



Minutes City Council's Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee October 30, 2007

Minutes of the meeting of the City Council's Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee held on Tuesday, October 30, 2007, 1:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Shana Ellis, Chair
Vice Mayor Hut Hutson

City Staff Present:

Jennifer Adams, Deputy PW Mgr
Chris Anaradian, Dev Svcs Mgr
Neil Calfee, Dep Comm Dev Mgr
Dawn Coomer, Sr. LRT Planner
Carlos de Leon, Dep Public Wrks Mgr
Kathy Gasperich, Council Aide
Mary Helen Giustizia, Sanitation Superintendent
Craig Hittie, Affordable Hsg Coor
Greg Jordan, Transit Administrator
Gregg Kent, Light Rail Engineer
Glenn Kephart, Public Wrks Mgr
Jayson Matthews, TCC Asst Director
Jyme Sue McLaren, Dep Public Wrks Mgr
John Osgood, Dep Public Wrks Mgr
Bonnie Richardson, Trans. Principal Planner
Julie Stennerson, Executive Asst
Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Serv Spec
Amber Wakeman, Govt Rel Dir

Guests Present:

Paul Berman, ASU
Dave Cutty, President TCH
Kathy Milun, Tomales Bay Institute
Sue Ringler, TCAA
Emily Ryan, AZ Multihousing Association

Councilmember Shana Ellis called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 2 – Committee Scope and Work Plan

Carlos de Leon reviewed the Transportation Goals/Tasks.

- Ensure that light rail transit design and construction activities meet community needs.
- Increase transit ridership.
 - Monitor the ASU and youth bus pass program and encourage Valley Metro members to adopt the youth bus pass program.
- Coordinate local and regional transportation decisions.
 - Continue to work with Maricopa Associations of Governments (MAG).
- Assure the safe and efficient movement of people and vehicles along the street system.
 - Monitor and provide recommendation on meeting future transportation needs for downtown and Rio Salado with specific attention to development of a park-and-ride system.
 - Evaluate feasibility of licensing pedicabs.
 - Examine leading and lagging left turn signal policy based on the results of new studies.
- Recognize and encourage pedestrian and bicycle travel as an important part of the transportation system.
- Expand community partnerships.
 - Continue outreach program with ASU.
- Evaluate the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee recommendations.

Neil Calfee reviewed the Affordable Housing Tasks

- Explore regulatory-based incentives for the development of affordable housing.
- Develop an affordable housing strategy to guide the City's overall efforts in creating and maintaining affordable housing.
 - Options for displacement of mobile home park residents as the city changes zoning.
- Seek to create new affordable housing programs and evaluate existing programs.
- Provide a forum for dialog with the community to understand the needs of affordable housing throughout the city.
- Encourage additional funding and continued support of the HOPE program and build partnerships that increase homeless individuals and families ability to obtain permanent affordable housing.

Chris Anaradian reviewed the Environmental Goals/Tasks

- Form Interdepartmental Sustainability Task Force to produce a report to the Council Committee detailing the following sustainable programs, practices and initiatives by the City of Tempe:
 - those currently in place;
 - those that would incur either a one time cost below \$100,000 and operating impacts of under \$15,000 annually; and
 - those that would require additional capital and/or operating impacts.

DIRECTION: Make requested changes and present to Council at the IRS on November 8th.

Agenda Item 3 – Solar Energy Proposal

Kathryn Milun from the Tomales Bay Institute is interested in producing a feasibility study for solar energy power. The concept is to distribute clean green solar energy that makes economical sense and to involve public art. A consultant team and initial lenders are seeking to partner with the City. The idea would be to sell the energy to the grid or to a specific buyer, and manage the system by a public trust. The public trust would mandate that those dollars be spent cleaning up the atmosphere and growing green energy. At this point, Tomales Bay is simply looking for an endorsement of this concept.

Councilmember Ellis asked Ms. Milun if she has met with city staff regarding this concept. Ms. Milun has met with Glenn Kephart and Chris Salomone. Councilmember Ellis asked if they were looking for a letter for endorsement. Ms. Milun stated that a letter endorsing the idea would be great. Vice Mayor Hutson stated that this was an interesting idea; however, he would like to obtain documentation of facts to support this concept. Councilmember Ellis and Vice Mayor Hutson agreed that this item would need to be presented to Council for discussion before any decisions are made.

DIRECTION: Present this item to Council in December at an IRS.

Agenda Item 4 – Don't Trash Tempe – Trash and Recycling Guide

John Osgood distributed the "Don't Trash Tempe" guide. This is an element of information and awareness strategy for the trash and recycle program.

The brochure covers the following items:

- Alley Maintenance
 - Clean Alley Do's/Don'ts
- Did You Know?
- Brush & Bulky Item Collection Schedule
 - 10 day rule
- Trash & Recycling Collection Schedule
- Curbside Recycling Collection Service
 - Do Recycle/Do Not Recycle
 - Neighborhood Recycling Drop off Sites
 - Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program
- Think Before You Throw
- Trash & Recycling Curbside Collection Guidelines
- Holiday Collection Schedule
- Other Solid Waste Services

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Rehabilitation Program Changes

Craig Hittie reviewed the Community Development Housing Services Division Rehabilitation Policy Manual changes that will go into effect January 1st, 2008. The current funding needs to be reallocated.

- Emergency Grant Program
 - Applicant must not have received emergency assistance under this program within the preceding 3 years.
- Deferred Loan Program
 - Maximum assistance amount \$35,000.00

- Repayment of loan is due upon sale, conveyance, alienation of the property, or mortgage refinancing if the owner withdraws equity from the property as part of the refinance.
- Applicant must not have received rehabilitation assistance under this program within the preceding 10 years.

The grants and loans are to be used for improvements to bring property up to code to provide a decent, safe and sanitary home. The purpose of this program is not intended for a full remodeling project.

DIRECTION: Present this item to Council.

Agenda Item 6 – Recap of Affordable Housing Forum

Craig Hittie stated that they were very pleased with the turnout for the Affordable Housing Forum held in the Library Program room on October 20th. Approximately 60-75 people attended, as well as 12 non-profit groups. The forum ended with a roundtable discussion. Evaluations returned indicated that this was a good idea and the City should keep this program going. Another forum may be held in February. Dates and ideas will need to be developed.

Councilmember Ellis thanked Craig Hittie for all of his work on this project. She also added that it's important to keep up communication with the attendees, and to get the providers back together. The goal is to have everyone work together.

Vice Mayor Hutson suggested covering one topic in a half day.

Agenda Item 7 – Transportation Assistance Grant for Elderly and Disabled

Greg Jordan stated that this grant program goes back to Tempe Community Council's Task Force on Disability Issues 2004 report on Transportation in Tempe. The report identifies areas that we can improve upon and would include transportation for the elderly and individuals with disabilities in Tempe. In 2006 the Council Transportation Committee authorized the amount of \$50,000 to be used on this grant. Funding is provided by local transit sales tax revenue originally allocated to providing Dial-a-Ride service in Tempe. With regional Proposition 400 funds now covering the cost of ADA Dial-a-Ride costs, local COT funds may be reprogrammed for annual allocation to alternative uses, including this program. Working together with TCC, a grant process has been developed. The program is based on the Federal Transit Administration's 5310 grant program. This ensures potential recipients have already established sufficient experience and competency in providing transportation for the disabled and elderly.

Jayson Matthews explained that the Tempe Community Council would administer this local grant program for the City of Tempe, consistent with its standard process for soliciting, evaluating and awarding grant funds. One application was received by The Centers for Habilitation (TCH). The application was evaluated, and received favorable scores indicating allocation of funding to TCH is appropriate. A year-end summary report will be required to keep tabs on the program.

DIRECTION: Move forward to Council in November.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

Mobile Homes

Maricopa Association of Governments

Housing Forum – topics

Pedicabs

Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee

The next meeting will be held November 27th at 3:00.

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Prepared by: Julie Stennerson

Reviewed by: Carlos de Leon

Jan Hort
City Clerk