



APPROVED

SUMMARIZED MINUTES

**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
PATHS & TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

**ONE CIVIC CENTER
AGAVE CONFERENCE ROOM
7447 E INDIAN SCHOOL RD.
SUITE 205
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251**

THURSDAY, February 6, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Paths & Trails Subcommittee was called to order at 5:22 p.m. A formal roll call confirmed the presence of subcommittee members as noted below.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Lee Kauftheil, Chair – Transportation Commission
Kerry Wilcoxon, Vice-Chair – Transportation Commission
Kristen Parrish, Commissioner – Parks and Recreation Commission
Sarah Hecht, Subcommittee Member
Bradley Adame, Subcommittee Member

STAFF: Nathan Domme, Transportation Planning Manager
Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner
Manager Kyle Lofgren, Staff Coordinator

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to speak on public comment and there were no written comments.

Chair Kauftheil welcomed Subcommittee Member, Sarah Hecht. All members provided a brief introduction.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice-Chair Wilcoxon noted the incorrect spelling of Mr. Pruet's name.

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED TO APPROVE DECEMBER 5, 2024, PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR KAUFTHEIL, VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON, COMMISSIONER PARRISH AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ADAME AND HECHT VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. APPROVAL OF PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Lofgren noted the Annual Report is a recap of the Subcommittee activity over the past year including major topics of discussion.

COMMISSIONER PARRISH MOVED TO APPROVE THE PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT. VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR KAUFTHEIL, VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON, COMMISSIONER PARRISH AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ADAME AND HECHT VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

3. TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN (TAP) SHARED

Nathan Domme, Transportation Planning Manager, provided an overview of the growth of the shared use path network over the course of twenty plus years that has led to the 150 identified miles of shared use paths. There is an extensive network of shared use paths that include wider sidewalks, side paths, and multi-use paths.

Mr. Domme provided an overview of a shared use path and side path, which allow non-motorized modes of transportation except for Class 1 and Class 2 ebikes. The key difference between these two path types is side paths will have vehicles next to them.

The TAP identifies 110 miles of planned shared use paths within the next ten to twenty years. The three primary shared use paths that serve as the main linkage throughout Scottsdale are Indian Bend Wash Path, Crosscut Canal Path / Arizona Canal Path, and Central Arizona Project Canal Path. A detailed overview of the nine long-term projects was provided. These projects are currently in the implementation phase.

Mr. Domme reviewed the TAP goal of providing residents with access to the shared use paths within a half mile of their home unless privately owned property or natural terrain makes it impractical. Policies within the TAP are meant to guide the planning of the shared use path system including construction and wayfinding. Performance measures are constantly being obtained such as the total mileage for the complete shared use path system.

Mr. Domme discussed Grade Separated Crossing Improvements, noting they are a key component to keeping the shared use paths separate from vehicles and safe for bikes and pedestrians. Whenever possible and feasible new construction's main priority will

be to ensure roadways do not cross trails and paths at grade levels. Mr. Domme discussed how projects are prioritized and future projects are identified, noting that safety is a strong argument for a project to be constructed and become a priority.

The next step is to see if the three funding requests currently on the CIP project list going before the City Council are approved.

In response to questions, Mr. Domme explained the SRP Aesthetic Fund is typically used to relocate underground powerlines and has not been used for shared use paths, but they can look into it. Ms. Conklu explained the Maricopa County Ridership Survey only provides a listing of the City of Scottsdale employees who ride or walk to work, not the entire city. However, Phoenix is collecting data from all employers citywide, and it would be great to learn more about the correlation between the path extensions and an increase in riding to work. An overview of what drove the change, and increased paths was provided. Noting in 2008 the City formally adopted the complete streets policy to make sure all types of improvements would include all the different modes in some way.

The various classes of ebikes were discussed. Mr. Domme noted the City's ebike definitions are modeled after the State code. The Osborne Bridge and the path from Earl to 3rd Street project are slated to begin this summer. The user value of a shared use path is higher, but the side paths extend the network and provide connections when there are no alternatives. A discussion ensued regarding the plans for the Shea Boulevard project in Fountain Hills.

4. CAP CANAL SHARED USE PATH PROJECT

Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner, reviewed and discussed the TAP Bikeway Element goals. Prioritizing goals is one of the areas that helps to complete gaps and open more miles of paths. Maintaining and enhancing the paths supports the TAP by taking care of what the City has.

Ms. Conklu provided an overview of the purpose of the multi-use paths, focusing on safety for users of all ages and abilities. Understanding that paths are used for transportation as well as recreation, and the development of partnerships with other city departments in order to expand the system. The CAP Canal Path does connect to Phoenix and beyond that it is regional. As previously mentioned, working with Fountain Hills will connect the CAP Path regionally and provide an alternative route to the east.

The CAP Canal Path project was reviewed and discussed, noting it ties into the existing path network and pedestrian improvements east of Northsight Boulevard. The project will add 1.8 miles of concrete path with access ramps. It is expected the project will improve safety, connectivity, and quality of life for residents using the path system, while maintaining most of the existing vegetation that will provide some shade and security fence.

The design team evaluated several concepts for the preferred ten-foot paths separated from the curb. There are many factors impacting the design, such as bus stop relocation, drainage, slope, ADA requirements, and the City's Design Standards and Policy Manual. After taking everything into consideration it was recommended to build an eight foot path with an adjusted fence, which is consistent with the minimum path standard and

balances the needs with minimal additional costs.

The \$2.5 million construction budget is funded through federal grants with a 5.7 percent match. The City Council previously adopted this CIP project and authorized acceptance of the Congestion, Mitigation, and Air Quality Federal Highway Grant. Next steps include the Maricopa Association of Governments approving a first-time deferral on February 25, 2025, to start construction in 2027. She noted the process will involve working with the Bureau of Reclamation and Central Arizona Water Control District for licensing.

Commissioner Parrish suggested the City consider what the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure and the American Society of Civil Engineers have to offer. Mr. Domme explained the Street Operations and Pavement Team has concerns with the permeable pavement. The budget for active transportation projects is approximately 33 percent federally funded and local funds are maximized first. A discussion ensued on budgeting and grant funding. Ms. Conklu explained the process for removing native plants and protected species. Mr. Domme spoke about the improvements to the bus stop and the trail access to alleviate congestion in that right-turn area.

VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE CAP CANAL PATH PROJECT AS PLANNED. COMMISSIONER PARRISH SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR KAUFTHEIL, VICE-CHAIR WILCOXON, COMMISSIONER PARRISH AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ADAME AND HECHT VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

5. PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UPDATE

Nathan Domme, Transportation Planning Manager, discussed the information graphics that were prepared to provide a quick snapshot of what the Transportation Department is doing. The graphic includes many aspects of the various departments, programs, the TAP, construction, maintenance, and community engagement.

A recent accomplishment was the opening of the new Chaparral underpass, which was completed on time and within budget, and with approval to close the road down for three months. The completion of this project creates a safer and more comfortable area for all modes of transportation by having the multi-use path under the road.

6. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Subcommittee Member Adame and seconded by Chair Kauftheil, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

AYES: Chair Kauftheil, Vice-Chair Wilcoxon, Commissioner Parrish, and Subcommittee Members Adame and Hecht. NAYS: None

SUBMITTED BY:
eScribers, LLC

***NOTE: These are summary action meeting minutes only. A complete copy of the audio/video recording is available at**

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