



LEGAL ACTION REPORT

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Mayor and Council Tucson Transit Advisory Committee and to the general public that the Committee will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public on:

Monday, November 4th, 2024 at 3:00 PM
Joel D. Valdez Main Library, Tortolita Room, 3rd Floor
101 N Stone Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – 3:05 pm

Those present were:

Members

-Lisa Shipek, Ward 2
-Suzanne Schafer, Ward 3
-Mike Sanchez, Ward 4
-Gene Caywood, City Manager
-Nicole Feldt, City Manager
-Mike Milczarek, City Manager

Those absent were:

Members

Riley Merline, Ward 1
Angie Quiroz, Ward 5
Margot Garcia, Ward 6

Others

Allen Benz, Public
Allison Hill, Public
Richard Mayers, Public
Michael R., Public
Kelton, Public
Brian Conte, Sun Tran
Shamara Smith, Sun Tran
Davita Mueller, Sun Tran
Cindy Glysson, Sun Tran
Rhett Crowninshield, City of Tucson
Ian Sansom, City of Tucson
Monica Landgrave-Serrano, City of Tucson

2. Approval of Minutes – (Vote) – 5 minutes

The approval of minutes was moved, duly seconded, and, hearing no objections, Chair Suzanne approved the motion.

3. Call to the Audience (First) – 5 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Allen Benz noticed that Sun Link would be operating until 10:30 pm on Sunday for the All Souls Procession, and he thinks that was a good move because sometimes service ends before certain events. He says this is the case on the 4th of July. Allen says transit service should be extended to the end of these kinds of events so that people can use it.

4. TTAC Member Check-In with Appointees (Informational) – 5 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Suzanne checked in with Ward 6 Councilmember, Karen Ulrich, so she is aware about the Ronstadt Transit Center item.

5. Complete Streets Coordinating Council Update – 5 minutes
Riley Merline

NO ACTION TAKEN

No update from Riley since he is not present.

6. Ronstadt Transit Center Facilities and Development Plan Update - 15 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Rhett Crowninshield mentions the security contractor has three shifts and covers all operational hours of the Ronstadt Transit Center (RTC). Likewise, cleaning at the facility takes place daily.

The contract with Peach Properties lapsed and, as a result, they were unable to continue with the project. Peach Properties is asking for an extension. FTA is requiring the RTC to go through the NEPA environmental process. A new appraisal is also necessary, since the last one was done six years ago. Because the property is built with federal money and the scope was originally for a transit center, the change of scope into a different kind of development causes the need for a NEPA review.

Suzanne is hopeful that we can make improvements on RTC before the redevelopment project takes place so that people can use it more comfortably until then. Suzanne wants to know what the team needs and how the committee can help. She understands that transit centers are not the cause of problems, but the place where people can find amenities, resources, facilities.

Brian Conte talked about how the RTC is an old facility and that the budget is limited and needs to be shared between 13 facilities. He explained how the faucet issues were related to the technology itself and their constant use. The issue with changing the faucet to one that has to be turned on is that people will not turn it off and leave it running.

Lisa brought up that we need to set-up partnerships with groups like Tucson Clean and Beautiful, as well as temporary measures that can be adjusted as needed. She also mentioned an increase in the budget for this item would also help.

Mike M. suggested the TTAC make a motion to allocate more funds for the cleaning and maintenance of the Ronstadt Transit Center.

Michael R. and Kelton talked about how the RTC are the only public bathrooms available in the area, and that this is a public health issue that transit has been saddled with. Tourists, students, transit users, everyone is going to these bathrooms and there is no other free option in the whole area.

7. Broadway Shelters – 10 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Davita talked about RTA Broadway Project between Euclid and Country. In the Sun Tran COA, the proposal for Route 8 on Broadway from Ronstadt all the way to Broadway and Houghton, and merge it with the 108 Express, so that riders arrived faster to their destination. From Park to Country Club, every half mile or so is where the most ridership is. There is minimal ridership on the stops that don't have shelters. There is a shelter at every bus stop that is going to stay once the COA recommendations take effect. As a result, the decision was made to not put shelters that would have to be removed later on. The bus stops with shelters are approximately every quarter mile or half mile from each other.

Richard mentioned he can't find a bus stop on Broadway near the HAWK light crossing, close to Treat Ave, and the Sun Tran team will follow up with him.

Gene brought up how the real issue is that originally, as part of the RTA project, there was a public committee where bus stops were identified and shelters were going to be placed and then, all of a sudden, this did not happen despite the public feedback requested.

8. Marketing Update – 15 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Cindy said there will be changes to the app since the current transit app will no longer be supported by the software developer. Feedback from TTAC will be solicited as the project moves forward. Likewise, Sun Tran has been providing trainings to show people how to learn to use transit. Also, Cindy brought up the Sun Guides Ambassador program will start on November 14. Sun Guides will help get the word out about transit, both online and in person.

Lisa and Suzanne mentioned that the Sun Tran building is a bit far out in terms of location, so that hosting trainings and other activities elsewhere should also be considered. Allen said he heard from library staff that they were not going to be printing any more schedules and that everything was going to be online based on an email.

9. Inviting Mayor Romero to a TTAC Meeting – 5 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

This item was tabled to a future meeting.

10. Meeting Venue Discussion – 15 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

The committee members talked about whether to meet at Park Tucson and the 3rd floor Tortolita Room at the Main Library. For December, the meeting will take place at Park Tucson and give the

11. Call to the Audience (Second) – 5 minutes
Chair Suzanne Schafer

NO ACTION TAKEN

12. Items and Date for Next Meeting(s) – 5 minutes

NO ACTION TAKEN

Recently proposed items:

- Technical Aspects
- App and Route Feedback
- Transit Shelters
- DTM and Sun Tran Update
- Venue Discussion w/Hybrid
- RTA Next, Transit-Specific

Ongoing items:

- Sun Tran COA Update
- Sun Van COA Update
- Tucson Rapid Transit Update
- Tucson Norte-Sur Update
- Transit Fares Update
- Performance Metrics
- Transit Budget Update

Past proposed items:

- Climate Action Plan/transit
- Capital Project at the Ronstadt TC

13. Adjournment 5:00 pm

For further information, contact: Monica Landgrave-Serrano, (520)-780-0635, monica.landgrave@tucsonaz.gov

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Transit Services Division at 520 791-5409. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.