

MINUTES

CITIZENS TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

**5850 WEST GLENDALE AVENUE
GLENDALE, ARIZONA 85301
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009
7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the Citizens Transportation Oversight Commission (CTOC) was called to order by the Chair, Rose Jacobson. The following Commission members, staff representatives, and guests were present:

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Rose Jacobson, Chair
 Larry Kucera, Vice Chair
 Brent Ackzen
 Allan DeFranco
 John Fernandes
 Jennifer Martino
 James Podzius
 Art Spina
 Betsy Turner

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: James Sanders (Excused)
 Daniel Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Jamsheed Mehta, Transportation Director
 Terry Johnson, Deputy Transportation Director
 Bob Darr, Transportation Planning Manager
 Purab Adabala, Senior Transportation Analyst
 Jenna Goad, Intergovernmental Programs Administrator
 Roger Miles, Project Manager, URS
 Wulf Grote, Director of Project Development (Valley Metro)
 Benjamin Limmer, Project Manager (Valley Metro)
 Jim Mathien, Planning Manager (Valley Metro)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Jacobson called for approval of the minutes.

ACTION BY CTOC: Approval of the minutes of October 1, 2009 meeting of the Citizens Transportation Oversight Commission.

(Motion: Commissioner Podzius, Second: Commissioner Kucera; unanimously passed)

III. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

There were no comments from the floor.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Jacobson called for approval of the agenda.

ACTION BY CTOC: Approval of the November 5, 2009 Agenda of the Citizens Transportation Oversight Commission.

(Motion: Commissioner Turner; Second: Commissioner Martino; unanimously passed)

V. PUBLIC INPUT – COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Commissioner Turner reported that the Bicycle Advisory Committee reviewed the power point presentation of Neighborhood Access Points along Thunderbird Paseo in Glendale. Commissioner Turner also reported that the Bicycle Advisory Committee reviewed the power point presentation on the FY 2010-34 GO Program, which was presented to CTOC at their September meeting. Commissioner Turner also reported on the Northern Parkway Public Hearing held on October 14, 2009 at the Raymond Kellis High School in Glendale.

Commissioner Spina reported on the Northern Parkway Public Hearing held on October 14, 2009 at the Raymond Kellis High School in Glendale.

VI. MANAGER’S REPORT

Final printed copies of the Glendale Transportation Plan were distributed to members of the Commission.

VII. LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT STUDY

Wulf Grote, Director of Project Development for Valley Metro, provided information on Light Rail Transit in the region. Mr. Grote identified general information on light rail capital projects and operations. Mr. Grote also provided ridership information for the operating light rail segment.

Benjamin Limmer, Project Manager for Valley Metro provided information on the Alternative Analysis for Glendale Light Rail Transit project. Mr. Limmer provided information on the FTA new starts and criteria used by FTA in this competitive process. Mr. Limmer also provided a breakdown of the Alternatives Analysis (AA) process. Mr. Limmer also provided a breakdown of funding for the Glendale capital project. Mr. Grote added that the funding identified in the graphic is for the capital project only, and that funding for operations will have to be borne completely by the local jurisdictions.

Dr. Johnson added that funding for both capital and operations are identified in the GO Program.

Commissioner DeFranco inquired how the operating cost for Glendale Light Rail Transit was programmed without identifying a specific corridor.

Dr. Johnson clarified that both corridors would cost about the same due to the fact that both corridors run approximately two (2) miles in Glendale.

Commissioner Kucera wanted to know how a decision on where to spend the local funds will be made.

Mr. Mehta informed the Commission that Councils of both City of Glendale and City of Phoenix will have roles to play, since either the I-10 or the Downtown Glendale corridors will have to go through both the cities.

Mr. Limmer added that the FTA new starts process is very competitive, which should play a role in the cities selecting a corridor of their choice.

Chair Jacobson and Commissioner Turner inquired on the duration of the initial Alternative Analysis (AA) Study process and when the project starts.

Mr. Limmer mentioned that the process is anticipated to take approximately fourteen (14) months from start to finish. Mr. Mathien added that the consultant for the AA Study was selected and final negotiations were underway. Mr. Mathien said that the project probably would not start until the first of calendar next year (2010). Mr. Limmer clarified that the fourteen month process would start in 2010.

VIII. NORTHERN PARKWAY UPDATE

Roger Miles, Project Manager for URS, presented a power point on the history of Northern Parkway as conceived by a citizen's advisory committee in 2000. Mr. Miles updated the commission on the public hearing and comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) on October 14, 2009.

Commissioner Podzius inquired about any opposing comments on the Northern Parkway project.

Mr. Miles noted that there were a few comments that were opposed to the project either due to a lack of understanding of the project or due to the perception of increased traffic and noise generated.

IX. STATUS OF ARRA PROJECTS

Jenna Goad, Intergovernmental Programs Administrator, provided an update on the Glendale projects funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

Terry Johnson, Deputy Transportation Director, provided an update on the status of Glendale ARRA funded projects. Dr. Johnson also provided information on additional

ARRA funding being sought for Glendale projects to avoid monies from this region reverting to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Commissioner DeFranco inquired about the timing for the local funds to be refunded by ADOT for the 63rd Avenue bicycle and pedestrian bridge on Loop 101. Commissioner DeFranco mentioned that Glendale has received some negative publicity about the project in the local media in recent times. Commissioner DeFranco noted that with the addition of ARRA funds for this project the amount of local funds would be minimal.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner DeFranco requested an update on the bicycle and pedestrian pathway project at Skunk Creek and Union Hills Drive.

Commissioner Spina requested an agenda item to provide details on the Traffic Interchange at Grand Avenue and Northern Avenue, which is part of Northern Parkway project.

Commissioner Spina also asked for information on 71st Avenue between Glendale and Northern Avenues. Commissioner Spina mentioned that the street might need attention due to the unpaved medians and utility poles in the location.

Chair Jacobson requested an update on the status of Performance Audit of the GO Transportation Program. Chair Jacobson recommended consideration of a spring retreat.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

Meeting times are being targeted for 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2009.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jacobson adjourned the meeting at 8:39 PM.

Rose Jacobson, Chair