

## **MINUTES OF THE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF COOLIDGE**

A public meeting of the City of Coolidge Transit Advisory Committee was convened on **Thursday, January 19, 2017, 4 p.m.** at the **Coolidge Transit Facility, 365 W. Palo Verde Avenue, Coolidge, Arizona**

Present at the meeting were the following members:

Olivia Guerrero, Chair	Lynn Parsons
Dave Nulton	Kim Rodriguez
Vallarie Woolridge	

Absent were:

Rueben Felix, Vice Chair  
1 Vacant position

Staff and public present were:

Jill Dusenberry, City of Coolidge Grants Coordinator  
Gilbert Lopez, City of Coolidge Development Services Director

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 4:11 pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Guerrero asked the committee members if they had the chance to review the minutes. No comments or revisions were noted. Ms. Lynn Parsons motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Dave Nulton seconded. Minutes passed on a 5/0 vote.

### **REPORTS**

Ms. Dusenberry introduced Gilbert Lopez, Development Services Director and advised the committee that Mr. Lopez is now also Transit Director and Grant Director. Chair Guerrero requested a copy of the new organization chart. Staff advised that a new organizational chart has not been shared but will ask administration for a copy to provide to the committee. Staff reported that the new transit grant began on October 1 2016 and that ADOT has just recently opened the electronic billing program for submittal of invoices. In the future staff will provide financial information at each meeting. Mr. Dave Nulton requested that a ridership report be provided as well. Ms. Guerrero requested information on ADOT staff. Staff advised that Sam Chavez is currently the Transit Program Manager assigned to Coolidge and that ADOT has been undergoing a re-organization in the Multimodal Planning Division and have not been advised as to who is the new Transit Director.

### **BUSINESS**

#### 1.a. Coolidge Transit Plan 2016

Ms. Dusenberry shared with the committee that Chapter 3 of the Transit Plan focuses on the Cotton Express service and Chapter 4 focuses on CART. She identified that each chapter provides a brief overview of the service including the fare structure and statistical information. No questions were asked of this section. Ms. Dusenberry advised the committee that the next chapter of the plan to be reviewed is Chapter 5 which focuses on Marketing.

### 1.b. Coolidge Transit Plan 2016 Summary of Recommendations

Ms. Dusenberry encouraged the committee members to review the recommendations developed in the Transit Plan. Page one of the handout focuses on Cotton Express while pages 2 and 3 focus on CART. Ms. Dusenberry shared with the committee that staff does not support all recommendations made in the plan such as the recommendation to increase fares. Staff will bring to the committee in the future a recommendation that the monthly fare for each system be modified to encourage the purchase of monthly fares. Ms. Dusenberry also identified that the recommendations encourage additional CART services in Florence, adding Casa Grande to the IGA, adding Eloy to the IGA and providing service in Sacaton. All of these recommendations are dependent upon those governmental entities in the area being willing to financially provide the match funding necessary for the Transit grant.

#### General Discussion

Mr. Nulton provided a comment that Casa Grande should contribute their "fair share" or routes should change. Ms. Guerrero mentioned that the Casa Grande Transit Plan is underway and we should give it a chance to develop for now. Ms. Rodriguez stated that several economic development opportunities are coming to Pinal County and transit in Casa Grande is needed since economic development and transit go hand in hand. Mr. Nulton clarified that "fair share" may be met monetarily or other ways. He stated that Casa Grande should have their own service.

Ms. Parsons asked about the IGA. Ms. Dusenberry explained that IGA stands for Intergovernmental Agreement. This is the agreement between all the CART partners (Florence, Pinal County, Central Arizona College and Coolidge). The agreement was extended by all parties last year.

Ms. Parsons asked Mr. Lopez if an update was available regarding Mr. Nulton's membership. Ms. Dusenberry explained to Mr. Lopez that Mr. Nulton was re-appointed to the IDA board and Coolidge City Code does not allow the appointment of an individual to two boards/committees except for the Personnel Advisory Board. Mr. Lopez stated he was not aware of the issue but will follow up.

#### 2. Items submitted for discussion by Dave Nulton.

Mr. Nulton requested that the committee focus on three items at today's meeting and table the remaining items due to time constraints. Mr. Nulton requested that items a, f and g be discussed if possible.

- Revision of CART bus times – limit time not in motion.

Mr. Nulton identified that since the CART route was modified to include the stop at the Greyhound Bus Station in Casa Grande the bus is now idling 34 minutes or more per trip. He recommends that staff look at the CART times and correct the problem were people are not sitting on the bus with it not moving. He says that locations were this is occurring are Central Arizona College, Pinal County Federal Credit Union, Greyhound and the Pinal County Complex in Casa Grande. Mr. Nulton stated that this is occurring every time he rides the bus. Ms. Dusenberry shared with the committee that she will ask Mr. Meyer to look into this. Ms. Dusenberry shared with the group that we have time constraints we must comply with when connecting to Greyhound which may have caused this delay but staff will investigate and get back with the committee.

- f. Safety Concerns – Martin Valley

Attendees were provided photos of the road section in the Martin Valley area of Coolidge. Mr. Nulton shared with the committee that drivers in the area routinely exceed the speed limit of 50 mph. Ms. Dusenberry shared with the group that a request has been made to ADOT to fund an overhead crossing in this area however if funded we will not know until May or June of 2017 and funds would not be available until October of 2017. Mr. Nulton stated that 3 to 4 items could be inexpensively implemented right now.

- Mark crosswalks on Curry and Woodruff roads.
- Reduced the speed in the area and install signs stating Transit Zone.
- Install pedestrian crossing signs in crosswalk areas.

Several committee members then commented on the excessive speed on this road and encourage more speed enforcement in this area. Ms. Dusenberry and Mr. Lopez commented that they would share the committees concerns and recommendations to the appropriate city departments.

g. CART servicing of Phoenix Mart.

Due to time constraints Mr. Nulton advised that this item could be held over to the next meeting.

#### **CALL TO BOARD**

No comments.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Gilbert Lopez thanked all the committee members for their service.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Keep to our schedule of meeting on the third Thursday of every other month, the next meeting will be held on March 16, 2017.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Vallarie Woolridge and seconded by Ms. Kim Rodriguez. Motion passed 5/0. Meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2017 – City of Coolidge

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**Jill Dusenberry, Grant Coordinator**