



Pursuant to ARS #38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the 2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission and to the public that the **2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission** will hold the following meeting, which will be open to the public.

2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission Hybrid Meeting
Monday, October 9, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

In-person: Parks & Recreation Mesquite Room - 900 S. Randolph Way, Tucson, AZ 85716

Or Virtual:

To join the Parks + Connections BOC Virtual Zoom Meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3830746681> Meeting ID: 383 074 6681 Phone dial in: +1 719 359 4580

For members of the public that wish to address the commission during the **Call to the Audience**, we ask that you please email your request to Leticia Flores at info@tucsondelivers.info or call 520-885-9009. The email should include your full name, mailing address, phone number, and the topic you wish to address. Also, please specify if you would like to be added to our email distribution list for future notifications and updates. **Please call or send your email no later than 10:00 a.m. Monday, October 9, 2023.** Thank you.

MEETING MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call** – Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Quorum was established with roll call, 9-2.

Present			Absent
John Anderson City Manager	Ryan Anderson Ward 3	Willie Blake Ward 5	Nicole Fyffe City Manager
Frank Flasch Ward 2	Kathy Kretschmer City Manager	Kendall Kroesen Ward 4	Jose Muñoz Mayor
Krista Romero-Cardenas City Manager	Ron Spark Ward 6	Lisa Vega Ward 1	

***Kendall Kroesen dropped at 6:40pm due to technical difficulties. There was still quorum.**

***John Anderson dropped at 7:21pm. There was still quorum.**

Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark introduced a new commission member, Lisa Vega, representing Ward 1. Ms. Vega introduced herself and expressed her gratitude and excitement on being able to serve as a commission member for Ward 1. All commission members and staff (In-person and virtually) introduced themselves and welcomed Ms. Vega.

- 2. Approval of July 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes** – Commission member Willie Blake motioned to approve the July 10, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Commission member Frank Flasch seconded the motion. Commission vice-chair Krista Romero-Cardenas amended the July 10, 2023 meeting minutes to include financial breakdown of the program expenditures by program area in Item #4. Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark seconded the amendment. Commission members Willie Blake and Frank Flasch accepted the amendment, and the minutes were passed by a roll call vote of 9-0.

3. Call to the Audience – Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark said two members of the community were currently present to address the commission and would allow them to speak. Then Dr. Spark would Table the Call to the Audience to accommodate other community members (10) who would join by 6 p.m.

- **Roger Canchola representing Ward 6**, stated he is in favor of and supports the original Prop 407 voter-approved alignment of the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project.
- **Eva (virtual participant)** stated she was present to observe the meeting for updates on the El Encanto Bike Path.
- **Cristi Kath representing El Conquistador**, stated she is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Kathryn Mathis**, stated she is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Laura Gallardo**, stated she is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Allen Kath representing El Conquistador**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Eddie Neidkowski**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Michael Shipione**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Tyler Krone**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Sidney Bond representing El Conquistador**, stated she is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **James Beard**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.
- **Luis Garcia-Lopez**, stated he is in favor of the original route for the Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project as planned, voted on, and passed in Prop 407.

This is the time when any member of the public may address the 2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission. Due to time constraints, the total time allocated for this is 15 minutes. Individuals are allowed three (3) minutes each. Due to Open Meeting Law, Commission Members cannot discuss topics that are not on the agenda. Items brought up by the public may be considered as an agenda item for a future meeting.

4. Program Update – Program Manager Aaron Williams provided a program financial update through October 4, 2023. Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- a. Program Financial Update** – Mr. Williams discussed the Bond status and provided a financial overview stating that the expenditures for the previous fiscal years (FY 2019-2023) was \$34,167,483 and the current (FY 2024) fiscal year's expenditures, which began in July 2023 are \$1,177,047, leaving an available cash balance of the first bond issuance of \$21,762,719. The current encumbrances (commitments to pay contracts and purchase orders) are \$13,570,505. Mr. Williams mentioned the next round of bond issuances for the years 2024-2025 are estimated at \$70,000,000. Commission member Frank Flasch asked if the first bond issuance was at risk of being taken away because it has not been completely spent. Mr. Williams said the concern with the first bond issuance was the yield of interest received on the bond. The bond was placed on a yield restrict on the proceeds received and therefore the issue was no longer a concern. So the money from the first issuance was pulled out of the interest bearing account to avoid any issues. Commission chair Dr. Spark asked about the bond ratings and expenditures cost. Mr. Williams said the rating status of the

bonds were not affected and yes costs have dramatically increased and projects have been delayed due to the pandemic. Mr. Flasch asked if there are enough resources to spend the money as the plan is laid out. Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation Mike Hayes said as far as staffing is concerned, yes they have the resources available.

5. Project Updates

- a. **Parks** – Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation, Mike Hayes provided updates on Parks projects throughout the City. Discussion was held. No action was taken.
- b. **Connections** – Tucson Department of Transportation & Mobility Planning Project Managers Collin Chesston & Ryan Fagan provided updates on Connections projects and talked about community outreach and engagement efforts. Discussion was held. No action was taken.
 - i. **Update on 5th Street lighting alignment changes currently being reviewed.** – Project Manager Ryan Fagan provided a project status update. He mentioned some upcoming public meetings in October. He talked about the existing lighting in the project area as well as proposed lighting, Type 1 streetlights that are consistent with the project scope and provide a safety benefit, recommended for installation. He said a proposed alternative consisted of no new lighting because other alternatives
Discussion was held. No action was taken.

6. Project Change Requests

- a. **Parks** – Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation, Mike Hayes provided information on advancing two Parks projects from Phase 3 to Phase 2. Discussion was held.
 - i. **Advancing Projects** – Request to advance from Phase 3 to Phase 2.
 1. **Lincoln Park – parking** – Mr. Hayes said the Parks and Recreation department is requesting to advance the parking improvements at Lincoln Park from phase 3. The softball complex at Lincoln Park routinely has parking challenges, especially when large tournaments are held. The department is currently using impact fees to add a playground at the park. Phase 3 calls for new softball fields and associated parking to be built. The department is requesting to move up one new parking lot to accommodate the need for tournaments and the new playground. The parking lot will be incorporated into the phase 3 improvements.

Commission member Willie Blake motioned to advance the parking improvements at Lincoln Park from Phase 3 to Phase 2. Commission member Kathy Kretchmer seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-1.

Commission vice-chair Krista Romero-Cardenas voted against the advancement of the parking improvements at Lincoln Park from Phase 3 to Phase 2 because not enough information was provided regarding cost efficiencies and construction readiness, she feels the criteria requirements were not met or upheld for advancing projects.
 2. **Palo Verde Park – irrigation** – Mr. Hayes said Palo Verde Park has a lighting project in phase one that has been permitted. We were preparing to bid this project when concerns were raised about trying to install the lighting systems when park operations staff have been dealing with a failing irrigation system. The concern is that heavy equipment during the lighting installation could exacerbate the irrigation issue resulting in problems. The department has already hired a landscape architecture firm to develop a new irrigation system that will include turf reduction and new landscaping. The department is requesting to move the irrigation system replacement at Palo Verde Park up from Phase 3 to Phase 2.

Commission member Frank Flasch motioned to advance the irrigation system replacement at Palo Verde Park up from Phase 3 to Phase 2. Commission member Willie Blake seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of 8-0.

- b. **Connections** – Tucson Department of Transportation & Mobility Planning Project Manager Collin Chesston provided information on changing the alignment of the Westside Bike Boulevards. Discussion was held.

- i. **Alignment Change** – Request to change alignment for Westside Bike Boulevards. Staff will provide an overview of the initial review and public outreach actions. Staff will present a recommendation for the Commission to consider while determining a final decision on the proposed change. Two rounds of outreach and public engagement were held where feedback was provided. Therefore, two alignment changes are being proposed and requested.

- 1. Golden Hills Bike Boulevard Crossing at Silverbell – existing crossing currently at Linden St. Proposing to move the crossing one block south to Lester St. The technical and cost challenges consist of elevation difference requiring construction of a path connection with switchbacks, permitting challenges associated with buried gas lines, and property acquisition adds cost to project causing delay in construction schedule. The positive aspects include plenty of Right of Way along the westside of Silverbell to construct a shared use path and public support to change to Lester St.

- 2. Realign Menlo Park Route – public feedback said the original alignment has too many turns and would like to keep it as straight as possible. Using Cuesta Avenue provides a direct connection to Manzo Elementary and is more “centered” in Barrio Hollywood. The original alignment is farther west. Technical challenges include inability to achieve ADA compliance at existing marked crosswalk without regrading Speedway. A push-button crossing at Shawnee (original location) would prevent a future push-button crossing at the Safeway on St. Mary’s Road (too close). The positive aspect is there would be cost savings because the proposed new route would overlap with a Prop 411 funded bicycle boulevard (Ontario-Mecedora Bicycle Boulevard). Recommendations are consistent with the bond policy on alignment changes which supports safety, improves connectivity, and reduces costs.

Commission member Willie Blake motioned to approve both alignment changes to the Westside Bike Boulevards, Golden Hills Bike Boulevard Crossing and the Realignment of the Menlo Park Route. Commission member Lisa Vega seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a roll call vote of 8-0.

7. Next Steps

- a. **Next Meeting and Future Meeting Schedule (Tentative)** – Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark pointed out the next tentative meeting dates.

- i. **1.29.24 / 4.29.24 / 7.15.24 / 10.21.24**

- b. **Future Agenda Items** – Commission members requested more information on spending of Greenways projects. Updates on Camino Miramonte-Palo Verde Bicycle Boulevard project. Share Awards received at Parks and Recreation Conference (Greg Jackson, Lara Hamwey). Go over project changes policy/criteria.

- c. **Commissioner & Staff Announcements** – Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark said he attended a Parks & Rec Commission meeting and asked what the plan was for renaming Alamo Wash in former Mayor Jonathan Rothschild’s honor and improving the wash itself. Wished everyone Happy Holidays. Ex-Officio member Manon Getsi had a question about traffic calming elements in the Arroyo Chico and Treat Avenue area by Robison Elementary School. She also asked about the bridge at Citation Wash.

8. Adjournment – Commission chair Dr. Ron Spark adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Due to Open Meeting Law, only those items on the agenda will be addressed at this meeting. Action may be taken on any item. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Leticia at 520-885-9009 or Leticia@kaneenpr.com. Please allow ample time to make these arrangements.