



Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the **Tucson Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee (TPCBAC)** and to the general public, that the TPCBAC held the following meeting, which was open to the public:

The **TPCBAC**, conducted a public meeting **November 15, 2023**. A recording of the meeting may be accessed here: TBD.

Approved Meeting Minutes

1. Roll Call, Call to Order, and Approval of September Minutes.

Voice roll call was taken, with 14 members of the committee in attendance. Joseph Mais (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

MOTION: A motion to approve the September 20, 2023 minutes was made by Joseph Mais, seconded by James Wood, and passed by voice vote, 9 yes, 0 no; five members were not present at prior meeting (or weren't members at the time), thus abstaining.

2. Call to the Public.

Garrett Weaver addressed the committee and appreciated the discussion held at the September meeting regarding the south side of Tucson bicycle access and safety.

Francisco Soto shared his experience on the Greenway bicycle trail, which is overgrown with vegetation as well as a lot of trash. In addition, he was recently hit by a vehicle at the crossing on 22nd street. (Near 22nd street and I 10); he hit the crosswalk button and it indicated it was safe to walk but was he was hit by a car and filed a police report; that crossing is very dangerous. Fransisco also shared his frustrating experience filing a police report and felt he was not taken seriously. He also shared that in his experience there were cameras at high-risk intersections in Albuquerque and wanted to point out the benefits of having cameras.

Mike Hendrix addressed the 22nd Street overpass and asked the committee and city to examine the transitions in this area, and the should width. Also, shared his thanks to the city for addressing the community's concerns.

3. Updates from Law Enforcement

Sargeant David Fritsch attended and addressed Francisco's experience. There was a vehicle / bicycle fatality in October at Grant and Craycroft (a hit and run), total of 6 for the year thus far (vs 5 at this time last year). Over 5,000 collisions, ~120 involve cyclists.

The committee shared with Sargeant David Fritsch that we intend to provide more guidance on what we would like to have covered from the TPD representative in the future.

4. Tucson Rapid Transit

Ian Sansom presented an update on Tucson Rapid Transit; seeking federal funding for bus transit between downtown and the Tucson Mall. A five-mile bus transit corridor with two potential routes. This is in the very early stages; looking at options for the corridor, such as Stone & Oracle (Wetmore and Drachman as East / West connections if Oracle is selected). Each option uses existing roadway (no widening). Goal is to create a complete street.

More information and a survey to illustrate the two options:

<https://tucsonrapidtransit.com>

Plan is to seek feedback and the present recommended route on early December to Mayor & Council. Then, next year would seek federal grant funds and will come back to the committee for feedback in 2024.

Krista asked if the center lane would ever be converted into a light rail, is that an option? Answer: That has come up in the planning and could be potentially retrofitted in the future, it won't be ruled out, however, not in the current plan. The main answer for bus rapid transit vs light rail is cost (~110M per mile for light rail vs \$25M for bus rapid transit). Also, any consideration for what type of bus (electric etc.)? Answer: All are being looked at; weight and speed demands may limit choices. However, that may improve by the time this is implemented (3 to 5 years).

5. N/A

6. Letter on South Side/Airport Bicycling

The committee reviewed the draft letter and asked the city and county representatives to whom it should be addressed. Daphne suggested we add language to improve the importance of access to the airport. Sophia suggested we add more about who is using this path and list various top employers. David Andrews suggested we request at the end some type of update or response. Nicole suggested in the third paragraph to consider the adjective risky versus treacherous. James also suggested considering addressing the diagonal access across town. Jonathan asked for a bit more specificity on the various connections and where exactly we are requesting changes or improvements so that it is interpreted correctly. Randy suggested we add a recommendation of bike routes to suggest sections of the roadway that could benefit from an official bike route designation.

Krista asked if there is an opportunity to present the letter in person at an appropriate forum.

Joseph will incorporate suggested changes and then distribute in advance of the next committee meeting.

7. 22nd Street Overpass Update

Ben Elias provided an update on the 22nd street overpass. Members of the public came to Mayor and Council asking to address various concerns. The city managers office, along with the depart of trans and

mobility, tried to convene the stakeholder group and review the current proposed design and determine what changes may need to be made after feedback was received.

Currently, the project is on hold while feedback is being incorporated.

November 6th, 2023, an update, and overview was provided and shared with the committee today.

Ben shared how the design has changed since 2018, which originally included a pedestrian bridge (sunken to incorporate shade) between two vehicular spans. Since that time, it has been updated to be at same elevation as the car lanes. However, this posed concerns being between two very high traffic lanes. Since that time, it has been updated to have a pedestrian and cycling widths on the outside in either direction. Lane and shoulder widths are still being assessed and will maximize as much as possible. In addition, there is now a direct connection on both sides of the road vs using cross walks. There are concrete barricades between bike and pedestrian paths and the car lanes (an off ramp with a HAWK light).

Jonathan Crowe appreciated the open mindedness on the redesign and appreciates the updates. One concern may be the high speed exits this design may encourage, and instead design the turn to require slower speeds of potential conflicts.

Sophia shared appreciation that the center pedestrian and biking lane was removed from the design. It was confirmed it was six feet wide for the shared path (ped / bike), and she posed a question on width. Ben clarified that a 10 foot vehicle lane is standard minimum width for a street of this type. The 22nd street bridge is being redesign because the current bridge cannot take the load and so trucks (freight traffic) are being redirected at this time. The goal is to allow for freight traffic and freight route, the goal would be to have at least one vehicle lanes be an 11 ft lane.

James Wood asked 1) can we eliminate the middle gap to allow for wider bike / ped path? Ben clarified this is a different bridge design (a segmental bridge) that requires that design. In part this is necessary because the bridge is going over a state highway and Union Pacific railroad. 2) the design now has aviation parkway at grade, how does this connect east of this area which is above grade? May be a realignment of the path, and with aviation actively looking at resurfacing that pathway.

8. Crash Reporting Subcommittee Update

John Edgett provided a subcommittee update (Oct 4th). John Edgett, Nicole Sanderson, and Marcos Esparza. The committee will bring to the committee two letters: 1) use of language in critical incidents involving cyclists and how that is communicated to the public and 2) making more specific and tailored requests to the TPD for what the committee would be looking for as far as updates, in addition to other agencies such as the Sheriff's Department, etc. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Nov 28th. Eric Post expressed interest in joining the subcommittee.

9. Items for Next Meeting's Agenda.

Tanque Verde Creek (proposed extension #4) connection delay and status
Visitor from El Tour de Tucson to come and speak

- 9,000 cyclists expected
- PBAA is the 501(3)(c)
- March 2024, El Tour de Zona (3 days centered in Sierra Vista)\
- Benefits 30 non profits

Any update from the team working Downtown Links (pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure)

10. Announcements, Updates, and Questions for Related Entities

- GABA: Daphne Hope, successful bike swap on Sunday, the next one will be April 14th. Also, ADOT has been undertaking a safety study over the past three or four months. A second stakeholder meeting was held and Daphne attended representing GABA. The final report is being presented to ADOT this week. Elaine may attend in a future session to present and discuss.
- CSCC: Sophia Gonzalez shared updates about repaving collector streets. CSCC had a pop quiz that appeared to be quite helpful on Prop 411 education.
- Plan Tucson: James Wood: two working groups were held, still in Phase 2 of 4, currently outlining in general terms the vision of what we would like Tucson to look like with respect to transportation and mobility. Theme was how car centric Tucson is and how that can change. There is a community forum (general public) Thursday Nov 30th from 5:30 to 7:00 an Sat Dec 2nd in person at the Fred Archer Center on La Cholla Blvd.
- UofA: Javier Montenegro: no able to attend

11. Announcements, Updates, and Questions for Staff

- **City of Tucson**, Ben Elias
 - Pedestrian focused project in design, still taking feedback, 5th & 6th Street, Campbell to Alvernon and has a survey and interactive map (in Prop 407):
<https://tucsondelivers.tucsonaz.gov/pages/5th6th>
 - Camino Miramonte Bicycle Blvd: Still in design, not yet have had first public meeting. Initially connecting mid-town neighborhoods, but eventually extended connections beyond that in the future
- **Pima County**, Jonathan Crowe:
 - First bicycle blvd (Irvington to Los Reales)
 - Corona de Tucson (Houghton extends multi use paths in those areas)
 - RTA Next is really hearing feedback from members of the BAC
 - County plans to kick off late this year / early next year it's first ever transportation plan
<https://www.pima.gov/1004/Road-Pavement-Repair-and-Preservation-Pr>
- **Oro Valley**, Krista Post
- **Marana**, none present
- **PAG**, David Mitchell: not able to attend

12. Adjournment.

The Chair adjourned the November 15, 2023 TPCBAC meeting at 8:06 pm.

Attendance:

Imelda Cortez, Mayor
 Sophia Gonzalez, Ward 1
 John Edgett, Ward 2
 Paul Tilley, Ward 3
 Joey Iuliano, Ward 4 (absent)
 James Wood, Ward 5
 Courtnee DeBoer, Pima County
 Randy Ford, Pima County
 Daphne Hope, Pima County
 David Linn, Pima County
 Joseph Mais, Pima County
 Eric Post, Pima County
 Ingmar Riedel-Kruse, Pima County (absent)
 Nicole Sanderson, Pima County
 Bob Smith, Sahuarita
 David Andrews, Marana
 Kim Smith, Pima County
 Javier Montenegro, University of Arizona (absent)

Benjamin Elias, COT/TDOT
 Jonathan Crowe, PCDOT
 Krista Post, Oro Valley
 TBD, Marana (absent)
 David Mitchell, PAG (absent)
 Sgt David Fritsch, TPD

Audience:

Francisco Soto
 David Fritsch
 Garrett Weaver
 Kelly
 Mike Hendrix
 Ian Sansom