

# DRAFT MINUTES

## City of Flagstaff PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE



**Thursday, September 13, 2018 | 4:30 pm**

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City Hall, Council Chambers  
211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm. On roll call, the following Committee members were present:

Denise Wynne, chair  
Megan Hosterman  
Zach Schwartz  
Jack Welch  
Amy Young

Members absent:

Brandon Cruickshank  
Jodi Norris

The following City and agency staff were present:

Jeff Bauman, traffic engineer  
Dan Folke, interim community development director  
Martin Ince, multimodal planner  
Kate Morley, NAIPTA  
Matt Ryan, County Board member

Public present:

None

### **I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **1. Announcements**

There were no Announcements.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Schwartz made, and Mr. Welch seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 9, 2018. The motion was approved unanimously (5-0).

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Active Transportation Master Plan**

Mr. Ince presented a summary of the FUTS priority evaluation analysis. The committee offered several comments and suggestions:

- The maps are in need of better direction to assist users in orienting themselves.
- Use of Strava data for the Existing Need and Community Support measure may not be representative of the community, because of the demographic that typically uses the app.
- Evidence of existing trails may also not be informative, because trails are created quite easily in Flagstaff's environment.
- The FUTS trail users survey is based on a limited sample of residents.
- The criteria should be checked to avoid a bias in favor of the west side of town and against the east side.

Mr. Ince said that it would help to include an equity review to verify that planned FUTS are distributed equitably across the community, and that underserved neighborhoods have good access to FUTS.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Transportation tax and housing bond presentations**

Jeff Bauman provided the committee with information regarding Propositions 419 and 420, which would approve a sales tax to help fund transportation improvements.

Proposition 419 is a flat renewal of the existing transportation sales tax, which expires in 2020. The renewal would be for another 20 years. He showed before and after photos of projects that were completed under the current transportation

tax, and highlighted projects that would be built if the tax were renewed. He also provided statistics and examples of planned pedestrian and bicycle projects.

Proposition 420 is a new sales tax that would fund construction of an extension of Lone Tree Road and an overpass of the BNSF railroad tracks to Route 66. He showed the location of the proposed overpass relative to other projects that would be funded under Proposition 420. He said that this project would be similar to the Fourth Street overpass. This project would be bonded.

The committee asked a number of questions about the overpass, including the difference between this project and the old Tank Farm overpass and the reasons why the cost has increased so much. The committee asked if engineering drawings have been prepared, and where a copy of the corridor study can be viewed.

Kate Morley presented information about Proposition 420, which is a new sales tax to enhance Mountain Line bus service. She said that this tax will increase the frequency of existing routes and extend the hours of service. She showed ridership data over time, and correlated enhancements in service with increases in ridership. She detailed some of the planned service enhancements, which include higher frequency, later hours, and other enhancements to make transit more efficient. The tax will also fund bus passes for NAU students. The committee asked which routes would be affected by the service enhancements.

Ms. Morley showed how the overall City sales tax rate will increase as a result of the three propositions, and provided a comparison of the sales tax rate in Flagstaff with other communities in northern Arizona. She provided a schedule for five planned public open houses.

Dan Folke made a presentation regarding Proposition 422, which will authorize \$25 million in general obligation bonds to fund housing affordability programs. He provided some data regarding housing affordability and home ownership rates in Flagstaff, and showed a graph illustrating the City's bonding capacity.

In conjunction with the bonds, the City will convene a housing commission to help guide the housing affordability programs.

Mr. Folke and the committee discussed the City's debt capacity and the impact if the authorization is granted. Property taxes will not increase as a result of the bonds. How much is available annually will vary depending on the sale of bonds. There is a trade-off; if we fund housing affordability programs it means we cannot pay for something else.

Matt Ryan addressed the committee as a member of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors. He said that as an elected official he is able to advocate on behalf of the propositions. He said that transportation improvements have been made incrementally over the years, and that the three propositions will allow the incremental improvements to continue. The Lone Tree overpass is not a fix for

Milton Road, but an alternative. We have a very successful transit program, which many people rely on. He closed by expressing his appreciation for the work of the committee.

**IV. CONCLUDING GENERAL BUSINESS**

**1. Reports**

There were no Reports.

**2. Announcements**

Ms. Young announced that she is resigning from the committee. She said she has found a co-worker who is interested in serving on the committee.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.