



**Minutes**  
**City of Tempe Transportation Commission**  
**Accountability and Governance Committee**  
**April 4, 2011**

Minutes of the city of Tempe Transportation Commission Accountability and Governance Committee held on Monday, April 4, 2011 at 7:30am at the City of Tempe Transportation Bus Conference Room, 200 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

**Members Present:** Charles Huellmantel, Phillip Luna, Gary Roberts

**Members Absent:** Augustus Shaw

**Guests:** None

**City Staff Present:** Joe Clements, Jason Hartong, Greg Jordan, Jennifer Svetichan

Commissioner Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:36am

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances**

No public appearances.

**Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Huellmantel asked to amend the March 28, 2011 minutes by adding the word “to” to clarify his comments about the party considered when determining service cuts and change the period to a question mark at the end of the sentence that asks about the number of Tempe residents versus the number of people working in Tempe.

Commissioner Huellmantel made a motion to approve all minutes. Commissioner Luna seconded. Motion passed 3-0. The following minutes were approved with amendments:

- Accountability and Governance Committee Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2011

**Agenda Item 3 – Transit Program Financial Update**

Greg Jordan presented the following information:

Information provided from a request from the March 28, 2011 meeting to clarify proportions of funding. The regional funds pay for the portion of the Tempe routes are Tempe's portion and we control how they are allocated. If routes with regional funds are cut, those funds will go to offset costs in different areas. Tempe will still receive the funds. However, we are unable to move the regional funds from Route 56 as that portion does belong to the Town of Guadalupe. Also, we receive a small bit of funding for Route 48 because where it passes on 48<sup>th</sup> St is in Phoenix on the west side. And ASU has taken over all funding on the Flash routes as well as part of the Mars Orbit route.

Commissioner Huellmantel asked about the purpose of Route 48's portion that goes down 48<sup>th</sup> St. Greg informed him that that portion was a smaller part of Route 92 that was redirected to be more cost effective and provide service to another area that was not previously serviced. He included that 48<sup>h</sup> St is a heavy ridership area.

Since the Express Routes are 100% funded by the region, there is the ability to move the funds around in that area. All of express routes go downtown except 511 goes to a Park n Ride in Scottsdale. The Express Routes are heavily subsidized because of the length of the ride. Ridership on the Express buses is fairly stable.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the revenue projection for next year. Greg said the forecasts show a 5% increase in sales tax for next fiscal year.

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**Agenda Item 4 – FY2011-12 Transit Service Changes, Public Involvement Update**

Greg Jordan presented the following information:

Update of the information when incorporating the additional surveys from the Town of Guadalupe. No significant changes in the results. This information is now complete and all inclusive.

**Agenda Item 5 – Potential service Changes (FY2010-12)**

Greg Jordan presented the following information:

The ranking has not changed with the additional information from the Town of Guadalupe.

Jason Hartong presented a brief overview the preliminary Title 6 Analysis which will be followed by a more in-depth study by an outside consultant with expertise in this area. This analysis is done so there to understand and potentially mitigate, minimize, or offset disproportionate high and adverse effects on minorities and low income populations in accordance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

There are no restrictions on ADA requirements in regards to Title 6. However, should service hours change after 10pm, Tempe would not be required to provide Dial a Ride service after 10pm, except within ¾ mile of the Light Rail which runs until midnight and 2:30am on Friday and Saturday. Small possibility that if it was decided to cut service at 10pm there would be an uptick in ADA certification for Dial a Ride privileges. However, ADA certification is becoming more stringent and tied to individuals' ability to use bus and light rail.

Final adjustments included removing the Light Rail from consideration. Also, if the Route 62 reduction moves forward, some adjustments may need to include additional trips to service the public schools.

Commissioner Huellmantel asked if there was a possibility of using the schools funds for transportation to subsidize some of the routes used by the students. Greg replied that it is unlikely due to schools' reluctance to give up the transportation funds they receive from the state. However, Tempe's Youth free transit pass is intended to encourage students to use public transit whenever possible.

Greg presented the final ranking system and asked for the committee for concurrence with the methodology for developing the ranking. Once the final budget numbers are completed and we know how much we will need to cut, staff will simply go down the ranking until they reach the appropriate total to meet the budget.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the timeline should the proposed changes be adopted. Greg answered July 25, 2011 except the Express routes which would wait until January 2012 due to the needed coordination with neighbor cities, Phoenix, Mesa and Scottsdale. As of today, they agree with our thought process on the proposed cuts to the Express routes, however they still need to do their public process. If it is decided through their public process that they are not in agreement with our proposed cuts we will need to make those adjustments at that time.

Commissioner Huellmantel recommended that Route 40 be higher up in the rankings due to the fact that it parallels the Light Rail line on Apache. He also expressed his concern about cutting bus service after 10pm and included that if it gets down to that option he recommended all options be re-evaluated at that time. He is unable to concur.

Commissioner Roberts asked if the following statement is appropriate "The Committee is in consensus with proposed adjusted rankings with the exception of moving Route 40 higher on the list and eliminating the bus service option that eliminated service after 10pm, unless absolutely necessary"

Commissioner Huellmantel agreed to that statement except for the last portion of "unless absolutely necessary". If it gets to that option, he would like to see a re-evaluation of the options all together.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Transit Performance Report
- Short Range Transit Plan
- Budget Update

Commissioner Roberts adjourned the meeting at 8:40am

The next Accountability and Governance Committee meeting is currently not scheduled. It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule meetings on a quarterly basis.

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Svetichan

Reviewed by:  
Greg Jordan