

ATTACHMENT A



City of Phoenix

Minutes

Meeting Location:
Phoenix City Council
Chambers
200 W. Jefferson St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

City Council Work Study Session

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

2:30 PM

phoenix.gov

CALL TO ORDER

The Phoenix City Council convened in Work Study Session on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 2:43 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Present: 8 - Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, Councilwoman Betty Guardado, Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington, Councilwoman Pastor, Councilman Robinson, Councilwoman Debra Stark, Vice Mayor O'Brien and Mayor Kate Gallego

Absent: 1 - Councilman Jim Waring

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 1)

1 Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law / Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act and Federal Inflation Reduction Act - Discretionary Grant Funding Update - Citywide

Mayor Gallego described this item as an opportunity to learn about the City staff's efforts and success in bringing in resources from outside of the City.

Deputy City Manager Mario Paniagua introduced the item and stated the presentation would spotlight the success of how the City secured federal infrastructure resources and began improving and maintaining infrastructure. He emphasized infrastructure provides the physical system the City requires to operate and for communities to function. Mr. Paniagua stated under the City Council's leadership, along with advocacy from Congressman Greg Stanton, Congresswoman Yassamin Ansari, Senator Mark Kelly, Senator Ruben Gallego, and former Senator Krysten Sinema, staff has been diligent at pursuing federal grants to cover the extensive costs that come with infrastructure. He explained that this partnership with Congressional leaders helped secure \$749 million in federal grants.

Federal Infrastructure Implementation Manager Larry Smallwood presented several infrastructure projects that are being carried out with federal funding. He explained Rio Salado Bike and Pedestrian Bridge and Pathway project, which connects South, Central and Midtown Phoenix, improving transportation equity and providing transit integration. Mr. Smallwood added the Low-No Emissions Grant adds battery electric and hydrogen fuel-cell buses to City's fleet, helping the Public Transit Department progress toward its goal of zero emissions by 2040. He explained the reVISIONing Indian School Road grant helps improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists along the Indian School Road corridor. The Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport Cultural Corridor grant will add ADA compliant sidewalks and improve bicycle access. Mr. Smallwood stated design and construction of Phoenix Crossfield Taxiway-U connects the north and south airfields at the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, greatly increasing its efficiency by reducing taxi time and streamlining airfield operations. The US60, 35th Avenue, Indian School Grade Separation Project, removes conflict with the railway, improving efficiency and safety of the intersection. Mr. Smallwood also explained that there are also pending awards the City has been awarded totaling over \$400 million.

Mr. Paniagua noted there were uncertainties regarding federal grants due to Executive Orders issued by the President of the United States to freeze federal funding and spending. Recent court rulings have added to the lack of certainty. He emphasized infrastructure is essential to ensure quality of life and health of the citizens, promote economic vibrance and community well-being.

Mayor Gallego thanked Mr. Paniagua and Mr. Smallwood for their work on improving the infrastructure of the City. She stressed the importance of the US60, 35th Avenue, Indian School Grade Separation Project, and noted that this intersection has second highest number of incidents among railroad and street intersections in the country. Mayor Gallego added investment towards infrastructure projects should not be subject to politics as they serve a critical purpose to people's lives. She stated the installation of Advanced Water Purification at the future North Gateway Water Reclamation Facility will benefit the entire City and has received

bipartisan support.

Councilwoman Stark emphasized the importance of continuing to invest in the City's infrastructure to the residents and the services the City provides, especially due to the rapid growth of the City.

Councilwoman Guardado expressed her belief that improving infrastructure is not about politics but about saving lives, health, and quality of life of the residents.

Vice Mayor O'Brien explained federal funding played a critical role in bringing Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) to Phoenix. She also noted that securing federal funding for water supply is critical for the future growth of the City.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington stated securing federal funding for many of the projects gives the City resources to serve its citizens better. She expressed appreciation of the impact of the federal grants to improve the lives of residents in the City and will continue to support City staff's efforts to improve its infrastructure.

Councilwoman Pastor explained the importance for infrastructure funding and noted its economic impact through job creation.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira stated investment in infrastructure comes down to quality of life and health of the residents and securing federal funding is the right path for it. He emphasized that the need to continue the City's relationship with the federal delegation. He echoed Councilwoman Pastor's sentiment regarding importance of jobs that are created through these projects.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Gallego declared the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.