



DRAFT MINUTES

City of Flagstaff TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

4:00 PM, Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014

City Council Chambers
211 W. Aspen Avenue

The following link will direct you to live streaming of this meeting.

<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=1461>



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CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:00 P.M.

COMMISSION MEMBERS, voting:

Andrew Benally - Present
Bob Kuhn, Flagstaff Unified School District - Present
Jeff Meilbeck, NAIPTA, Vice-Chair - Present
Bob Mullen - Present
Kevin Parkes, Chair
Gary Robbins – Present
Derik Spice

COMMISSION MEMBERS, non-voting:

Lt. Frank Higgins, Flagstaff Police Department
Jeff Bauman, Traffic Engineer

CITY STAFF:

Rita Severson, Recording Secretary

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time any member of the public may address the Commission on any subject within the Commission's jurisdiction that is not on this meeting's agenda. The Arizona Open Meeting Law prohibits the Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not listed on the prepared agenda. Commissioners may, however, respond to criticism made by those addressing the Commission, ask staff to review a matter, or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda.

To address the Commission on an item that is on the agenda, please wait for the Chair to call for Public Comment at the time the item is heard.

No Public Comment

REORDER AGENDA

No Reorder

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of May 7, 2014

Commissioner Robbins made a motion to accept the May 07, 2014 minutes as submitted, motion seconded by **Commissioner Kuhn**, all in favor, motion carries.

Special Meeting of December 20, 2014

Commissioner Robbins made a motion to accept the December 20, 2014 minutes as submitted, motion seconded by **Commissioner Mullen**, all in favor, motion carries.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. City of Flagstaff Capital Improvements – Transportation Program Annual Report FY 2014

The City's Capital Improvements Program presented the Capital Transportation Program's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2014 at the October Transportation Commission Meeting. No comments were received from Commissioners since the October Meeting and Staff has made a few minor clerical type edits over this time period.

Capital Improvements staff are planning to attend the February Transportation Commission meeting looking for input as they formulate the Fiscal Year 2015 Transportation Program.

Staff Recommendation: Action Item – Motion to accept the Annual Report and forward it to City Council with a recommendation of Approval.

Staff told the Commission if there weren't questions or needed discussion regarding the Transportation Program Annual Report for FY 2014 that a motion would be needed to accept the report. There were no questions or discussion from the Commission.

Commissioner Mullen made a motion to accept the Annual Report and forward it to City Council with a recommendation of Approval, motion seconded by **Commissioner Robbins**, all in favor, motion carries.

B. Bow & Arrow Neighborhood Traffic Calming

At the request of the Commission, Staff has reviewed the previous data and analysis performed in the Bow & Arrow Neighborhood prior to 2009 when 7 intersections were converted to ALL WAY STOP control. Staff has also conducted new studies, reviewed crash reports and will present the general before and after conditions and observations from this data.

Staff will present options for modifying the existing traffic control at the Zuni Drive and Leupp and Walapai and S. Yaqui intersections.

If existing traffic control is recommended to be changed, then staff is prepared to discuss the timing of that implementation (based on winter conditions) and the additional follow-up studies and Measures of Effectiveness that will 'judge' the success of this project.

Mailers announcing this meeting have been sent to the neighborhood and we have received several email and phone communications.

Staff Recommendation: Action Item – review the staff presentation, formulate a path forward.

Jeff Bauman the Traffic Engineer for the City of Flagstaff told the Commission that in the last meeting staff and the Commission discussed possibly removing a portion of the seven all way stops that were at various intersections within the Bow & Arrow Neighborhood. But, before moving ahead with the removal or modification of any of the all way stops they should conduct current studies on volume, speed and crash. Also the neighborhood was notified by postcards regarding this meeting and the nature of tonight's discussion so they could also be involved and give feedback. Staff has been contacted by phone by five citizens that were unable to attend tonight; their feedback was documented and forwarded to the Commission before this meeting.

Logan Couch Transportation Program's Intern presented a PowerPoint which included history, analysis, studies previous and current, study summary and staff's final recommendation with conditions.

Vice Chair Meilbeck opened the discussion for public feedback.

Jim Wagoner and Erika Mazza with NAIPTA approached the Commission with a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation addressed how the removal of some of the stop signs in the neighborhood would benefit the ridership and service to the neighborhood.

Tom lives on Zuni – he is in favor of keeping all of the stop signs. Yes the stop signs can be a pain but they are effective.

Joan lives on Zuni – she is in favor of keeping all of the stop signs. Joan was one of the original citizens involved in the effort to have traffic calming in the neighborhood. With the stop signs there is less traffic and speeds are tolerable. Joan also gave a very in-depth history on the neighborhood dating back to 1959.

David lives on Walapai – he is in favor of keeping all of the stop signs and feels much safer in the neighborhood. Feels there shouldn't be a bus route through the neighborhood and the routes should be kept out on the main roads such as Lake Mary and JWP.

Father Pat lives on Walapai – he is in favor of removing a couple of the stop signs and suggested a few areas.

Candace lives on Walapai – she is in favor of keeping all the stop signs, she feels much safer in the neighborhood and is surprised the Commission is revisiting this topic.

Frank lives on Zuni since 1977 – he is in favor of keeping all the stop signs. He also wanted the Commission to realize how many children are in the neighborhood and none of the studies addressed that concern. The children are constantly crossing Zuni to the public park and the stop signs have made that a much safer area for them.

With no other public wanting to comment **Vice Chair Meilbeck** closed the discussion for public feedback.

Commission and staff discussion:

Commissioner Benally told the public that he appreciated them coming to the meeting this evening. He admires their passion and on how they want to see their neighborhood, and has opened his eyes to the neighborhood's safety.

Commissioner Robbins indicated that he was a main opponent to have most if not all stop signs removed, but after hearing the public's perspective he feels a removal of only one stop sign would be sufficient.

Commissioner Kuhn felt that Father Pat's suggestion held some merit. To only remove the one stop sign that didn't leave much distance before the next stop.

Commissioner Mullen said he was unclear on who suggested the change in the neighborhood. It's clear the citizens from the neighborhood want to keep the stop signs.

Vice Chair Meilbeck inquired from staff if the results would be different if the stop signs would become yield signs? Apparently most of the stop signs are being treated as yield signs with many motorists only coming to a rolling stop. Jeff told the Commission he would have to visit each intersection to determine the use of a yield sign but he feels that wouldn't be a good solution for the neighborhood.

To keep the subject moving **Vice Chair Meilbeck** asked for a motion.

Commissioner Robbins moved a motion to remove the stop sign at Zuni and Kofa and the stop sign at Walapai and Yaqui. Motion seconded by **Vice Chair Meilbeck**.

Vote on motion, two in favor three opposed. Motion didn't carry.

Commissioner Kuhn suggested having this item tabled to the next Transportation Commission meeting on February 4th with additional direction to staff.

1. Supply the Commission with a map that clearly identified where all the stop signs are.
2. A table that identifies the distance between each stop signs.
3. A recommendation from Staff.

All Commissioners were in favor of tabling this item for the February 4th meeting.

IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Reports

1. Report from the Bicycle Advisory Committee:
<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?nid=1822>
2. Report from the Pedestrian Advisory Committee:
<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?nid=1824>
3. Status of Transportation Engineering Program Projects
 - [General update presentation on several projects and work orders performed by Transportation Engineering Staff](#)

B. Informational Items to/from Commissioners and Staff

1. Commissioner discussion

C. Next Meeting

1. **Regular Meeting: February 4th, 2014**

Tentative Agenda Items:

1. Transportation Tax and Capital Program
2. Road Repair and Street Safety Initiative Update
3. Bow & Arrow Neighborhood Traffic Calming

V. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Mullen made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by **Commissioner Mullens**, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.