



MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE PINAL COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

Ironwood Room (Northeast Multipurpose Room) No. 101
Pinal County Administrative Complex (1891 Historic Courthouse)
135 N. Pinal Street
Florence, AZ 85132

No.	Item	Presenter	Attachment	Motion	Second	P/F/T
1.	Call to Order	Kevin Louis, Chair	None	None	None	None
	Chair Kevin Louis called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.					
2.	Roll Call	Kathy Borquez, Clerk	None	None	None	None
	Members present: Vice-Chair Maxine Brown, Members Gordon Brown, Jim Fabris, David Garcia (3:29 p.m.), Ted Hawkins, Chair Kevin Louis, Members Giao Pham, Paul Prechel, Tom Snider, and Harold Vangilder					
3.	Welcome & Introductions	Chair Louis	None	None	None	None
	County staff present: Travis Ashbaugh, Scott Bender, Kathy Borquez, DeAnne Falise, Jim Higginbotham, John Kraft, Mark Langlitz, Joe Ortiz, Celeste Pemberton, Cindy Perez, Greg Stanley, and Angeline To Guests: Peter Knudson, Dibble Engineering, Andy Smith, Central Arizona Governments (CAG), Sandie Smith, Pinal Partnership, and Tim Wolfe, Dibble Engineering					
4.	Call to the Public		None	None	None	None
	After the briefing on the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (Agenda Item 6) by Pinal County Manager Greg Stanley, Chair Louis opened the call to the public and closed it since no one responded to the call.					
5.	Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of the Minutes from September 22, 2015	Transportation Advisory Committee	Draft Minutes	Vice Chair Maxine Brown	Member Gordon Brown	P
	Vice-Chair Maxine Brown introduced a motion to approve the Minutes from the September 22, 2015 meeting. Member Gordon Brown seconded the motion. The vote was 9 in favor; the motion passed.					
6.	Briefing on the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority	Greg Stanley, Pinal County Manager	Presentation	None	None	None
	Chair Louis asked permission to hear Agenda Item 6, Briefing on the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority, prior to Agenda Item 6, Call to the Public. Hearing no objections, Pinal County Manager					

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

31 North Pinal Street, Building F, PO Box 727 Florence, AZ 85132

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6.	Briefing on the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority (Continued)	Greg Stanley, Pinal County Manager	Presentation	None	None	None

Greg Stanley began by providing the history and background on the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). He advised that over the past 12 years more than 2,000 pages of transportation studies have documented the need for development of a transportation network. Mr. Stanley mentioned that county leadership and staff would like to move forward with building the regional roads and securing the funding. Mr. Stanley stated that a regional transportation authority (RTA) provides a funding source through an excise tax to develop a countywide transportation system. Under Arizona Revised Statute 48-5302, the Board of Supervisors can establish an RTA in a county with a population of 400,000 or fewer. Mr. Stanley also stated that the Board executed a resolution to establish the Pinal RTA on August 5, 2015. Mr. Stanley advised that on September 9, 2015, the RTA and Pinal County entered into an intergovernmental agreement to hire a consultant, Dibble and Associates, to prepare the engineering work and cost estimates for the regional transportation plan projects. Mr. Stanley mentioned that on September 21, 2015, local leaders met to identify the most regionally significant countywide projects. He stated that the projects will support economic development and growth in the region. Mr. Stanley advised that the Board will likely place this initiative on the November ballot for voter approval. He concluded by stating that Pinal Partnership will be doing the lobbying for the initiative since county staff are not permitted to advocate for it.

Member Paul Prechel asked if the new tax would affect the current transportation program. Mr. Stanley responded that funding for the RTA would be a separate tax and would not affect the current tax or program.

Member Tom Snider asked if there are any exemptions to the tax and Mr. Stanley replied that it would be structured much like the existing excise tax and tax business activity but not food purchases.

Member Harold Vangilder asked if the regional transportation authority has the ability to establish tolls roads and Mr. Stanley responded that he did not know for sure. Mr. Stanley stated that the Arizona Department of Transportation is currently conducting a toll road study and it is his understanding that a public investment must be included to sustain toll roads.

Member Gordon Brown asked why the RTA is provided for counties with less than 400,000 in population. Mr. Stanley replied that the state statute provides that county boards "may" establish an RTA with fewer than 400,000; however, when the population increased beyond that an RTA and regional transportation plan are required.

Member Jim Fabris asked why the county would want to establish another layer of government to control the tax. Mr. Stanley replied that this is a new funding source governed by the RTA. He further responded that the statute is written to allow the Board of Supervisors to establish the authority and levy the tax. Mr. Stanley stated that the tax will support a fiscally constrained regional plan.

Mr. Gordon Brown asked what is the cost to build the North-South Corridor and Mr. Stanley answered that the cost is \$432,000,000 for building it as a parkway including right-of-way acquisition.

Member Jim Fabris asked if the RTA is able to secure federal and state funding for projects and Mr. Stanley stated that the RTA can pursue other funding.

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7.	Transportation Project Status Reports on projects currently listed in the 2015 Transportation Improvement & Maintenance Program for Budget Years 2014-2015 through 2018-2019	Angeline To, Celeste Pemberton & John Kraft, Public Works Area Managers	Reports	None	None	None
	Chair Louis stated that the transportation project status reports were provided to the committee in advance and asked if the committee had questions. Hearing none, Chair Louis moved to the next agenda item.					
8.	Presentation/Discussion on the Transportation Project Requests (Budget Year 2019-2020) and Project Amendments for consideration in the 2016 Transportation Improvement and Maintenance Program (Budget Years 2015-2016 through 2019-2020)	Kathy Borquez, Angeline To, Celeste Pemberton & John Kraft	Transportation Project Requests Report	None	None	None
	Kathy Borquez reviewed the goals of the Transportation Improvement and Maintenance Program and the process for evaluating the proposed projects. Ms. Borquez stated that the area engineers evaluated 36 projects with 21 of those projects being recommended by staff.					
	Specific questions and/or discussion on the transportation project requests by the committee follow.					
	Engineering Area 2-Celeste Pemberton					
	Gantzel Road Pedestrian Crossing (Page 4, Project #4010)					
	Member Giao Pham asked if this project could be considered a safety improvement since it is a pedestrian crossing and could it qualify for grant funding. Ms. Pemberton replied that it is possible and she would look into potential grant opportunities.					
	Gary Road/Rittenhouse Road (Page 5, Project #5083)					
	Member Jim Fabris asked if the widening of Rittenhouse Road would be Maricopa County's responsibility. Ms. Pemberton replied that the majority of the widening would be in Maricopa County but Pinal County would be responsible for the ditch on the east side.					
	Member Gordon Brown asked when the future commercial project would be completed. Ms. Pemberton replied that the project is located in Maricopa County so she did not have that information at this time but could provide at a later date.					
	Hunt Highway (Page 9, Project #9128)					
	Member Gordon Brown asked if the annexation in Florence was moving forward. Scott Bender replied that the annexation by Florence was withdrawn. Ms. Pemberton stated this was why she did not recommend this project at this time.					
	Chair Louis stated that this project could be a good candidate for the RTA due to its regional significance.					

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8.	Presentation/Discussion on the Transportation Project Requests (Budget Year 2019-2020) and Project Amendments for consideration in the 2016 Transportation Improvement and Maintenance Program (Budget Years 2015-2016 through 2019-2020) (Continued)	Kathy Borquez, Angeline To, Celeste Pemberton & John Kraft	Transportation Project Requests Report	None	None	None

Engineering Area 2-Celeste Pemberton

Peddler Road (Page 14, Project #14006)

Member Ted Hawkins asked if the county is maintaining this road and Celeste Pemberton responded that the county is not maintaining the roadway. Ms. Pemberton explained that this road was likely developed through a minor land division. Member Hawkins asked if the county's right-of-way is by fee or easement and Ms. Pemberton stated that she would provide the information at a later date.

Rolling Ridge Road (Page 16, Project #16114)

Celeste Pemberton stated she received all utility clearances and all but one property owner's signature for right-of-way donations. Member Gordon Brown asked if that one property was not in favor of the project or did not respond. Ms. Pemberton stated that she had not communicated with the property owner yet.

Stagecoach Pass Avenue (Page 18, Project #18127)

Celeste Pemberton stated that she received two letters back from property owners stating they were not willing to donate right-of-way; however, the community advocates are still working to get the donations so the project could be added to the transportation plan.

Engineering Area 1-Angeline To

Sunland Gin Road (Page 19, Project #19118)

Member Tom Snider asked if the estimated cost for design of the project (\$100,000 of \$350,000) was reasonable and Angeline To replied that it is typical ratio for design considering that design will be contracted. Ms. To stated that the cost has some contingency as well.

Engineering Area 2-Celeste Pemberton

Tombstone Road (Page 20, Project #20115)

Chair Louis suggested that it would be helpful if he could get one map with all the proposed projects within the area. Ms. Pemberton stated she would provide a map and have Kathy Borquez send it to the committee at a later date.

Engineering Area 3-John Kraft

Val Vista Road (Page 22, Project #22036)

John Kraft stated that he has changed the recommendation for this project and is requesting to include it on the plan. Mr. Kraft stated that a staff panel that includes the County Engineer, Scott Bender, reviews all recommended projects. Scott Bender suggested adding this project based on the small amount of recommended projects and available funding since constructing the Vekol Wash crossing is important to the area during heavy rain events.

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<p><u>Engineering Area 3-John Kraft (Continued)</u> <u>Val Vista Road (Page 22, Project #22036)</u> Chair Louis asked Mr. Bender if additional project funds would be coming from the flood control tax and Mr. Bender responded that the funding source is only the transportation excise tax.</p> <p><u>Engineering Area 2-Celeste Pemberton</u> <u>Boyd Road (Page 24, Project #24018)</u> Ms. Pemberton stated that this project request was recommended by a citizen and the Public Works Apache Junction Road Maintenance Foreman. Kathy Borquez mentioned that on the score sheet the project was listed twice and noted as duplication.</p> <p><u>Engineering Area 3-John Kraft</u> <u>Carefree Place (Page 27, Project #27124)</u> Chair Louis stated that on the original project request data sheet, the estimated cost for this project was \$50,000 not \$500,000. Ms. Borquez responded that the original cost was for only the Carefree Place project. She continued to say that the Public Works staff panel recommended adding 4 additional miles of roadway dust palliatives within the area.</p> <p>Member Jim Fabris asked if there were air quality mandates for this area and Scott Bender responded by stating yes and the state is requiring Pinal County to surface 45 miles of roadways over the next three years with the focus on routes that have an average daily traffic of 150 or more.</p> <p>Kathy Borquez stated that Public Works staff is recommending 21 projects totaling over \$3 million for the committee's consideration. She continued that Public Works staff is also recommending \$1 million for the Safety Program, \$2 million dollars for the Dust Abatement Program, and \$700,000 for the Pavement Preservation Program. Ms. Borquez asked the committee to prioritize the projects from 1 to 21 and return the score sheets to her by January 4, 2016.</p> <p>Ms. Borquez concluded the presentation by mentioning that the amendments to the transportation program are administrative changes based on status updates with the projects.</p>						
9.	Discussion on proposed amendments to the Pinal County Transportation Advisory Committee Bylaws pursuant to Article VII: Amendments of Bylaws	Maxine Brown, Vice-Chair	2015 Transportation Advisory Committee Bylaws	None	None	None
<p>Vice-Chair Maxine Brown stated that she reviewed the bylaws with Kathy Borquez and she did not have any amendments to recommend at this time. Vice-Chair Brown further stated that since she had not received any bylaw amendment requests from the committee, she will close the discussion for this planning cycle.</p>						

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10.	Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of a Special Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. in the Ironwood Room of the Pinal County Administrative Complex	Chair Louis	None	Member Paul Prechel	Member Giao Pham	F
	Member Paul Prechel introduced a motion to approve the Special Transportation Advisory Committee meeting on January 26, 2016 and Member Giao Pham seconded the motion. The vote was 1 in favor and 9 opposed; the motion failed.					
11.	Announcement on the upcoming meeting: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 2:30 p.m. in the Ironwood Room of the Pinal County Administrative Complex (For discussion only)	Chair Louis	None	None	None	None
	Chair Louis announced the upcoming TAC meeting on February 23, 2016. Chair Louis asked Deputy County Attorney Mark Langlitz if it was permissible for the committee to contact the area engineers directly to address project related questions. Mr. Langlitz stated that it was permissible as long as the information was not discussed among the committee outside of a noticed meeting. Mr. Langlitz suggested that questions from the committee be channeled through Kathy Borquez.					
	Member David Garcia thanked Public Works leadership and staff and the committee for support of the Redington Road project.					
12.	Current Events (For discussion only)	Transportation Advisory Committee and/or Pinal County/Public Works staff	None	None	None	None
	Ms. Borquez stated that last meeting Member Gordon Brown asked how many hits the Transportation Advisory Committee's webpage receives each month. According to Ms. Borquez, the webpage averages approximately 115 views each month.					
	Ms. Borquez announced several personnel updates beginning with that she was promoted to a Senior Transportation Planner with the Public Works Department. Ms. Borquez stated that she will transition to the new position and that her current position would be filled. Ms. Borquez also mentioned that her supervisor Doug Hansen is retiring next month (December) after more than 19 years of service. Also, Ms. Borquez stated that her co-worker, Travis Ashbaugh, will be dedicating his work efforts towards the economic development arena. Also, Ms. Borquez congratulated Mr. Ashbaugh on passing the exam for the Association of International Certified Planners.					
13.	Adjournment (Time:_____)	Chair Louis	None	None	None	None
	Chair Louis adjourned the meeting at 4:20 p.m.					

MINUTES approved on the ____ day of _____, 20____, by the Pinal County Transportation Advisory Committee.

Chairman, Transportation Advisory Committee

ATTEST:

Clerk, Transportation Advisory Committee

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