



**SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

**APPROVED**

**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, December 4, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Paths & Trails Subcommittee was called to order at 5:15 p.m. A formal roll call confirmed the presence of subcommittee members as noted below:

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Lee Kauftheil, Chair– Transportation Commission  
Robert Marmon, Vice-Chair– Transportation Commission  
Amy Arnold, Commissioner– Parks and Recreation Commission  
Bradley Adame, Subcommittee Member

**ABSENT:** Sarah Hecht, Subcommittee Member

**STAFF:** Nathan Domme, Transportation Planning Manager  
Susan Conklu, Senior Transportation Planner  
Greg Davies, Senior Transportation Planner  
Devin Rouhani, Planning Specialist

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

## **1. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

COMMISSIONER ARNOLD MOVED TO APPROVE OCTOBER 2, 2025, PATHS AND TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN. MEMBER ADAME SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FOUR (4) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR KAUFTHEIL, VICE-CHAIR MARMON, COMMISSIONER ARNOLD, AND SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER ADAME VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

## **2. Cactus Trail Fence Project**

Senior Transportation Planner Greg Davies conducted a slideshow presentation and reviewed slides entitled Overview, History (2 slides), and Status. He noted there is no on-street parking on the Cactus Corridor between Loop 101 and Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard. He discussed the process that is followed whenever a petition is received by staff. The Cactus Trail, which is part of the Maricopa Trail, was first installed in 2007. He indicated that “no parking on trail” language was added to trail signs to allow enforcement by the Scottsdale Police Department. The fencing costs \$58 dollars per linear foot, or \$170,000 for the 2,719 feet identified as needing it. He said that Dawn Brokaw, who filed one of the two citizen petitions, was most concerned about protecting people who used the trail, particularly when cars park alongside it.

Commissioner Arnold expressed a preference for the type of fencing expected for the project over wooden and steel options, though she recognized there is not much funding available for the project. Mr. Davies responded that the goal is to replace the old wooden fencing with the new style of fencing. Commissioner Arnold expressed concern that signs were not plentiful and they were small. Mr. Davies replied that there are at least ten signs, and they were small to avoid visual blight. Fencing will not solve the parking problem, but staff hopes it will mitigate it.

Transportation Planning Manager Nathan Domme added that some of the vehicles parking on the trail are landscaping trucks for certain events, and fencing should prevent that from occurring. Mr. Davies observed the bigger challenge comes from people from short-term rentals parking on the trail. He stressed the importance of educating the public on trail etiquette. Commissioner Arnold thought it was obvious not to park on the north side where it is a multi-use path but less obvious on the south side, which is gravel. Mr. Davies remarked that the people adjacent to the trail are required to maintain it, and it is in excellent condition.

In response to Chair Kauftheil’s questions, Mr. Davies indicated there is curbing on both sides of the trail, but people ride up on driveways to park on the south side. Staff

created the trail signs, he said; they were not made from templates. The Chair requested that the Subcommittee receive copies of the mailers in case they want to attend the public outreach events, something Mr. Davies indicated he would do.

Regarding the cost of the fencing, Mr. Davies said wood is cheaper. He brought up similar fencing that was erected along Thunderbird Trail to prevent parking by semi-trucks. Mr. Domme added that the City is leaning towards metal fencing that looks like wood because it lasts years longer than wood. Chair Kauftheil wondered about corrosion, to which Mr. Davies stated there will be cement footing for the fencing, so there will not be much corrosion at all. He was confident in the contractor who will oversee the installation of the fencing.

Commissioner Arnold inquired about the half-mile section where there is no trail. Mr. Davies said completing that gap is in the City's five-year trail improvement program, though it likely will not happen for a couple of years.

### **3. Bicycle Friendly Community Update**

Senior Transportation Planner Susan Conklu conducted a slideshow presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: League of American Bicyclists (LAB) (2 slides); Preparation for 2023 Application; Conclusions from Resident Feedback Questionnaire; Report Card from the League (3 slides); and Next Steps.

Ms. Conklu discussed how scoring for the different award levels works, noting that the LAB includes the average platinum city score for each of the five "e" categories, as well as written recommendations. She promoted a kids' bicycle safety class on December 20. She emphasized the importance of having materials available in many forms, from social media to papers maps to interactive online maps. She spoke about potential ways to use video technology for potentially gathering data about things like the use of helmets, the gender of riders, which direction they are travelling, and bicycle types.

In response to Vice-Chair Marmon's queries, Ms. Conklu discussed the history of the LAB and its achievements, such as helping get roads paved. Most of them are volunteers, and the League provides education, resources, and the League Cycling Instructor Program. She discussed the challenge of attaining a certain level of bicycle use, pointing out that the current metric relies on people who specifically bike to work, which she felt underrepresents ridership. Transportation Planning Manager Nathan Domme said the application is very long, so the City selects questions and goals that are attainable to allow it to still reach platinum or gold status.

Vice-Chair Marmon wondered about the value of the Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) program. Ms. Conklu responded that it provides measurable goals for improvement. The City looks at and speaks with platinum cities and other gold cities for potential areas of improvement. The program provides ideas and information. Chair Kauftheil

listed some of the benefits of a city having more cyclists, including increased sales tax revenue, reduced maintenance costs to roads, health benefits, decreased congestion, and safer conditions for drivers.

Chair Kauftheil inquired whether LAB report cards contemplate ways for cities to be friendlier to micromobility options. Ms. Conklu thought the LAB does put out a micromobility study, but she would look into it. She believed the City's percentage goals for increasing bicycle use are included in the Transportation Action Plan.

Responding to another question from the Chair, Mr. Domme clarified that the City responds to the BFC questionnaire by focusing on areas that it is already addressing and what it wants to do as a community, not on things in which the Town is not interested. He and Ms. Conklu briefly explained the types of things the City focuses on when answering the questionnaire. Ms. Conklu provided examples of events that she felt Scottsdale should either try or expand on what is already being done, and events that she thought would not make sense for the area. Chair Kauftheil spoke about an event held by the City of Mesa and wondered whether Scottsdale could partner with them on it. Ms. Conklu replied that the Scottsdazzle event features a bicycle scavenger hunt, though she did not know who organizes it.

Member Adame asked whether the City conducts its own surveys. Ms. Conklu said the City does send out surveys, with some of the questions being based on the LAB's questionnaire. She was shocked at the increase in the number of respondents, from 120 in 2019 to 1,500 in 2023. Member Adame mentioned a survey about work transportation put out by Arizona State University. Ms. Conklu praised that survey, adding that any employer with more than 50 employees at a single location is required by the State to be in the County's program, of which that survey is a part.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of obtaining the raw data from that survey. Senior Transportation Planner Greg Davies pointed out that they already have access to Strava bicycle data through a partnership with the Maricopa Association of Governments. Ms. Conklu thought the data from all these sources could be very useful. She noted the City plans to expand the locations where automated counters are used.

#### **4. Projects And Programs Update**

Transportation Planning Manager Nathan Domme conducted a slideshow presentation and provided updates on repaving and restriping program improvements. He displayed two examples of buffer bike lanes that were added in the spring. He stated the Osborne multi-use path upgrade is complete and noted the City Council recently approved an agreement with the McCormick Ranch Homeowners Association to widen a multi-use path there. He announced that the two-year Loop 101 project will be complete in the next couple of weeks, and he reviewed some of the interchange improvements that were made as part of the project.

Senior Transportation Planner Greg Davies added that diamond grinding will be done in March. He recognized that there will be some noise from the freeway, but it being a depressed highway will help with that. The project was expected to be completed in January, so they finished ahead of schedule. All traffic lanes are now open, and the chokepoint at Shea Boulevard is gone.

Mr. Domme highlighted some of the new trails completed in 2025 as well as reconstructions and enhancements that were completed on existing trails during that time. Mr. Davies said more than three miles of trails were addressed, exceeding their goal of two miles. He has not heard anything negative about the Desert Foothills Trail despite some residents saying they did not want a trail there. He cautioned people to stay off trails when they are wet. Mr. Domme pointed out the trails have seen equestrian usage.

Mr. Domme reviewed two projects involving new inventories. He provided an update on the 2nd Street roadway improvement project, which is just recently underway and will be a \$14 million bond project for streetscape improvements.

Mr. Domme discussed the Cycle the Arts event, which featured an 11-mile route through the Old Town area, adding that next year will be the 20th anniversary. Senior Transportation Planner Susan Conklu mentioned a mural painted by the same artist who created the artwork for the event. It is expected that the 20th anniversary event will feature a shorter, more neighborhood-friendly route. In response to Commissioner Arnold's request for more information, Ms. Conklu provided an overview of the event. Chair Kauftheil provided his perspective on the event, recommending that the route could be shortened. The next Cycle the Arts event is scheduled for April 19. Mr. Domme suggested planning different routes for future events.

Mr. Domme provided updates on the 68th Street Sidewalk project, the Thomas Road reconstruction, and the Thompson Peak Bridge project. Regarding the latter project, replacing the wooden fencing would not be part of this project, but retrofitting that bridge and others with metal would be included in a future project. He spoke about the 77th Street expansion, which is a federal project. He hoped a couple of these projects would be completed by this time next year.

Mr. Domme noted that the City's goal is to finish a draft of Safe Street Scottsdale by January. The Local Area Infrastructure Plan will be a major endeavor over the next and a half as there are concerns with how some of the roads are laid out.

In response to Member Adame's question about Osborne Bridge, Ms. Conklu remarked that a study about improving it is underway. Commissioner Arnold inquired about the bike rack inventory. Mr. Domme responded that the City has the ability to post its data regarding the locations of bike racks online. Mr. Davies indicated that the bike racks can

be accessed through a link on the City's website, though the inventory needs to be updated. He and Ms. Conklu discussed several ways for interested users to find those maps online.

Chair Kauftheil opined that some of the improvements to multi-use paths have reduced the amount of dirt on the paths when it rains. He pointed to one photograph which showed a car parked in the bike lane. Mr. Domme explained that was a Waymo vehicle. The Chair said that Waymos are not incredible smart, and if their maps are not updated, they may not realize that these are bike lanes. He expressed frustration that people park in bike lanes, sometimes in front of the signs prohibiting parking, but he was grateful for the improvements to reduce dirt on the paths.

## **5. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved by Commissioner Arnold and seconded by Vice-Chair Marmon, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

AYES: Chair Kauftheil, Vice-Chair Marmon, Commissioner Arnold, and Subcommittee Members Adame

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 <http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/boards/Transp.asp>**