



# City of Prescott

## Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee

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July 8, 2024 | 9:00 AM  
Public Works Conference Room  
433 N. Virginia Street  
Prescott, AZ 86301

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Joe Scott called the meeting to order at 9:29 A.M.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Joe Scott, Chair  
Lou Koven, Vice Chair  
David Fero, Member  
James Fields, Absent  
Kent Hart, Member  
George Hotchkiss, Member  
Jim Knaup, Member

#### 3. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of the June 10, 2024 Pedestrian, Bicycle & Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION BY CHAIR SCOTT TO APPROVE JUNE 10, 2024 MINUTES;  
SECONDED BY MEMBER KOVEN: (6 - 0)**

#### Open Call to the Public

James Stien, member of the public, spoke about a section of the road on Idylwild in between Lindbergh Lane and where the road turns to County. He stated that the road is narrow and has numerous potholes.

Member Jim Knaup stated that he believes it is private property and owner would not allow them to finish it.

- B. Presentation & Discussion Regarding Westridge Drive Traffic Concerns.

Councilwoman Lois Fruhwirth stated that the neighborhood had not been notified that the item was on the agenda which is why they were not present.

Gwen Rowitsch stated that a deferral to the next meeting will not affect the timing of signage and striping for the community.

**MOTION BY MEMBER KOVEN TO DEFER WESTRIDGE DRIVE TRAFFIC**

**CONCERNS TO THE SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> MEETING; SECONDED BY MEMBER FERRO: (6 - 0)**

- C. Presentation & Discussion Regarding Sign Request for Lee Boulevard.

The member of the public who wrote the request for signage was not present at the meeting. The item was deferred to the September 9th meeting.

**MOTION BY MEMBER KOVEN TO DEFER LEE BLVD SIGN REQUEST; SECONDED BY MEMBER FERRO: (6 - 0)**

- D. Presentation & Discussion Regarding Ongoing Project Updates.

**Safe Streets for All (SS4A)**

Randy Perham, City Engineer, spoke about the Safe Streets for All Prescott Dexter/Near North Business District Vulnerable Road Users Safety Plan Grant. The IGA is going to council for approval on July 9th. If approved, the City will hire a consultant to begin Phase 1 of the project to undertake the Vulnerable Road Users Safety Plan. The first phase will cost \$150,000. The grant is funded at \$250,000 and is an 80%/20% federal/local split.

Councilman Ted Gambogi asked who pays 80% and who pays 20%.

Public Works Director Gwen Rowitsch stated that the Feds will pay 80% and the City will pay 20%. She stated that the City's portion would be approximately \$11,000. Ms. Rowitsch presented a map showing the area of study for the Safe Streets for All grant. She stated that the grant was applied for to improve safety for vulnerable users along the corridor. The grant is meant to compliment the safety plan that the City has created in partnership with CYMPO. It will also allow identification of improvements along the corridor and within the study area. The grant has been awarded and Council will decide if the City will accept it at the Council meeting on July 9th.

Member Lou Koven asked if the money is only for a study.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that it is only for the study. She stated that grant money for construction is difficult to get if you don't have a plan and the first step is to get a grant to create a plan. Once they identify improvements that they can make along the corridor, they can apply for construction grants.

Member Jim Knaup asked if the funds for the grant are different from the funds earmarked for YRMC access.

CYMPO planner Bryn Stotler stated that it is a separate request through Mark Kelly's office. The request was for \$400,000 to study all of the YRMC campuses and the circulation elements around the campuses. She stated that the request is still pending but it has made it through phase one screening and the application is moving forward.

Member David Fero asked if there would be communication around planning for each of the grants.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that they are coordinating with CYMPO and with YRMC so that they do not duplicate efforts. She stated the SS4A grant takes in a more extensive area than just the intersection by the hospital.

Member Fero stated that there is a trail that runs behind some restaurants and comes out at Miller Valley that needs work. He stated that it could be an alternative to people walking and biking.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that the SS4A grant will help staff study the area and find opportunities for improvement. She stated that there is a lot of walking and biking versus vehicular use for the people who live in the area.

### **ADOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TA) Highway 89/Deep Well Ranch Road Multi-Use Path Planning & Scoping Study**

Mr. Perham stated that the item will be going to City Council on July 9th for approval of the IGA. If approved ADOT will hire a consultant to begin the project. The project budget is \$200,000 with a 94.3%/5.7% split.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that this project will provide planning for a multi-use pathway to fill a gap in the bike corridor on SR89 leading into the Deep Well Ranch roundabout. Currently cyclists are pushed into the SR89 driving lanes which is unsafe. The City has been approved for the grant and is going to Council to get approval to accept the funding.

Member Lou Koven asked about how the grant process works.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that once staff receives funding they go through the normal procurement process. She explained that most of the time grants are a reimbursement as the City will put its dollars up front.

Member Koven asked if the City uses outside companies for the studies.

Ms. Rowitsch replied that the City always uses outside companies.

Member Koven asked if the same companies are used for every study.

Ms. Rowitsch explained that the City has a few different ways they choose companies. They can hire a consultant based on their experience not what they charge. They can also hire from an on-call list where they pre-qualify a list of registered consultants every five years through the RSOQ process.

### **Lee Blvd (north side) Pavement and Striping**

With the upcoming paving of Lee Blvd near Discount tire and Touchmark, staff has developed a new striping plan to better delineate the area and make the fire

station keep clear marking and right turn lane onto Yavapai Hills Drive clearer to motorists. It also provides a marked shoulder area at the northwest end to provide walking and biking connection to Touchmark.

### **Speed Limit Increase Update**

The citywide Speed and Travel Time Study speed limit increase changes are heading to City Council for approval on July 9th. The PBTAC reviewed and recommended the following speed limit changes which are the staff recommendations:

- Hassayampa Village Lane (entire length) – Increase speed from 25MPH to 30MPH
- Gurley Street (McCormick Street to Park Avenue) – Retain the existing 25MPH speed
- Miller Valley Road (Hillside/Fair to 4-Points) – Retain the existing 30MPH speed
- Williamson Valley Road (Standing Rock Drive to County Line) – Increase speed from 35MPH to 40MPH

### **SR69 Widening Project (ADOT)**

The ADOT/Fann Contracting project will begin July 8th. This is a widening project expanding the existing 4-lane roadway between YAVPE and Prescott Lakes Parkway to 6-lanes to remove the bottle neck on SR69 in the area. The project also includes a raised median between Prescott Lakes Parkway and Heather Heights.

Member Knaup stated that the former chair of PBTAC volunteered to assist with re-application for Bicycle Friendly Communities. He stated that the deadline for submittal was June 25th. He asked if there are any updates.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that she would ask the Transportation Manager.

Member Fero spoke of a project on Sundog Ranch Road and stated that there are flags in the bike lane area. He also noted that there are cottonwood trees under the bridge on Prescott Lakes Parkway that are in the bike lane which forces cyclists into the travel lane.

A member of the public stated that the intersection at SR69 and Lee Blvd is hard to use as there is only 32 seconds to cross and the intersection is very wide. He stated that it is also hard to walk down the road after crossing as there is no sidewalk or shoulder for pedestrians.

Member Hart stated the residents of The Foothills are waiting on a sign that has been promised on the north side of Nathan. It is a Share the Road sign as there is no sidewalk and there is an area that motorists cannot see pedestrians as they come over a hill.

- E. Presentation & Discussion Regarding Radar Feedback Sign Policy.

Mr. Perham stated that staff applied for 3.25 million dollars for a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant. The funding will provide 150 signs for the community. He stated that staff created a policy for where the signs will be placed. The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) includes some direction on the operation of the signs but does not have an official policy for the selection and installation. Staff looked at other communities to see what they have done and what would work best for Prescott. Mr. Perham stated that the goal is to maximize effectiveness for the community and focus on areas of concern such as arterial and collectors where there are collisions with injuries or fatalities. If approved by the Committee, it would move to Council in September for adoption.

Member Fero stated that at the last meeting, Committee members were shown maps where collisions and injuries have happened throughout the City. He stated that those maps may be a good resource to show where to put the signs.

Councilman Gambogi pointed to an area of the agenda packet where it talks about criteria for installation. He asked if the speed limits listed suggest speed limit changes on the road.

Mr. Perham replied yes.

Councilman Gambogi asked if a speed limit is 25MPH and 85 out of 100 cars are driving 35MPH if that would be a consideration to change the speed limit to a higher speed.

Mr. Perham replied that as part of the study, data was collected and that is where the recommendations for speed limit changes came from.

Councilman Gambogi asked if the signs collect data.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that the signs can collect data and that the 85th percentile speed is the speed at which 95% of all drivers surveyed were travelling. If speeds in an area were being tracked and more than 85 percent of drivers were traveling more than 7MPH over the speed limit, the city could consider changing the speed limit. She stated that people drive at a speed that feels safe and comfortable but that does not always mean it is always appropriate.

Councilman Gambogi asked if a community was trying to get drivers to slow down and 100 percent of cars were driving 10MPH over the speed limit, that does not mean the City would change the speed limit to 35MPH.

Ms. Rowitsch stated that there are other mitigating factors such as what type of street it is. She stated that there is an adopted speed limit range for different roadway classifications. Speeds need to be prudent and safe. Staff looks at a lot of different factors when setting speed limits.

Member Knaup stated that in the policy it talks about justification and says to improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. He would like to broaden that

statement to say provide increased safety for all users.

Councilman Gambogi stated that in the agenda packet it says when cars travel 15 mph over the speed limit the sign turns black. He would like to know why.

Member Knaup replied that it was so that drivers do not drive very fast and record their speed using the signs.

Mr. Perham stated that is correct they do not want people seeing how high they can get the speed to show.

Chair Scott; Seconded by Member Knaup (6-0)

Member Hart asked when the rumble strips on Senator Highway were approved.

Mr. Perham stated that that they received concerns and have done a lot of work to make the road safer. One of the concerns was that there was nothing warning drivers that they were entering a residential area. The rumble strips were a way to do that.

Member Knaup asked to clarify that there was no meeting in August.

Ms. Rowitsch confirmed that there is no August meeting and the next meeting will be in September.

Member Hotchkiss asked if Prescott schools do anything about bicycle safety.

Member Knaup stated that they used to do some education when they received grants but it hasn't happened in years.

Member Hotchkiss stated that some of the things that would make a big difference is encouraging the use of helmets and walking bikes across crosswalks.

Commissioner Gambogi agreed that education is important and that what he sees within the City is that more responsibility is placed on cyclists than motorists

Member Koven asked if the resource officers do training regarding bicycle safety at schools.

Police Officer Johnson stated that he does not know but there is only one resource officer at the high school and one at the middle school. He stated that once a year Prescott Valley Police Department and Yavapai College do a Bike Rodeo for kids that includes education.

Ms. Stotler stated that CYMPO's Act Up plan is working with all three school districts to look at campuses and circulation around them. Act up looks at priorities around the schools and education campaign funds can be asked for as part of that.

Member Hotchkiss asked what the educational campaigns would look like.

Ms. Stotler said it can be designed in any way they want it.

Member Hotchkiss asked if it could be done through the school.

Ms. Stotler replied that it can. She stated that they have partnered with the superintendents of the schools to see how they can make bikes and pedestrians safer around schools.

Member Kanup stated that there are a lot of resources nationally.

A member of the public stated that he has been in public schools and they do not teach bicycle safety. Education is a great idea for kids as they will remember for the rest of their lives. He also believes education on public transit is important.

Member Koven thanked Isaac Rodriguez, traffic technician as there is a speed sign that was obscured by a tree and Mr. Rodriguez arranged for the trimming of the tree.

**4. UPDATES**

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, Chair Scott adjourned the meeting at 10:20 A.M.

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JOE SCOTT, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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SARAH HILTON, Recording Secretary

