



# MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4:30 pm Thursday, February 21, 2008

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City Hall, Staff Conference Room  
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Georgia Duncan, Chair  
Sharon Grasso  
Mike McDonald  
Kathie Oehme  
Heather Taylor  
Jim Tuck

#### Members absent:

None (one vacancy)

#### The following City staff was present:

Martin Ince, Multi-Modal Planner  
Gerry Craig, Traffic Engineering Manager  
Dave Needham, Police Department  
Tibor Fabry, Community Improvements Division

#### Others present:

Jack Welch  
Kim Austin, Coconino County Safekids  
Mary Natali  
Joan Entz  
Jeff Meilbeck, NAIPTA

## **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **1. Announcements**

Mike McDonald advised the group that the PAC was not listed on the City's website. Martin Ince said that the oversight has been reported to the City Clerk.

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### 2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

### 3. Approval Of Minutes

Kathie Oehme made, and Sharon Grasso seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 13, 2007. The motion was approved unanimously.

## II. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. FUTS Priorities

Mr. Ince provided some background information on the report that was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting.

There was a brief discussion about the process, and whether the rankings were changed or were the same after last year's process.

Jim Tuck made, and Ms. Oehme seconded, a motion to approve the FUTS trail priorities as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Mountain Line Ballot Questions

Jeff Meilbeck, general manger of NAIPTA, explained the five tax propositions regarding Mountain Line service that will be on the ballot in May.

There were a number of questions about how NAIPTA is getting the word out and educating the public about the propositions.

### 2. Sixth - West Intersection Plans

Tibor Fabry, project manager with the City's Capital Improvements Division, described three options for improving the safety of pedestrians crossing the intersection of West Street and Sixth Avenue, and outlined the process for gathering public input.

Ms. Grasso commented that it appeared from the materials that a recommendation had already been made. Mr. Fabry explained that they had received instruction from the City Council to not make a recommendation in advance of the public process.

Heather Taylor asked if sidewalks would be provided on all corners for all three options, and mentioned that sidewalks were not shown on some drawings. Mr. Fabry said that some of the options would not include sidewalks on all corners.

Ms. Oehme asked how cost estimates were determined, and said she was surprised that maintenance costs for a traffic signal were so high.

Mike McDonald said he was leery of roundabouts, especially larger, multi-lane roundabouts. It was pointed out that this would not be a multi-lane roundabout. Mr. McDonald said that his primary concern is that pedestrians are left on their own for crossing, without the benefit of a walk signal. A discussion ensued about how well roundabouts work for pedestrians.

Jack Welch said that the major complaint heard at the Traffic Commission is speeding through neighborhoods, and that a roundabout will help to slow traffic.

Mr. Fabry said that the design of the roundabout creates far fewer potential points of conflict than a conventional intersection. As a result, pedestrians only have to watch for vehicles coming from one direction at a time.

Ms. Oehme raised a concern about children riding their bikes through the roundabout, and said that younger kids may have problems negotiating the roundabout.

Ms. Grasso was concerned that children will be walking alone without their parents. There was a discussion about the costs of the alternatives versus their safety, and a question was raised about whether motorists would stop for a flashing light.

Mr. Fabry related a story from the community where he worked previously. He said that a few roundabouts had been installed, and at first the community was skeptical of how well they would work. By the time they were finished, citizens were asking for more roundabouts.

### **3. Fort Valley - Forest Intersection Plans**

Mr. Ince presented drawings for planned changes to the intersection of Fort Valley Road and Forest Avenue.

Mr. McDonald suggested additional signing to call attention to the crosswalk, including signs on cables over the roadway. He said that the signs would remain even if the crosswalk markings faded over time.

**4. Rio North FUTS Trail Bridge – Arizona State Parks Trails Heritage Fund Grant Application**

Ms. Oehme made, and Ms. Taylor seconded, a motion to support the grant application for a bridge over the Rio de Flag along the Rio North FUTS Trail. The motion was approved unanimously.

**5. PAC Goals for 2008**

The Committee discussed the status of the goals and priorities from 2007.

Regarding enforcement, Mr. Tuck said that the Police Department uses volunteers to enforce accessible parking spaces, and that the volunteers can write real tickets. He suggested inviting Tom Boughner to the next meeting.

Ms. Oehme made, and Mr. McDonald seconded, a motion to continue this item to the next meeting. In the meantime, the Committee is to have their list of priorities ready before the meeting, based on the five E's. The motion was approved unanimously.

**IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1. Reports**

Information on the reports was provided to the Committee in their packet.

Regarding new member recruitment, several member of the public in attendance indicated they were interested in being on the Committee. Mr. Ince said he would send them an email with a link to the City's application form.

Ms. Oehme announced that she was serving a one-year term and that she did not intend to renew when her term expires.

There was no further discussion on the reports.

**2. Concluding Announcements**

There were no concluding announcements.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 pm.