

# DRAFT

WORK SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE  
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD  
5:00 PM -THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

## Minutes

### 1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Alexis Hermosillo; Councilmember Roy Delgado; Vice Mayor Monica Dorcey; Councilmember Anita Norton (via phone); Commissioner Mike Hutchinson (via phone); Councilmember David Shapera; Councilmember Donna Winston

### 2. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

### 3. WORK SESSION PRESENTATION

1. Presentation by MAG Transportation Planning Program Manager Audra Koester Thomas and MAG Policy and Government Relations Director Nathan Pryor on the new regional transportation plan.

**Mayor Hermosillo** introduced Audra Koester Thomas from MAG Transportation Planning who presented information on the long term transportation planning. The committee has been given approval to move forward with a 1/2 cent 25 year tax to support the proposed changes. They will begin working with the legislature on these items beginning in January 2022.

**Mayor Hermosillo** thanked Ms. Thomas for the presentation and the collaboration provided by MAG. **Councilmember Winston** asked if I.T.S. plans would apply to GPS users in real-time. Ms. Thomas answered yes, this is one of many smart technologies they are working on currently. **Councilmember Shapera** stated he believed the 1/2 cent decision is already creating an underfunded situation for the future and said the one cent tax instead would better serve the citizens. He asked why MAG would choose the 1/2 cent over the one cent tax. Ms. Thomas answered they had asked for the one cent tax but also provided other options for policy members to choose from. **Councilmember Shapera** asked if they would have the opportunity to go back and ask for more funding and Ms. Thomas answered yes. **Vice Mayor Dorcey** asked if there was consideration to extend Northern Parkway to the 51. Ms. Thomas stated it was considered and eliminated from the plan for various reasons. **Councilmember Delgado** asked if the light rail would be extended past El Mirage towards Wickenburg. Ms. Thomas acknowledged that commuter rail was a topic that continues to warrant more study. Ultimately, this was not included in the most recent plan. It may be an opportunity for a Federal Grant to fund. **Councilmember Norton** asked if this was a continuation of a current tax instead of an increase. Ms. Thomas stated that was correct.

### 4. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.

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Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the El Mirage City Council Work Session held on Thursday, September 9, 2021, and a quorum was present.



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Sharon Antes, City Clerk