

**Phoenix City Council  
Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning (TIP) Subcommittee  
Summary Minutes  
Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

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

Subcommittee Members Present  
Councilwoman Debra Stark (Chair)  
Councilman Jim Waring  
Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington  
Councilman Kevin Robinson

Subcommittee Members Absent

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Debra Stark called the Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning Subcommittee to order at 10:02 a.m. with Councilman Kevin Robinson and Councilman Jim Waring present.

\*Councilwoman Hodge-Washington joined the meeting virtually at 10:26 a.m.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

None.

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

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

Councilman Kevin Robinson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Planning meeting. Councilman Jim Waring seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 3-0.

**INFORMATION ONLY (ITEM 2)**

**2. Phoenix Bus Rapid Transit Program Update- 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Preferred Corridor Alignment- Districts 1, 4, 5, and 7**

**INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION (ITEM 3)**

**3. Shade Phoenix Plan Progress Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25 – Citywide**

Deputy City Manager Amber Williamson, and Office of Heat Response and Mitigation Director David Hondula presented the item.

Director Hondula spoke about the Shade Phoenix Plan and highlighted the goals and outcomes of the Plan in the past year and outlined future priorities.

Councilman Jim Waring asked whether captain's chairs are being used instead of benches.

Deputy Public Transit Director, Juanita Carver stated yes those are captain's chairs and they are not currently installing benches at the bus stops.

Chairwoman Debra Stark acknowledged how great the presentation was and shared her appreciation of tree maintenance mentioned during the presentation. She then asked if the Office of Heat Response and Mitigation (OHRM) tracks the inventory of trees that are donated by external organizations.

Director Hondula responded the OHRM is working directly with the Parks and Recreation department to manage the inventory.

Chairwoman Stark asked if tree protection after storms can be implemented within the Adopt a Street program. She noted the last storm ruined a lot of trees that had recently been planted.

Street Transportation Director Briiana Velez stated she would review this idea with her team and update the Chairwoman.

Chairwoman Stark expressed appreciation and acknowledged Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington asked if there were plans to expand eligibility for the Community Canopy program.

Director Hondula stated the program is funded by the Inflation Reduction Act and the Urban and Community Forestry Grant through the United States Forest Service. He noted as part of the terms of the grant agreement and priorities; funding can be allocated to neighborhoods that are identified as disadvantaged through an environmental disparities tool which restricts where they can provide the program to remain in compliance with the grant requirements.

Councilwoman Hodge Washington shared appreciation for the background and intent for future communication regarding expanding the program to different communities.

Councilman Kevin Robinson noted that staff was doing a good job with this project.

Chairwoman Stark expressed appreciation for the presentation.

## **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Jerry Van Gasse stated he and his coalition will attend subcommittee meetings and watch out for 3PI and he would appreciate it if management from the Parks and Recreation department would attend the meetings and address issues.

Chairwoman Debra Stark acknowledged the Parks and Recreation Department staff that were present.

Tim Sierakowski stated his concerns about the work being done in the Parks department and the cross communication between departments and transparency relative to public records requests from the Parks and Recreation department. Mr. Sierakowski expressed his concerns about the maintenance of the trees and use of funds.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairwoman Stark adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Taniya Williams  
Management Fellow