



DRAFT ACTION MINUTES

City of Flagstaff TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

4:00 PM, Wednesday August 5th 2020

Location – Online

The following link will direct you to the live Teams Meeting:

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Jeff Bauman at 928-213-2690 (or 774-5281 TDD). Notification at least 48 hours in advance will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements.

CALL TO ORDER – 4:00 PM

COMMISSION MEMBERS, voting:

Bob Kuhn, Flagstaff Unified School District - [Present](#)
Julie Leid - [Present](#)
Nick Kraft - [Present](#)
Kate Morley, Mountain Line - [Present](#)
Kevin Parkes - [Present](#)
Bryan Burton - [Absent](#)
Derik Spice, Vice-Chair - [Absent](#)

COMMISSION MEMBERS, non-voting:

Lt. Frank Higgins, Flagstaff Police Department - [Present](#)
Jeff Bauman, Traffic Engineer - [Present](#)

CITY STAFF:

[Stephanie Sarty, Charlie Odegaard, Martin Ince, Reid Miller, Stacy Fobar, Rick Barrett](#)

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on _____, at ___ in accordance with the statement filed with the City Clerk.

This agenda has also been posted on the City's website and can be downloaded at www.flagstaff.az.gov.

I. PRELIMINARY GENERAL BUSINESS

WELCOME INCOMING COMMISSIONERS

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ELECTION

A motion was made by Bob Kuhn to elect Julie Lead as the Chair of the Transportation Commission and **seconded by** Kate Morley.

Vote: 5 – 0 Unanimously

Will move on and come back to elect Vice Chair when audio is working better.

A motion was made by Nick Kraft to elect Kevin Parkes as the Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission and **seconded by** Kate Morley.

Vote: 5 – 0 Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 2nd, 2020

A motion was made by Nick Kraft to approve the minutes of June 2, 2020 as submitted and **seconded by** Kate Morley.

Vote: 5 – 0 Unanimously

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. City of Flagstaff – Santa Fe public request

City Staff will present an overview of the request, which is Loud and Fast vehicles on the West end of Santa Fe Avenue are becoming a problem. Some traffic speed and volume data has been collected and will be reviewed with the commission.

Input has also been received from Lowell Observatory who have seen an increase in vehicles heading up Santa Fe extending up to the observatory parking lot in almost a racing fashion before making the return trip.

Flagstaff PD has also been working on this issue and will be able to provide an update on their activities to date.

Several residents have contacted the City along with Lowell Observatory, they have all been notified of this meeting and should be able to provide some additional background information.

Staff Recommendation: Informational item, review data collection efforts to date and provide a forum for public input. No formal action is required.

Ms. Sarty gave a summary of the count data that was taken on Santa Fe.

Public Comments Open 4:25 PM:

Jeff Hall (Lowell Observatory) – at top of the hill in the evening's vehicles speeding, loud, congregating at the overlook, ignoring closed signs and speeding through campus. Upgraded security presence at the overlook from 5 PM to 11 PM most nights. Problem has decreased, but not 100% better.

Tom Brownold (Summit & Sycamore) – more of an engine noise issue versus speed issue.

Gary Glenn (Summit & Sycamore) – speeding is an issue, but the noise troubling.

Lieutenant Higgins – Asked Officers to step up enforcement with aftermarket exhaust because receiving noise complaints across the City. Extra loud exhaust is cause for issuing a citation or repair order to fix the vehicle.

Commissioner Discussion:

Morley – Does not sound like there is something for the Commission to act on and is more of an enforcement issue. Look to Police Department to monitor, as they have been.

Kraft – How should the public contact PD? Higgins – Citizen can call it in and the complaint will go out to all units in the area to monitor situation.

Leid – No action is needed from the Commission for this item. Thanks the citizens for speaking. Interested in if there have been improvements to the noise concerns with the added PD enforcements at the next meeting.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Boulder Pointe and Presidio cross access - Update

The Presidio, which is a development that began more than 10 years ago and is located east of Woody Mountain Road and south of Route 66. The development per the City Zoning Code and the City Engineering Standards was required to extend and connect the public street network from the Boulder Pointe development. There were concerns that construction related traffic in the Presidio would create high traffic levels on the existing Boulder Pointe roads. The solution was drafted into the Presidio Development Agreement. The agreement stated that a gate would be installed to block public access, but still allow emergency services access. After a certain amount of time passed and assuming a steady Presidio development buildout, the gate would be opened. The development for several reasons never progressed and the City established that the gate would not be opened until at least 90% of the homes in Presidio have been occupied. According to the City building permit counts as of this Fall over 95% of the buildable lots have been issued a building permit. Occupancy of 90% or more of the homes will be achieved by Spring 2020 and will be the official start of this process.

For several years members of the Boulder Pointe HOA have contacted the City to inquire about the status of the gate and the process and timing of it's opening.

The City has committed to studying the before and after gate traffic conditions in Boulder Pointe to identify mitigatable impacts and if necessary, propose mitigation.

Update – the gate was opened the week of April 13th. The City has received some feedback regarding traffic control on Woody Way and traffic pattern changes. Staff have set some counting equipment the week of June 1st to get a preliminary feel of the changes currently being observed and that data is now available to review and discuss. Next steps may be less certain with the continued COVID-19 orders.

Staff Recommendation: Informational item, but with traffic patterns less likely to resume to normal in a couple of months, discuss a revised timeline and check in schedule.

Ms. Leid and Mr. Bauman gave a summary of the project to this point for the new Commission Members.

Ms. Sarty presented on the process the City is using to mitigate the gate removal and went over the new data that was collected.

Commissioner Discussion:

Morley – Do we have a sense of what % of normal traffic is happening post COVID? Transit ridership down 40% currently. Sarty – We plan to look into this.

Kuhn – Students should be back in session prior to doing the “after” counts.

Parkes – Wants to understand better what the normal increase in traffic would be when opening a minor connector. Ms. Sarty – We expected volumes to increase, but not sure exactly how much. Wanted to rely on the counts to get that percentage.

Leid – Wanted to hear ideas for mitigating the speeds. Ms. Sarty – Mini Circles/mini roundabout, signage, medians, striping changes. Mr. Bauman – median entry to neighborhood, commercial to residential, roadway narrowing, median deflection into neighborhood.

Leid – Asked Lieutenant Higgins if there have been increased enforcement for the speed issues, or if there have been any other issues on this corridor. Lieutenant Higgins – this location has been put on a list for increased enforcement. The mini rounds have been a success in the La Plaza Vieja neighborhood.

Leid – What is the process for implementation? Mr. Bauman – Utilizing the Residential Management Spreadsheet, University looks to already have an issue, making contact with the HOA’s to discuss the possible mitigation, TC would make the final call, if it is construction, Staff would go through process to hire designer and contractor, and have to find money in CIP to get built.

Public Comments Open 5:09 PM:

Brian Lee Wilson (Boulder Pointe Neighborhood) – Would a police presence the week prior to counts being taken, effect the count data? Lieutenant Higgins – when counts were being taken police were not present for an accurate count, if they were there it would have been for a call for service.

Commissioner Discussion:

Kraft – Is there a cost issue for what will be put in? Will Council have to approve upgrades? Mr. Bauman – We have funding for small projects, like a circle, but if it is multiple circles it will need to be approved by Council. Would not worry about it yet, it is just a procurement process.

Morley – NAU and FUSD should be in school as a threshold. Larger concern of speeds vs. volumes. Would like to move forward with speed mitigation, like median entry idea, roundabouts, restriping for bike lanes and bike boulevards, keeping connectivity goals in mind.

Parkes – Echo’s what Morley had to say, speeds the concern now. Also interested in where westbound traffic is going. Are they continuing onto Woody Mountain Road, interested in this data.

Kuhn – long road, speed can get up, prefer the roundabouts vs. striping

Leid – separating out the issues 1. Speeding and mitigations 2. Counts related to the gate. Can these be two items to discuss separately? Mr. Bauman – yes, they can be separated. Speeds do not change with COVID, so we can move forward with the speeding discussion and mitigation. We can bring options back in October, then show options to HOA's, then back to Commission.

Kuhn, Morley, Parkes, Kraft – agrees we should split the issues and treat them as different projects

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>

Leid gave a summary of the active Transportation Plan and the FUTS Master Plan, which the BAC and PAC have been working on.

Mr. Ince gave summary of schedule for the Transportation Plan.

B. Informational Items to/from Commissioners and Staff

1. Commissioner Discussion

Morley – Mountain Line is doing outreach on the BRT, and ADOT is going to be doing outreach on Milton and US 180 Plans.

Morley – Wondering the role of the Commission. Would like this to be a future agenda item.

Parkes – If the discussion of the role of the TC happens in October, requesting the Ordinance that enables this commission be sent out prior to meeting.

2. Transportation Engineering Staffing Updates

Mr. Bauman – introducing new Transportation Engineering staff, Martin Ince.

3. Street Lighting to Enhance Dark Skies

Mr. Bauman – was supposed to go to Council in April but has been pushed back due to COVID. Things are getting back to normal now and a new meeting date is soon.

4. Membership Vacancies and Renewals – roster update

<http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/index.aspx?NID=1886>

Leid – Commissioner Spice term expired in July 2020, may have already served two terms. Can continue serving until a replacement is appointed by Council.

C. Next Meeting

1. **Regular Meeting: October 7, 2020**

Tentative Agenda Items:

1. Transportation Tax Oversight Ordinance

Leid would like to add:

2. A discussion of the Roles and Responsibilities of the Transportation Commission
3. Capital Plan for Transportation Projects based on Councils approved budget – what Bret presented on last meeting
4. Active Transportation Plan and FUTS Master Plan
5. Boulder Pointe - Options for Mitigating Speeds on University Ave
6. Santa Fe – if any public or Lieutenant Higgins have any updates

V. ADJOURNMENT – 5:43 PM

A motion was made by Bob Kuhn to adjourn the meeting and **seconded by** Nick Kraft.

Vote: 5 – 0 Unanimously