



DRAFT

177 N. Church Avenue, Suite 405, Tucson AZ 85701
Phone: (520) 770-9410 Fax: (520) 620-6981

RTAmobility.com

Regional Transportation Authority Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

Minutes of January 6, 2010, Meeting

Committee Members Present

Craig Civalier, Town of Oro Valley, Vice Chair
Ryan Benavides, Town of Marana
Todd Emery, ADOT-Tucson
Ben Goff (for Priscilla Cornelio), Pima County DOT
Artemio Hoyos, Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Farhad Moghimi, Town of Sahuarita
Sahuarita
Mark Pugh (for Fred Stevens), Tohono O'odham
Nation
Andrew Singelakis (for Jim Glock), Tucson DOT

Public/Agencies

Curt Lueck, CLA
Michelle Meyer, PSOMAS
Doug Moseke, Stantec
Jim Witkowski, Morrison-Maierle

Jurisdiction Representatives

John Carlson, CTAC
Natalie Clark, ADOT-Tucson
Roy Cuaron, City of Tucson DOT
Danny Granillo, ADOT-Tucson
Chris Kaselemis, City of Tucson
Planning
Albert Letzkus, Pima County DOT
Grant McCormick, University of Arizona
Orville Saling, Town of Marana

Staff:

Cherie Campbell
Jim DeGrood
Pat Kendall
John Liosatos
Jeremy Papuga
Tim Thurein

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Civalier, Vice Chair, at 9:05 a.m. and introductions were made. Mr. Todd Emery, ADOT's Tucson District Engineer, was welcomed by the Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes of Nov. 18, 2009

Motion was made by Mr. Moghimi to approve the minutes of the Nov. 18, 2009, meeting, seconded by Mr. Goff, and unanimously approved.

3. Call to the Audience

No discussion occurred.

4. Announcements/Comments

Ms. Campbell reported that meeting announcements were made available in calendar format

to members, and pointed out that Management Committee will meet on Wed., Jan. 20, and Regional Council and the RTA Board meeting will be held on Thurs., Jan. 28, 2010.

Mr. DeGrood mentioned that an elected officials' and managers' retreat will be on Mon., Jan. 11, 2010, dealing with the regionalization of transit.

5. In-Kind Form

The in-kind form was routed to attendees.

6. Report on the RTA Board Meeting

Mr. DeGrood reported that the RTA Board met last on Dec. 10, 2009, and actions taken included:

- Approval of 8 IGAs and a MOU between PAG and the RTA
- Approval of ADOT's SR 77 Wildlife crossing structures project
- Direction given to the RTA Executive Director to begin discussion with the City of Tucson Manager regarding the possibility of regionalization of transit
- Direction to staff to publish the RTA Annual Report, which was published on Dec. 17, 2009.

7. RTA TIP Subcommittee Report Including Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP

Mr. Hoyos, RTA TIP Subcommittee Chair, reported that the Subcommittee met on Dec. 15, 2009, and:

- Received an update from the RTA Transit Working Group
- Reviewed and approved recommendations from the RTA Safety Working Group
- Reviewed and approved Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 TIP which includes two RTA items:
 - Item D - Adds the ADOT-sponsored RTA project to construct three wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line, approved by the RTA Board on Dec. 10, 2009, to the TIP.
 - Item E - Adds the region's Round 17 Transportation Enhancement projects, including three previously approved partial RTA funded TE projects.

**Amendment #5 to the FY 2010-2014 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
(*All numbers are in thousands)
(RTA item)**

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Item D				
SR 77: Wildlife Crossing Structures; Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line (TIP ID #86.09)	Adds ADOT-sponsored RTA project to construct 3 wildlife crossings on SR 77: Tangerine Rd. to the Pima County line to the TIP	0	8231	+ 8231
Item E				
Canada del Oro Shared Use-Path Final Phase (TIP ID #88.09)	Adds Oro Valley-sponsored TE Project to construct the final phase of the shared use-path from First Ave. to Steam Pump Village	0	522 873 RTA	+ 1395

Project/TIP ID Number	Sponsor/ reason for the amendment	Funding before amend.*	Funding after amend.*	Total change*
Glenn Street Neighborhood Improvement Project (TIP ID #87.09)	Adds City of Tucson sponsored TE Project to construct a pedestrian path from Columbus to Country Club Rd.	0	500 119 RTA	+ 619
San Xavier Path Mission Gateway-SRTS (TIP ID #91.09)	Adds Tohono O'odham sponsored TE Project to construct a pathway in coordination with the SRTS program	0	518 400 RTA	+ 918

The proposed change will not have a significant effect on the air quality conformity findings or fiscal constraint analysis of the TIP.

Motion was made by Mr. Moghimi to recommend approval of Amendment #5 (Items D & E) to the FY 2010-2014 TIP, as presented, seconded by Mr. Granillo, and unanimously approved.

8. RTA Working Groups' Monthly Reports

Mr. Papuga reported that since last April, the Transit Working Group has made continued progress in the following areas:

- Planning – Regional Paratransit System Plan has been completed, and the logistics of implementing its recommendations is in progress. Mr. Holder continues to evaluate bus pullout locations; 40 locations have been identified for construction and are currently under design. A transit working group subcommittee has been formed to assist in the planning efforts associated with the Broadway/Houghton park-and-ride which is also in design. New Sun Shuttle regional routes implemented in May continue to be adjusted and monitored in order to meet set performance standards. The old Pima County rural transit routes are also now under the Sun Shuttle umbrella.
- Design – The RTA's bus storage and maintenance facility's Third Phase is currently in design, and is expected to go out to bid in early 2010.
- Procurement – A contract for new fare collection technology procurement for the region will be finalized shortly with implementation to follow. Six Sun Shuttle service vehicles are being purchased through federal grants.

9. RTA Projects for Consideration

Mr. DeGrood reviewed a recommendation from the RTA Safety Working Group, which resulted from evaluation of project applications under eligible categories, for consideration by the RTA TPC, and RTA Board. The RTA Safety Working Group unanimously supported the recommendations listed (for FY the 2011-2013 program) on the following pages and it has been recommended for approval by the RTA TIP Subcommittee.

Signal technology upgrades to improve intersection traffic flow (40)

RTA Safety Element 40 - Signal technology upgrades to improve intersection traffic flow						
FY 2011-2013 Project Applications						
FUNDING CATEGORY	JURISDICTION	PROJECT NAME	FY11 AMOUNT	FY12 AMOUNT	FY13 AMOUNT	3-Year Total
40 - Signal technology ...	Marana	Wireless signal upgrades	\$279			\$279
40 - Signal technology ...	Oro Valley	Wireless Signal Link	\$224			\$224
40 - Signal technology ...	PAG/RTA	Regional Traffic Signal Services	\$175	\$175	\$50	\$400
40 - Signal technology ...	Sahuarita	Traffic operations wireless & controller /equipment upgrades	\$36			\$36
40 - Signal technology ...	Tucson/Region	RTDN Regional Telecommunications System	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$750
40 - Signal technology ...	Tucson	ITS-RTOC-FY08	\$30			\$30
40 - Signal technology ...	PAG/RTA	Regional Traffic Signal Model	\$50	\$55	\$60	\$165
40 - Signal technology ...	Tucson/Region	i2 Traffic Signal Network Enhancements	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$105
40 - Signal technology ...	City of Tucson	Real Time Signal Timing & Traffic Info	\$66	\$67	\$67	\$200
TOTAL RECOMMENDATIONS			\$1,145	\$582	\$462	\$2,189

Mr. DeGrood stated that expanding from a one-year to a three-year program offers some flexibility. Next year funds will be added to be programmed over a three-year cycle, but any immediate needs to front load a project will be considered. Money can be made available for design, but only for priority projects meriting construction.

Another project of regional interest, Rita Road, was highly rated by the City of Tucson for intersection safety improvements, but the RTA Safety Working Group felt it didn't meet the strict definition of intersection safety improvement. Discussion at this committee level or Management Committee could request that the project be incorporated into this list with a cash flow adjustment.

Mr. DeGrood described the Rita Road project between the railroad crossing to the north of I-10 which has been improved on the east side of the right-of-way with the Target warehouse facility and other private development, but the west side of the roadway which abuts the UA Science and Technology Park has not been improved, and identified as a concern by its tenants. The roadway needs to be consistent in character on both sides and provide adequate bike and pedestrian facilities.

Mr. Singelakis added that Rita Road is a multi-jurisdictional project that benefits both the County and the City and is an important project to be added to this recommendation.

Motion was made by Mr. Moghimi to approve the RTA Safety Working Group's recommendations including the Rita Road project to the RTA Board, seconded by Mr. Goff, and unanimously approved.

10. RTA Project Update (construction, billings and IGAs)

Mr. DeGrood reported that to date a total of 140 projects have been completed, 318 projects have been programmed and approved by the RTA Board and 34 projects are presently under construction. RTA tax collections to date total \$235 million, and current bank balance is \$88 million. The fund balance is not diminishing as rapidly as projected, and the bonding issue will likely be delayed until early next fiscal year.

The RTA will receive an updated financial forecast for presentation to the Board in late January. Information has been requested from Eller College on the RTA's stimulus effect on the community. Preliminary numbers suggest that our community has benefitted by an additional

800 jobs specifically due to the RTA. In looking at revenues below projections, current cost estimates are coming in at an even greater level below original projections which will be seen in longer term cash flow benefits.

Mr. DeGrood mentioned that DOT Directors' discussions have recently included the possibility of the RTA taking over project signage responsibilities. The RTA has embarked on a redesign effort for more highly visible and proper signs as directed by the RTA's Executive Director to review systematically and uniformly doing all the signage on RTA projects, which will relieve jurisdictional burden and ensure that a consistent message is being sent to the community. Adding more information to the signs, i.e., turn bays, bike lanes and bus pullouts has been proposed to better communicate to the public what is being built. The signage proposal has gone out to bid and bids were opened last week.

Mr. Emery, ADOT's Tucson District Engineer, stated that he has been asked by the Arizona State Transportation Board to report back on why there are no project signs at the Twin Peaks/I-10 Interchange. Mr. Benavides of Marana responded that signs have been placed on the Linda Vista side of the project, but ADOT has restrictions on more obvious sign locations.

Mr. DeGrood noted that there are some issues of jurisdictional coordination in implementing the projects with the sign contractor and distributed a timeline for moving forward. Staff wants to work with the jurisdictions in identifying the location and message on the signs to be installed by the RTA hired contractor working together with the jurisdictions to determine and mark the appropriate sign location for blue stake. This process is viewed as part of jurisdictional project delivery to avoid additional permits with the RTA acting as sub-contractor.

Mr. Civalier mentioned the possibility of incorporating project signage in the IGA and requested a sample sign template. Mr. DeGrood reported that a standard sign has been designed including the RTA's promise on a standard signage orange color background with a white field for project information and below that the project sponsor information and logo along with contractor information and logo on larger projects. Signs currently in place on La Canada, La Cholla, Pantano Wash and Valencia/Camino Verde projects are standard RTA signs. Favorable comments have been received on these signs.

11. Future Agenda Items

No discussion occurred.

12. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wed., March 3, 2010, at 9:00 a.m.

All agenda items were covered, and the meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.