

City of Prescott

City Council - Study Session



August 26, 2025 | 1:00 PM
201 N Montezuma Street
City Council Chambers
Prescott, AZ 86301

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Goode called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Phil Goode - Mayor
Connie Cantelme - Mayor Pro Tem
Lois Fruhwirth - Councilwoman
Ted Gambogi - Councilman (Arrived at 1:02 p.m.)
Patrick Grady - Councilman
Brandon Montoya - Councilman
Eric Moore - Councilman

3. DISCUSSION

- A. Presentation & Discussion Regarding 15% Alternative Design Concept Plans for Effluent & Wastewater Pipeline & SR89 Improvements. Study Session 2 of 2 in Accordance with Resolution No. 2024-1876.

City Clerk Sarah Thornhill provided an announcement regarding this meeting and the public hearing which will take place at the 3:00 p.m. Voting Meeting.

Public Works Director Gwen Rowitsch provided a presentation to the Council regarding this being the sixth meeting related to this matter in accordance with the adopted Resolution.

Why are We Here:

- * Effluent infrastructure is failing (this is the number one priority for this project)
- * Expected lifespan of pavement is 20-30 years
- * Fiscal Responsibility - coordinating projects to reduce costs and community impacts
- * Level of Service (LOS) is projected to be F by 2034
- * The replacement of the effluent infrastructure will destroy the roadway

How Are Projects Planned:

- * Wastewater modeling and forecasts
- * Traffic Studies
- * Consultants & staff
- * Data and timing analyses
- * Fiscal Efficiency

Infrastructure Planning:

- * Wastewater Infrastructure - update studies every five years; 2013 wastewater model identified need for centralization; 2016 project included in Capital Improvement Plan; 2018 model identified need for additional sewer capacity along SR89; 2019 project added to Infrastructure Improvement Plan (IIP) & Development Impact Fees

SR89 Previous Widening:

- * 17-mile stretch between SR69 interchange to Road 3 North in Chino Valley
- * 2005-2007 widening at Yavpe Connector to Willow Lake Road
- * 2015 ADOT widened SR89 from Deep Well Ranch Road to Road 4 South in Chino Valley
- * 2017-2019 the city and ADOT widened SR89 from Deep Well to Phippen Trail
- * The only remaining two lane portion is 2.5 miles from Willow Lake Road to Phippen Trail

Roadway Infrastructure:

- * 2011 identified need for widening in CYMPO's Regional Transportation Plan
- * 2019 included in Street Infrastructure Improvement Plan/Development Impact Fees
- * FY22 added street funds to project already included in 5-year CIP
- * FY26 design concept report cost estimate increased budget to \$38 million

Ms. Rowitsch stated that at this time we are two and a half years into this process, in June 2023 began with a public survey. Many of the comments were not about what people wanted to see but about what they didn't want to see. She reiterated that the project specific website went live before the adoption of the Resolution and is the only one of it's kind for any project in the City of Prescott.

Resolution No. 2024-1876:

- * February 13, 2024 submitted to the Council
- * Public comment period - two study sessions, two public hearings
- * Alternative to a five-lane road - Committee reviewed multiple options
- * Traffic report - posted on the website
- * Detailed financial analysis - will have a detailed analysis regardless of which option is selected for the project
- * Exhibit 1 - Capital Improvement Program Process

Capital Program Manager Tim Sherwood continued the discussion regarding the RSOQ process. The Design Concept Report contract was awarded in November 2024 following the RSOQ advertisement (statewide) and responses were received. Kimley-Horn, Lyon Engineering, Water Works Engineers, Call & Nicholas, T2 Utility Engineers, Beta PR, ETC and Willmeng will all be working on the various arms of the project.

Ranking #1 \$36.7 million; Alternative 3B a Five-Lane Widening Entire Corridor:

- * Taper extension at Phippen roundabout
- * Frontage road with acceleration lane and left-in/left-out
- * Willow Lake roundabout southbound approach realignment
- * Consolidate access points
- * Improved sight lines
- * Right-in/right-out only conditions through corridor

* Unique Features - 5-lane through the corridor, 2-lane roundabout near old SR89 Loop Road, 2-lane roundabout north of Twisted Trail, right-outs within 1500 feet of roundabouts

Ranking #2 \$35.5 million; Alternative 5B a Five-Lane Widening with Four Lanes plus Barrier Through Narrow Section:

* All features of ranking #1

* Unique Features - 5-lane widening between Phippen Trail roundabout and Boulder Creek Lane, 4-lane widening between Boulder Creek Lane and Twisted Trail with barriers, 5-lane widening between Twisted Trail and Willow Lake Road roundabout, 2-lane roundabout near Old SR89 Loop Road, 2-lane roundabout north of Twisted Trail, right-outs within 1500 feet of roundabouts

Ranking #10 \$25.2 million; Alternative 2B Current Roadway Non-widening Alternative:

* Unique Features - two lanes throughout the corridor, single-lane roundabouts near Old SR89 Loop Road, and a single-lane roundabout north of Twisted Trail

Councilman Grady stated that he feels there wasn't a lot of depth put into alternative 2B despite the fact that it came up in the community survey and RSOQ.

Mr. Sherwood responded that there were twenty alternatives in total, and 2B was the highest-ranked one for non-widening.

Andrew Baird with Kimley-Horn added that full 15% concept plans were identified for all three alternatives. Recognizing that there were issues with line of sight and right-out issues with that, this alternative was vetted with detailed plans just as much as the others, but the focus was on intersection improvements and safety. There are no specific corridor-wide improvements like the others, but there was significant research into that as an alternative. Flex lanes were considered and vetted, These scored lower than the top-ranking alternatives.

Transportation Manager Ian Mattingly added that traffic signals were not placed specifically on the alternatives, but the traffic analysis looked at how the current roundabouts versus traffic signals would fare, the traffic signals double the delay in that review. There is no practical purpose to have that as standalone alternatives.

Mr. Sherwood continued with a review of the typical capital program schedule in comparison to the steps outlined in the adopted Resolution.

Councilwoman Fruhwirth commented that what she has heard from the public is that they have been commenting, but don't feel like anyone is listening, and she would like a better understanding of how that has played into where the city is now.

Mr. Sherwood responded that the twenty alternatives were based on the public comments that were received. They looked at every comment from the survey to come up with those, but between the technical committee and the advisory group it was whittled down to what concepts are being presented. Even if the

non-widening alternative is selected, there may still need to be rock removal to improve traffic safety.

Operations Manager Carey Oberheim reviewed comments received to this point during the 60-day public comment period. Staff reviewed some of the comments received and responses to those comments.

Public Comment Themes:

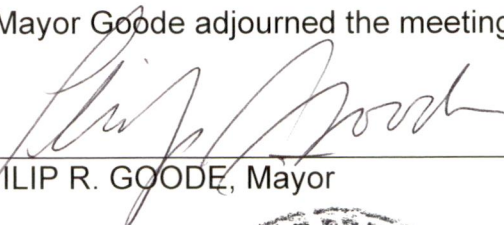
- * July 9 comments posted
- * 10-days after this meeting they will be posted again
- * Public Involvement and Transparency
- * Environmental and Utility
- * Property impacts
- * Alternative solutions
- * Growth and Urbanization
- * Traffic Study and Engineering Standards
- * Traffic Flow and Safety
- * Roundabouts and Signalized Intersections
- * Cost and Fiscal Responsibility

Ms. Rowitsch completed the discussion stating that if the Council decides not to do widening at this time staff will continue to budget it in and look at the options in the future. She added that for 4-6 months to a minimum without the widening option the traffic flow will be significantly impacted, with the widening there would be less impacts because the widening could be done first.

This item was for discussion only, no formal action was taken.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Goode adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

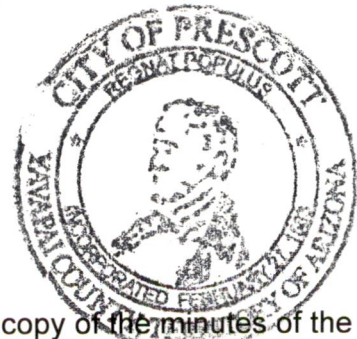


PHILIP R. GOODE, Mayor

ATTEST:

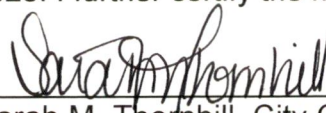


SARAH M. THORNHILL, City Clerk



CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Voting Meeting of the City Council Voting Meeting of the City of Prescott, Arizona held on August 26, 2025. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



Sarah M. Thornhill, City Clerk