in the intersection.

MR. CRAMPTON stated that the standard bike lanes would be constructed in the area and noted the higher construction and maintenance costs for separated bike lanes. He added that staff was looking at providing separated bike lanes on one of the corridors at Chandler Heights or Ocotillo roads. He stated that a future agenda item would be brought before the commission regarding bike lanes at those corridors.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith seconded by Commissioner Heineking to approve a Project Agreement with the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) for regional reimbursement for construction improvements to Chandler Heights Road (Gilbert Road to Val Vista Drive) in the amount of \$7,699,462.18. The motion passed by majority (6-1) with Commissioner Brennan voting nay.

Commissioner Brennan noted that he was not opposed to the project, however, he expressed concerns over bike lanes and adequate pedestrian shade not being addressed.

c. Shared Mobility Program:

Transportation Planning Coordinator SASHA PACHITO presented an overview to the commission of the proposed ongoing Shared Mobility Program. She stated that the city held a one-year pilot program that expired in December 2020. The city had received interest from companies but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no companies submitted applications to the city to participate in the program. She stated that the on-going program would require companies to obtain an approved license agreement with the city prior to staging and renting devices within city right-of-way. She added that the program would allow the city to assess fees, terminate license, or

elect to not renew licenses for companies that do not follow the program rules or are not a good partner to the city.

Commission members expressed questions and concerns on the following:

- Use of scooters on roadways
- Administration and enforcement of the program
- Number of companies operating in Chandler
- Use areas
- Number of allowable scooters
- Start time allowing the use of the scooters

In response to the questions and concerns brought forward by commissioners, Transportation Planning Supervisor JASON CRAMPTON noted the following:

- Administration and enforcement of the program will be handled by Transportation Planning staff.
- Companies operating in Chandler will be required to enter into license agreements for a one-year period. License Agreements will provide the city greater flexibility in administering the program and holding vendors accountable.
- Users will utilize a company's app to obtain the scooter and receive rider information, including information as to where the scooter should be parked.
- The program is open citywide, but heavy use areas are expected to be in the Downtown area and vicinity near Chandler Fashion Center.
- A maximum number of allowable scooters has not been set; however, the city has the ability to deny applications for any reason. Additionally, there is limited physical space for scooters to be parked, with only approximately 50 parking locations located in the Downtown area.
- A start time will be identified as part of the program as to when the scooters can be made available for users.
- City code amendment states that any user under the age of 18 is required to wear a helmet. Additionally, some companies require driver's license information to utilize the scooter.

COMMISSIONER HARDIN asked for staff to have metrics in place in order to evaluate the program after the one-year period concludes. Mr. Crampton concurred.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ron Hardin, seconded by Commissioner Heineking to approve the Shared Mobility Program. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

5. BRIEFING ITEMS

a. Bond Election Update:

Transportation Planning Supervisor JASON CRAMPTON presented an update on the Bond Election to the commission.

- The Special Election is scheduled for November 2, 2021.
- No increase to property tax is needed.
- City cannot advocate a position for or against.
- Elected officials and city employees cannot use city resources to influence an election, however, board and commission members could communicate information out to fellow residents.

COMMISSIONER HARDIN spoke about work being done in support of the Bond Election by former Mayor Boyd Dunn, who served as the Chairman of the Bond Committee. He told the commission he would speak to Mr. Dunn and inquire when communication was to be sent out to residents. Commissioner Hardin will request the information that is to be provided to residents and will share with the commission.

In response to comments from commission members, Government Relations & Policy Manager RYAN PETERS reiterated the city did not plan on increasing property taxes but was required to note on the election ballot that the city would be required to increase taxes unless the Mayor and Council provide for payment from other sources. Mr. Peters added that other funding sources that would be available to the city included impact fees, various grants, as well as Proposition 400 funds.

Mr. Crampton highlighted various proposed bond projects along with the bond authorization dollar amounts being requested. He stated that specific project language was not part of the ballot and would allow staff the flexibility to transfer funding to other projects if necessary and appropriate. He concluded by informing the commission that information pertaining to the Bond Election could be found at: www.chandleraz.gov/elections.

6. OTHER ITEMS

a. Transportation Project Status:

Nothing noted.

b. Future Agenda Items:

Mr. Crampton stated future agenda items included updates on the Regional Transportation Plan and Lindsay Road Project Alignment.

c. Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting date was announced for September 15, 2021.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chairman Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Brennan to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

Chairman Dan Henderson
Transportation Commission

Nancy Jackson
Transportation Planning Coordinator