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PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE & TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee

Monday, July 29, 2019
9:30 a.m.

Public Works Conference Room
433 North Virginia Street
Prescott, Arizona 86301
(928)777-1130

Minutes of the Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee held **Monday, July 29, 2019,** in the **Public Works Conference Room,** located at **433 North Virginia Street.**

A. Call to Order – Bill Fanelli, Chairman

B. Roll Call

MEMBERS	
Bill Fanelli, Chairman – present	George Sheats, Vice-Chairman – present
David Fero – present	Sandra Smith – present
Jim Knaup – absent	Sandy Stutey – absent
Dennis Stringer - absent	Mayor Pro Tem Orr - absent

C. Approval of Minutes from July 8, 2019 Meeting

GEORGE SHEATS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 8, 2019 MEETING; SANDRA SMITH 2ND MOTION, - PASSED 4-0

D. Create Subcommittee for Transit Issues

A subcommittee to discuss transit issues was discussed and members Sandy Stutey, George Sheats and Dennis Stringer were assigned to the subcommittee.

BILL FANELLI MADE A MOTION TO CREATE THE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR TRANSIT ISSUES; SANDRA SMITH 2ND MOTION, - PASSED 4-0

E. Current Traffic Data Available

Ian presented an overview of available traffic data as discussed previously at a City Council study session. Traffic count information for 2010 and 2016 was highlighted, and plans to collect updated traffic counts in the fall of 2019 was discussed. Staff then compared the City's traffic volumes on several key arterial streets to the CYMPO RTP predictions for 2025 and 2040, which in some cases were already near or in some cases higher than those predicted by the study.

David Fero asked if Ian knows how Google maps collects their real time data for route mapping and trip times. Ian is not aware of what collection methods are used by Google.

F. Common Actions Taken to Improve Traffic Flow

Ian provided an overview of tools used to relieve traffic congestion.

- Roadway expansion
- Intersection widening to add turn lanes
- Interconnecting traffic signals to favor mainline operation
- Traffic signal time of day timing patterns
- Permissive and protected left turns
- Upgrade signal detection from a loop system to a radio communication system
- Zoning changes to locate traffic generators so trip length can be reduced
- Public Transit use
- Alternative Transportation Mode use

Craig Dotseth spoke of future IIP Projects and mentioned that interconnectivity of traffic signals along Willow Creek Rd from Pioneer Parkway to the 4 points intersection is in the FY20 budget.

Sandra Smith asked what role public transportation might have on traffic congestion. Ian stated that CYMPO has been looking into a regional transit system that if implemented may help reduce congestion.

G. Downtown Intersection Traffic Discussion

Congestion at the intersection of Montezuma and Gurley was the subject of discussion. Many possible causes of backups at this intersection were identified; cars turning right have to wait for pedestrians which blocks the through lane, left turn lane is underutilized when delivery trucks are blocking the start of the lane, bulb outs eliminate the ability to create a right turn pocket, pedestrians tend to cross with the traffic signal not the crosswalk signal.

Possible solutions to move traffic more efficiently were discussed.

- Pedestrian scramble – this would require signal programing to hold pedestrians during east/west and north/south vehicle cycles and then allow pedestrians to cross together in all directions including diagonally across the intersection. The costs associated with testing this option is low and would include temporary signage, employee programing time, employee monitoring time and possible public outreach.
- Prohibit right turns – the only cost associated with testing this option would be signage.
- Prohibit left turns – this option was discussed as a difficult solution as Montezuma is also SR89.
- Remove bulb outs and add right turn pocket – the expenses associated with this option are far greater than the previous ones and will require the most time and resources to implement.

Bill Fanelli asked if we can test the pedestrian scramble over a busy weekend and if that is not effective move on to testing other alternatives, starting with prohibiting right turns.

Councilman Goode suggested that the congestion is not just a summer weekend problem, and alternative measures should be tested for a period of time when typical traffic can also be evaluated.

Ian replied that he will look for a weekend with events at the square and prepare for a 3-4 week trial of the pedestrian scramble.

H. Tracking Spreadsheet Overview and Discussion

Ian reviewed the purpose of and information included in his tracking spreadsheet. Each item is identified by the source of the issue with additional information regarding the progress and outcome of the issue. Committee members are encouraged to email additional issues to Carey prior to the 2nd meeting of each month. Carey will email the tracking sheet along with the agenda and previous meeting minutes prior to the next meeting for review.

I. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Carey Oberheim

Carey Oberheim, Administrative Assistant

Bill Fanelli, Chairman

Date: 8/12/19