



2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission Hybrid Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2024, 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- Microsoft Teams Meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, Click On: [Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 282 879 952 868 Passcode: j8YiHf Dial in by phone [+1 213-293-2303](#) United States, Los Angeles Phone conference ID: 325 178 586#

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Commission Chair Spark called the meeting to order at 5:30. Quorum was established with roll call, 9-0.

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

- *Commissioner, Lisa Vega joined the meeting at 6:50 p.m.
- *Commissioner, Nicole Fyffe joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m.
- *Commissioner, Jose Munoz joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

2. Call to the Audience

Chairperson, Spark, opened the call to the audience. Dan Linhart addressed the committee concerning various initiatives regarding Jacob’s Park Master Plan, and court projects. The chair, Ron Spark, recommended that Dan Linhart submit a list of comments for internal circulation and review. The information will be addressed by staff directly or at a meeting. Shelby Althouguia spoke to the commission regarding concerns with excessive speeding and pedestrian safety with the roads near the 4th Avenue corridor between 12th Street and 14th Street.

3. Approval of September 10, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Blake motioned, seconded by Commissioner, Katherine Kretschmer to approve the September 10, 2024, meeting minutes. Motion passed by a roll call vote of 8-0

4. Program Update: Finance and Timeline

The agenda item was brought forward from a previous request made by Commissioner, Nicole Fyffe. Commissioner, Fyffe made a request to discuss the plan and timeline to complete projects by the program deadline. The reports for the item were provided in the meeting packets, previously. The reports contain budget and schedule information for the Proposition 407 bond program. Aaron Williams, Finance Deputy Director, provided a brief financial update on the Prop 407 bond

issuance program. The expenditure to date is approximately \$62 million. The first bond issuance has been expended. The bond pricing for the next issuance is an estimated \$55 million. There is a reimbursement resolution of \$10 million. The reimbursement resolution allows for continuous spending until the next bond issuance. The current monthly expenditure is approximately \$1.2 million. The bonds will close in early December. It is anticipated that the funds will be available in mid-December.

Parks and Recreation, Administrator, Jasmine Chan gave an overview of Proposition 407 funding status including progress details for each program phase. It was reported there are 76 active projects across the parks department. There are 26 projects in design and seven projects in permitting. There are 18 projects in construction, and 132 completed projects. There was \$32.9 million spent on completed projects.

Administrator, Jasmine Chan provided a chart with a summary of the financial standings for the Prop 407 program. The program is allocated \$225 million dollars. The total projected cost is approximately \$350 million dollars. There is roughly \$72 million dollars in identified additional secured funding. The total funding gap is approximately \$29.5 million dollars. The general fund allocation is approximately \$22 million, which the Mayor and Council has allocated in support of the Prop 407 program.

Chair, Ron Spark, inquired about the funding gaps and the plans to address funding deficits. Staff are identifying additional funding opportunities such as grant proposal solicitations and impact fee allocations. Staff continue to work with the City Manager's Office and city elected officials for different grant opportunities as well.

Chair, Ron Spark requested a future standing agenda item for the commission to be made aware of the progress of the funding gaps and action items to address the shortfalls in funding.

Administrator, Jasmine Chan continued to present updates on the different project phases. In Phase I, the Reid Park walking path and interactive water feature projects are in design, currently. Construction will begin in the first half of 2025. The Mission Manor Park swimming pool project received funding from Senator Grijalva's office. The Randolph North Golf project is in design. The projects in Phase II are completed or active. Jacobs Park and Santa Rita Park projects are in permitting. The Robert Price Sr. Park and Rudy Garcia Park are in design. The Palo Verde Park project is in construction. In Phase III, The Lincoln Regional Park and Morris K. Udall Park projects will start designing in fiscal year 2025.

Parks and Recreation, Deputy Director, Greg Jackson mentioned the projects are on schedule with completion in 2028. There are 86 projects completed in Phase I and 26 completed projects in Phase II. There were many small projects completed in Phase III. The larger projects in Phase III will begin early in 2025.

Chair, Ron Spark, made a request to bring the agenda item back to the next meeting. This will allow for the committee to review and absorb information.

Transportation and Mobility, Deputy Director, Andy Beemis provided an extensive overview on the Connections Prop 407 projects including financial information and schedule. In addition, Mr. Beemis spoke about the funding shortfalls and different strategies to assist with the funding deficits. The department has been successful with federal grants to assist with funding. Additionally, staff are refining the scope for projects and defining standards for the projects. Mr. Beemis also shared that pavement restoration was not included as a scope item for the bike boulevard projects. Proposition 411- Better Streets, Safe Streets provides funding for pavement treatments to all residential streets in the city over a 10-year time frame. Staff are coordinating work with Tucson Water for scheduling projects, and to coincide with Prop 407 schedule. The plan is to advance the pavement treatment projects for bike boulevards to the Prop 411 program. This effort will help the program to remain on Prop 407 schedule. The Prop 411 pavement projects will be completed prior to the Prop 407 funded bike boulevard treatments. The initial bike boulevard projects received treatments. The next set of bike boulevards are on schedule to receive treatments as well.

Director, Sam Credio mentioned there is a citizen oversight commission for the Prop 411 initiative. The commission is aware of projects and priority ranking of the different programs.

Mr. Beemis explained the financials in detail for the Prop 407 Connections program. The estimated total cost for the program is \$135 million dollars. There is a short fall with funding in the amount of approximately \$23 million dollars. There is approximately \$19.7 million dollars in ARPA funds, and \$3.6 million dollars in federal funding. There is \$19.7 million dollars in impact fees, which will involve Mayor and Council approval. It was mentioned that the impact fees continue to accrue as new development takes place. There may be additional funds available with the department retiring monies in the transportation operating budget at the end of 2028. Staff are earmarking the opportunity as a potential funding source. There are over \$70 million dollars in identified funds to assist with program shortfalls.

Vice Chair, Krista Romero-Cardenas inquired about the cost differentials for the Alamo Wash Greenway project. There is a sizeable difference between the initial cost and current cost. Prop 407 allocations for the project is approximately \$13 million dollars, and the current cost is \$26 million dollars. The project is currently in negotiations with the designer. The construction is anticipated to begin in the year 2027.

Chair, Ron Spark requested to add the agenda item to the next meeting as a follow-up item.

Chairman, Spark asked the committee to review the meeting materials and prepare any questions for the next meeting.

Commissioner, Nicole Fyffe inquired about the format used for the Connections schedule chart and shared interests in using the same format for the Parks projects. Staff explained previous formatting efforts to implement an equitable narrative to include approximately 300 park projects. Staff will investigate formatting options.

5. Project Update: Christopher Columbus Park

Prior to discussion of the agenda item, Parks and Recreation Director, Lara Hamwey shared information regarding the proposal to rename Christopher Columbus Park to Danny Lopez Park. The process is in the 45-day public comment period which ends on November 25, 2024.

Sam Credio explained there is an RTA project to widen Silverbell Road, which includes safety and drainage improvements along Silverbell. Staff are working with the Army Corporation of Engineers to secure a 404 permit. The permit allows for work to take place in the washes near the Santa Cruz River. The area of work is in a culturally sensitive area, and staff are working with the Pima County Department to identify areas of potential effect (APE). The APE locations are the areas impacted by the project. Adjacent to Silverbell is the location for the Christopher Columbus Park Prop 407 project. Approximately 17,000 square feet of the project encroaches on the sensitive areas. The Parks department is working with the State Historic Preservation office and outside consultants to navigate through the project. The department also worked with the Arizona State Museum for the required permit. The tribes have been invited to attend a meeting in October to discuss the subject matter. One-on-one meetings will take place with the tribes and consultants as well. In addition, the department is preparing a damage assessment plan that will be based on feedback from the tribes. Currently, the project is on hold, and the site is secured from public access during this time.

Chair, Ron Spark shared comments regarding city facilities and the lack of signage to educate the public on the space that is being utilized to honor individuals.

Director, Credio explained the city 's commemorative naming policy and procedures. Staff will send the city's administrative directive to the board for informational purposes.

6. Project Update: 36th Street Pedestrian Safety & Walkability

Dustin Ahlrich, Engineering Project Manager, provided a presentation on the 36th Street Pedestrian Safety and Walkability project. The project is located at East 36th Street from Euclid Avenue to Country Club Road. The project will provide connecting sidewalks on the north side of the road. The project will provide enhanced street crossings as well. Additional project items include ADA-compliant curb ramps, additional street lighting, and landscaping for shade. The construction is anticipated to begin in summer of 2025. The commission was made aware of various issues with the

sidewalk configuration. The issue was discovered during design. The sidewalk will be shifted in a different direction to resolve the problem. The issue will not require a project change request. Chair, Spark inquired about the installation of shade trees near the sidewalks. Staff are investigating landscaping opportunities.

7. Next Meeting and Future Meeting Schedule

- January 13, 2025

8. Future Agenda Items

- 6th Ave Protected Bike Lane Project- Speed Study, Speed Humps, Speed Tables
- Jacobs Park Update
- Fort Lowell Park- Historical Preservation Expenditure Update
- Program Update- Finance Detail and Timeline

9. Commissioner & Staff Announcements

Chair, Ron Spark acknowledged Commissioner, Kendall Kroesen for his commentary in the Mayor's newsletter. In the newsletter, Commissioner, Kroesen provided information about Parks and Connections Bond Oversight Commission and service to the committee.

Chair, Spark complimented the grand opening celebration of the splash pad at Jesse Owens Park. The event was well attended.

Project Manager, Collin Chesston provided an update on the loop signage. There is an approved design for all bike boulevard projects that connect to the loop. Staff worked in collaboration with Pima County on a design with group logo. There are six signs to be installed soon. To add, Pima County agreed to add signs on the loop directing the public to Prop 407 projects.

Previously, Chair, Spark requested a map showing all ages and abilities or low stress bike facilities with connections to the loop, and that are not part of the Prop 407 program. The map is in progress.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner, Frank Flasch, duly seconded, by Vice Chair, Krista Romero-Cardenas to adjourn the meeting. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

-LAST ITEM-