

**Phoenix City Council
Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning (TIP) Subcommittee
Summary Minutes
Wednesday, October 16, 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 10:00 a.m. with Vice Mayor Debra Stark, Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, and Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington present.

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 June 20, 2024, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning meeting. Councilwoman Hodge Washington seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3-0.

CONSENT ACTION (ITEMS 2-3)

Items 2-3 were for consent action. No presentations were planned, but staff was available to answer questions.**2. Amend City Code – Section 36-158, Schedule I, Local Speed Limits at 20 Locations**

Eric Neilson spoke in support of a speed limit system to ensure safety to pedestrians.

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

3. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Information only. No councilmember requested additional information.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira acknowledged the work of staff in collaborating with residents for the Parks Master Plan update.

Councilwoman Pastor arrived at 10:07am to the meeting.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEMS 4-5)

4. Asset Management Program Update – Water and Sewer Mains

Water Services Director Troy Hayes, Assistant Water Services Director Nazario Prieto, Deputy Water Services Director Darlene Helm, and Deputy Water Services Director Patty Kennedy presented on the item.

Chairwoman Debra Stark asked about the progress of replacing polyethylene water pipes.

Mr. Hayes stated the Water Services Department has a plastic service line replacement program which identifies and replaces outdated lines with copper.

Ms. Helm added the program is funded through the capitol budget.

Councilwoman Pastor asked how staff is determining where to complete replacements.

Mr. Hayes stated data modules predict the failures.

Ms. Helm outlined the risk module used to assess break rates, pipe material, and soil conditions for prioritizing neighborhood pipe replacements. She noted neighborhood characteristics and recurrence rates also factor into project selection.

Ms. Kennedy stated the wastewater systems are assessed through a rating system and sewer lines and manholes are assessed every 8 to 10 years.

Mr. Hayes emphasized the importance of analyzing asset data to inform the capital program. He noted the capital program is evaluated annually, with both teams presenting assessments in the summer.

Chairwoman Stark asked for more information about the the rehab and repair programming.

Mr. Hayes explained the capital program is reassessed annually based on infrastructure needs and condition assessments. He noted many wastewater pipes are over 100 years old but remain in good condition, while others do not meet the 75-year lifespan expectation.

Councilwoman Pastor acknowledged the importance of transparency concerning fee increases.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington inquired about the plan to balance the need for infrastructure replacement in conjunction with keeping water rates affordable for residents.

Mr. Hayes stated the asset management approach focuses on ensuring pipes are replaced only when necessary. He highlighted the importance of leveraging the AAA bond rating to secure low-cost financing, spreading costs over 30 years. He noted the adjustments to the rate structure promote affordability and conservation, allowing customers to receive reasonable rates by staying below fixed fee allowances.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington asked if there is any technology or strategies that will expand the useful life of infrastructure.

Mr. Hayes stated the industry has evolved to lining the pipes to support longevity.

Ms. Kennedy added the benefit of lining is the City will not have to dig up the roads to repair water lines.

Councilman Galindo-Elvira thanked staff for the presentation.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairwoman Stark opened the floor to public comment.

George Galliger stated he is a longtime user of Valley Metro and shares his concerns about the changes to the transit fare collection system. Mr. Galliger thanked staff for addressing some of these concerns.

Eric Neilson discussed suggestions for Valley Metro to improve their services including making the Valley Metro application more accessible.

Martin Shultz discussed the importance of transportation improvement and his personal experiences.

Tim Sierakowski thanked City staff for their leadership. The resident suggested measures for water conservation.

Jerry Van Gasse expressed concern regarding City parks.

Dianne Barker expressed concern regarding the new card for public transit.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilwoman Pastor requested a discussion item with Valley Metro staff regarding changes to the transit fare collection system. She also asked staff to provide an update regarding central city traffic patterns , impacts of proposed development, and any necessary infrastructure changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Stark adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Destinee Sior
Management Fellow

DRAFT