

Attachment A

Phoenix City Council Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning (TIP) Subcommittee Summary Minutes Wednesday, November 20, 2024

City Council Chambers
200 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Arizona

Subcommittee Members Present

Vice Mayor Debra Stark (Chair)
Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira
Councilwoman Laura Pastor*
Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington

Subcommittee Members Absent

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Stark called the Public Safety and Justice Subcommittee to order at 10:05 a.m. with Chairwoman Debra Stark and Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira present. Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington attended virtually.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

1. Minutes of the Transportation Infrastructure, and Planning Subcommittee Meeting

Councilman Galindo-Elvira made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2024 Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning meeting. Councilwoman Hodge Washington seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3-0.

CONSENT ACTION (ITEM 2)

Items 2 was for consent action. No presentations were planned, but staff was available to answer questions.

2. Route 27 service modification to provide bus service on Durango Street - District 7

Councilman Galindo-Elvira made a motion to approve Item 2. Councilwoman Hodge Washington seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3-0.

INFORMATION ONLY (ITEMS 3-4)

3. Water Services Department Six-Year Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Years 2025-30

Information only. No councilmember requested additional information.

4. Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law / Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act and Federal Inflation Reduction Act – Discretionary Grant Funding Update – Citywide

Information only. No councilmember requested additional information.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 5)

5. Regional Transit Fare Collection System Improvement Project Update – Citywide

Public Transit Director Jesus Sapien, Valley Metro Representative Ken Kessler, and Valley Metro Representative Dane Ryals presented on this item. Mr. Ryals outlined the implementation of a new regional fare collection system for public transit in the City. Mr. Ryals discussed the features and benefits of the new system including improved system accessibility, real-time trip planning, equitable fare capping, and maintaining affordability with a phased rollout to benefit all customers.

*Councilwoman Laura Pastor arrived at Council Chambers at approximately 10:09 a.m.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira asked if services are provided in Spanish.

Mr. Ryals confirmed services are provided in Spanish.

Councilwoman Pastor asked about recommendations for youth programs who have paper tickets.

Mr. Ryals stated he will be working with youth programs and college students to transfer tickets and credits to the new system.

Councilwoman Pastor asked how students can receive the reduced fair discount.

Mr. Ryals answered students will have to show their school identification card to get the reduced fair discount.

Councilwoman Pastor asked how Valley Metro will be supporting senior citizens in receiving the new card and getting the reduced fair price.

Mr. Ryals confirmed senior residents will be able to purchase a new card at several retail outlets, gas stations, and grocery and convenience stores. He mentioned senior residents will need to show an identification card and they will receive ten years of eligibility instead of the previous five.

Councilwoman Pastor inquired how residents without an identification card could obtain a new one and asked whether medical documents or a passport would suffice.

Mr. Ryals stated medical documentation would be acceptable and explained the process could also be completed online.

Councilwoman Pastor shared resident concerns and her concern about accessibility for senior citizens.

Mr. Sapien confirmed there would be a regional Valley Metro meeting the next day and American with Disability Act (ADA) compliance will be discussed.

Chairwoman Stark opened the floor for public comment.

John Hinz expressed his concern regarding the new Copper card system safety and accessibility for seniors.

Chairwoman Stark asked for Valley Metro to provide an update regarding system security.

Mr. Ryals confirmed there are security processes in place with the new system such as data encryption.

Councilwoman Pastor asked if residents are able to purchase a reduced fare ticket if they want to pay in cash.

Mr. Ryals expressed residents will still be able to buy a reduced fare ticket with cash.

Councilwoman Pastor inquired about the procedure in place for when the server is not working on the bus.

Mr. Ryals stated the bus will still be able to accept tickets when the bus is not connected to the internet.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION (ITEM 6)

6. Ordinance to Establish the Network Infrastructure Services License by Creating New Chapter 5D of the Phoenix City Code and to Establish an Effective Date – Citywide

Deputy City Manager Alan Stephenson, City Engineer Eric Froberg, and Special Project Administrator Kevin Sonoda presented this item. Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Froberg discussed the City's plans to introduce a new code chapter to regulate the installation of fiber optic networks.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira inquired about the measures the City has implemented to ensure contractors are properly trained and certified.

Mr. Stephenson confirmed he will provide an update prior to the next council meeting.

Councilwoman Pastor asked for ongoing updates if the information is not provided prior to the next council meeting.

Chairwoman Debra Stark opened the floor for public comment.

Jeremiah Davis expressed his concern regarding contractor transparency and licensure.

Shad Ercanbrack expressed concern about contractors lacking proper training when serving the community and completing projects.

William Cody expressed his concern regarding the City partnering with contractors who are untrained. He encouraged the City to make contractor disclosures mandatory.

Chairwoman Stark asked about provisions in the ordinance discussing transparency.

Mr. Stephenson stated measures were in place to ensure contractors were licensed in Arizona. He explained the City might not be able to require state and federal tax identification numbers because the contractors were hired through a third-party partner rather than directly by the City.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira made a motion to move this item forward to the Council to include future revisions from staff that incorporate any additional stakeholder input. Councilwoman Hodge Washington seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, 4-0.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Edward Dzink raised concerns about a Streets study and questioned whether it was accessible to the public.

Jerry Van Gasse expressed his concerns about construction material being dumped at South Mountain Park.

Harry Whitesell discussed his concern regarding fiber optics in his neighborhood.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Stark adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Destinee Sior
Management Fellow