



APPROVED MINUTES

City of Flagstaff TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

4:00 PM, Wednesday August 7th 2019

City Hall – City Council Chambers
211 W. Aspen Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSION MEMBERS, voting:

Bob Kuhn, Flagstaff Unified School District **Present**
Julie Leid **Present**
Nick Kraft
Erika Mazza, NAIPTA **Alternate Kate Morley - Present**
Bob Mullen **Present**
Gary Robbins, Chair
Derik Spice, Vice-Chair **Present**

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 comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of May 1, 2019

Commissioner Morley stated that NAIPTA's representative is Kate Morley not Ann and would like to see that change in the minutes, Kate also added with that corrections she would make a motion to approve the minutes, motion seconded by Commissioner Mullen, all in favor minutes approved.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Appointments

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees both have appointments to be made this month.

Staff Recommendation: Review Staff Report from Martin Ince and make appointments for the PAC and BAC.

Commissioner Leid made the motion to appoint Matt McGrath and Shay Zimmer to the Pedestrian Advisory Committee and to reappoint Kim Austin, Susan Hueftle and Matt Mitchell to the Bicycle Advisory Committee. Motion second by Commissioner Kuhn, all in favor motion passed.

B. Trip Diary Survey 2018

The FMPO conducts a Trip Diary Survey in Flagstaff approximately every 6 years and recently completed a survey for 2018. This is the third study, which starts to provide more meaningful trend lines.

3600 households and 400 on-campus students were randomly sent invitations to participate in the study. The households were divided into three areas: the Core area, the rest of the City and the rest of Flagstaff. The final response rate for the survey was about 9%.

The following is a link to the study page:

<https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/2713/Flagstaff-Trip-Diary-Survey>

Staff Recommendation: Staff has prepared a brief presentation for review and discussion. No formal action requested.

Martin Ince the FMPO Multi Modal Planner provided this item to the Commission. First, Martin wanted to let the Commission know that the low response to this type of survey is to be expected. The survey did have a heavy ask on the participants to track their daily commutes. This survey was also taken in 2006 and 2012. Martin presented some of the findings in the survey.

1. Mode share – trips by mode, such as personal vehicle, walking, biking and public transit. Personal vehicle is the number one mode.
2. Mode share trends – indicated that the transit mode has increased over the last three years.
3. Mode share by geography – This breaks the city down into three areas, core downtown area, rest of flag and rest of FMPO which includes Doney Park and Ft. Valley. The core area tends to use the transit system more frequently.
4. Mode share for NAU students – These students tend to have a significant higher mode share than the rest of the population.
5. Travel demand management – Respondents who use employer provided transportation options.
6. Transportation ratings of different systems in Flagstaff – FUTS top of the list followed by bus routes and stops, traffic flow and congestion being at the bottom of the rating.

There was a short discussion on getting this type of data out to the public, Martin said this is a lot of information to distribute and it would be shared in smaller pieces as needed. Jeff added that a lot of this data is used in the City's transportation program to help support studies and reports.

III. OLD BUSINESS

c. Bicycle Code Revisions

The City of Flagstaff has been working on a series of Bicycle Code revisions primarily focused on the wave of new e-bike and e-scooter technologies that have been introduced over the past few years. The Arizona Revised Statutes have been updated somewhat and this series of revisions helps to clarify and locally calibrate the laws pertaining to e-bikes and e-scooters.

Staff has presented these proposed code modifications to the Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Pedestrian Advisory Committee the Sustainability Commission and the City Council. Staff has also released a public survey and compiled those results for review.

The City Council approved these changes at their June 18 meeting. They also sent back several questions to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committees and to the Transportation Commission. The BAC and PAC will be discussing these questions over the next couple of meetings. The two items from the City Council are:

1. Review prohibited trails and consider deletions or additions to the list that came from the June 18 meeting. (Nate Avery and AZT)
2. Consider signing and educational approaches for the promotion of proper trail etiquette.

Staff Recommendation: Staff has prepared a presentation to lead the commission through this discussion. Staff recommends the Transportation Commission make a recommendation to the City Council.

Martin Ince the City's Multi Modal Planner presented this discussion item informing the Commission that the two items Council wanted further information on will be discussed here and at the BAC and PAC along with other City Commissions for their input. The City Council did approve the revisions to the City Code on June 18th. Martin reviewed the Council approved revisions with the Commission.

Question 1a:

Should the Nate Avery Trail and Arizona Trail be closed to electric bicycles?

After Commission discussion regarding connectivity of the Arizona Trail and wanting a larger discussion on bikes of all types being allowed on the Nate Avery Trail their preferences would be;

Nate Avery Trail

Two Commissioners were in favor of class one and two e-bikes being allowed on the Nate Avery Trail, three Commissioners opposed class one and two e-bikes on the Nate Avery Trail.

Arizona Trail

Four Commissioners are in favor of class one and two e-bikes being allowed, one Commissioner opposes class one and two e-bikes on the Arizona Trail.

Question 1b:

Are there other FUTS trails that should be closed to electric bicycles?

Martin told the Commission that this was a discussion in the past where the Commission along with BAC and PAC already had recommendations to allow class one and two e-bikes on FUTS. All Commissions voted to allow class one and two e-bikes on all FUTS. Which means if the Commission wants to reconsider the original recommendation and consider closing additional trails to e-bikes there should be a criteria to help determine which FUTS should be closed to e-bikes.

Four Commissioners are in favor of class one and class two e-bikes being allowed on all other FUTS, one Commissioner opposed the class one and class two e-bikes on FUTS.

Proper trail etiquette

Key messages

1. All users keep right
2. Slow down, leave space, give an audible warning when passing
3. FUTS trails are intended for speeds of 15 mph
4. Go slow in crowded areas, yield to pedestrians
5. Keep dogs on a leash
6. Clean up after your pet
7. General positive messaging for enjoying FUTS trails

Additional information to get out to users would be where e-bikes are allowed and prohibited, and which classes of e-bikes are allowed. There are limitations in staff time and funding. Currently we get some of this information out by signage, a map is published every couple years, websites and social media. All the trail heads have signage with trail rules and courtesy which is lengthy.

Martin had some recommended actions that could be completed with the resources available.

1. New signs/pavement markings
2. Centerline stripe
3. Keep dogs on leash
4. Update trail courtesy information/graphics
5. Social media messaging campaign
6. Bike share app messaging

Chair Spice recommended the signage that state 15 mph for bikes along with a sign that states yield to pedestrians.

Commissioner Mullen suggested signage that can be read at the speed of 6 or 7 mph. Also, he added that helping the public understand that dogs on leashes also help not to disrupt the natural life of other animals in the forest.

Commissioner Morley doesn't think that a large campaign would be needed to educate the public, if there are any changes there should be notifications on the newer printed FUTS maps.

Commissioner Leid says that the education within a social media platform would help better understanding of the signage.

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>

B. Informational Items to/from Commissioners and Staff

1. Commissioner Discussion
2. Membership Vacancies and Renewals
<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=1886>

Currently one vacancy

C. Next Meeting

1. **Regular Meeting: October 2, 2019**
Tentative Agenda Items:
 1. Transportation Tax Oversight Ordinance
 2. Bicycle Code

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Chair Spice, seconded by Commissioner Leid, all in favor meeting adjourned.