



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 **March 20, 2024**. A recording of the meeting may be accessed here: TBD.

Approved Meeting Minutes

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

Voice roll call was taken, with 14 members of the committee in attendance. Joseph Mais (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

MOTION: A motion to approve the February 21, 2024 minutes was made by Bob Smith, seconded by Joseph Mais, and passed by voice vote, 10 yes, 0 no; four members were not present at prior meeting, thus abstaining.

2. Call to the Public.

No comments from the public.

3. Updates from Law Enforcement

Sgt David Fritsch from TPD shared two new fatalities. The first in February was on a private road in small residential community. He shared the latest statistics of incidents year to date (YTD): 27 YTD 2024 vs 15 YTD 2023, and a sharp rise in pedestrian: 15 YTD 2024 vs 6 YTD 2023.

Traffic fatality end of January, a cyclist was rear ended, and driver fled, early hours of the morning. Discussion with Traffic Commander to address any specific issues with cycling with vulnerable road users. One element is that drivers don't pay attention for pedestrians or cyclists using the road at night and darker clothes.

In general, Sgt Fritsch shared that the city continues to encounter hit and runs, and TPD is always looking for additional information, so please report any information.

Sgt David Fritsch also shared that in May, there is a safety event / cyclist summit and they are seeking any information or input that the committee would like to share.

<https://www.cazbike.org/summit2024>

Several points were shared live with from the committee: 1) size of vehicles and awareness of blind spots 2) tinted windows make it difficult for pedestrians and cyclists to make eye contact with drivers 3) emphasizing reflective gear, especially when movement (higher cadence)

4. Downtown Links

We will have to reschedule this topic, as the project manager was not able to make this meeting.

5. Overton Road Letter

Joseph Mais shared feedback received since the last meeting. The edits were reviewed and discussed real time, along with the attachments. James suggested referencing specific policies in future letters to help emphasize our points.

It was noted that the committee has resumed a tracking list of our letters and communications to the various city and county organizations and we will keep note of those in the minutes.

Jonathan Crowe shared the standards of the county for all new construction / projects / design; however, it will take time and funding to address the backlog of existing roadways to adapt to the latest requirements. Jonathan further clarified that the latest Pima County road pavement repair and preservation program clearly states that re-pavement is only to existing roads, and does not consider expansion for bike lanes and or other roadway improvements.

[Road Pavement Repair & Preservation Program | Pima County, AZ](#)

A question was posted to the county representatives regarding the county standards. Did the county consider adjusting the 11 ft standard to 9 ft given recent study results and safety. Jonathan shared that the 11 ft standard has already reduced prior 12 ft and 13 ft designs; the study is known and will share our feedback with the county to explore further. The latest plan for the preservation program will be published in May and we can consider adding to a future meeting agenda.

MOTION: A motion to approve the letter was made by Joseph Mais, seconded by James Wood, and passed by a unanimous voice vote, 14 yes, 0 no.

6. Crash Reporting Subcommittee

John Edgett shared the proposed draft letter to TPD to the committee incorporating feedback from our prior meeting. The letter establishes requested updates from TPD on a regular basis and in a consistent manner, including copies of full reports. After sending to TPD we intend to send a similar request to Pima County and other municipalities.

MOTION: A motion to approve the letter was made by John Edgett, seconded by Nicole Sanderson, and passed by a unanimous voice vote, 14 yes, 0 no.

Nicole Sanderson shared more regarding a project of the subcommittee which targets ongoing communication between the public and agencies reporting crashes. A letter was distributed and shared live for feedback. In an attempt to improve public safety, the specific influence of words and phrasing

used in local news articles regarding crashes. The specific suggestions include for example:

- 1) Avoid any accidental attribution of fault to victims (over focusing on victim's actions especially if not related to the cause of crash)
- 2) Avoid obscuring the role of the driver, avoid use of passive voice
- 3) Draw attention to repeated and systemic nature of metro area streets, avoid word accident and use crash or collision; point out repeated instances of crashes

With these types of changes, studies show the public rallies around specific meaningful safety changes.

The draft letter will be sent in advance for review and comment and will be addressed at the next meeting.

7. West Valencia Road Project

Jonathan Crowe previously shared design ideas for this Valencia project the County is designing, and the committee provided feedback. Additional feedback and discussion continued, how to provide the best bicycle facility for this type of project. Historically 6 ft shoulders along major arterials. One idea considering is a buffered bike lane with a raised curb on it.

In general, do we want to provide a buffered lane or an off-street type of facility? Or both?

James: advocates for as much distance of cars and bicycles as possible and to make transitions as safe as possible; how to make the cyclists most visible

Daphne: decision to make off road or on road should consider how many driveways (private or commercial) cross the bike path. Having two facilities would depend on volume on the road as well as long term plans that may turn the road into a more bicycle friendly road.

Ingmar: If can consider an additional speed bump or other design to slow cars transitioning in and out of commercial drive access (make the turn away from crossing the path)

Joey: both of course is best, but if can only fund one, a separate path (e.g. Tangerine)

Randy: emphasizes keeping the bicycles as separate as possible from cars in general. One concern with both would be that drivers now have to consider two places for cyclists

Benjamin: consider a separated facility away from the roadway and consider even a separated two way side path, similar to the design example below:

[Sidepath - Rural Design Guide](#)



8. BAC Officer's Election Subcommittee

Joseph Mais as chair, in March, needs to create a subcommittee for the election in May. The four positions are:

Chair, Vice Chair, Parliamentarian, Secretary

The subcommittee will include: David Linn, Randy Ford and James Wood.

9. BAC Liaison to Complete Streets Coordinating Council

The BAC is looking for a liaison to the CSCC and James Wood has volunteered.

MOTION: A motion to appoint James Wood as the BAC liaison to the Complete Streets Coordinating Council was made by Joseph Mais, seconded by Ingmar Riedel-Kruse, and passed by a unanimous voice vote, 14 yes, 0 no.

10. Announcements, Updates, and Questions for Related Entities

- GABA: Daphne Hope, partnering with Boys & Girls Club clinics for bike repair, associated with El Tour Bikes for Change organization
- CSCC: currently do not have a liaison
- Plan Tucson: James Wood, a Plan Tucson working group was held and we would like to add as an agenda item to share more details in the future. The group is making plans and policies for the next 20 years and will be voted upon in 2025.
- UofA: not in attendance

11. Announcements, Updates, and Questions for Staff

- **City of Tucson**, Ben Elias shared updates:
 - New bike boulevard cutting across the city from West to East
 - Kickoff event at Reid Park this weekend with bike repair mobile set up and the proposed alignment and planned improvements for a North / South corridor
 - Link: [News Release City of Tucson \(tucsonaz.gov\)](https://www.tucsonaz.gov/news-releases)
- **Pima County**, Mike Hendrix:
 - RTA grant received for a multi use path in Corona de Tucson on Houghton Road
- **Oro Valley**, none present
- **Marana**, none present
- **PAG**, David Mitchell: not able to attend

12. Adjournment.

The Chair adjourned the February 21, 2024 TPCBAC meeting at 8:04 pm.

Attendance:

Sophia Gonzalez, Ward 1 (absent)
John Edgett, Ward 2
Paul Tilley, Ward 3 (absent)
Joey Iuliano, Ward 4

Audience:

Kelly Anne
Anona Leigh Miller
Kristen McRay
Lara
Tom Clark

James Wood, Ward 5
Kelly Melsted-Berger, Ward 6
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
Nicole Sanderson, Pima County
Kim Smith, Pima County
Bob Smith, Sahuarita
David Andrews, Marana
Krista Post, Oro Valley
TBD, University of Arizona

Jonathan Crowe

Benjamin Elias, COT/TDOT
Mike Hendrix, PCDOT
TBD, Oro Valley
TBD, Marana
David Mitchell, PAG
Sgt David Fritsch, TPD
Pima County Sherrif's Office

(absent)

(absent)

(absent)

(absent)

(absent)

(absent)

(absent)