



2018 Parks + Connections Bond Oversight Commission Hybrid Meeting **Monday, July 21, 2025, 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:

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MINUTES

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Ron Spark called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Harold Coleman joined the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

2. Call to Audience

Jim Sims addressed the committee regarding the funding allocation for the irrigation improvement project at the Randolph North Golf Course.

John Haas spoke to the commission about the funding allocation for the irrigation Randolph North Golf Course irrigation project.

Damien Clinco spoke to the committee regarding the bathhouse facility at Santa Rita Park. expressing opposition to its removal.

3. Approval of April 21, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Willie Blake motioned, seconded by Commissioner Katherine Kretschmer to approve the April 21, 2025, meeting minutes. All committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 8-0.

4. Project Change Request- Dell Ulrich and David Bell Bike Path

Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Greg Jackson presented a PowerPoint to outline project scope changes, and the multi-phase plan related to Dell Ulrich Golf Course and David Bell Bike Path improvement project. Greg Jackson also shared public engagement efforts associated with the program. In addition, proposed changes for Dell Ulrich and David Bell Path were presented to the committee.

It was explained that Proposition 407 includes a project to renovate the irrigation system at the Randolph Golf Complex. The irrigation system is divided into Randolph North and Del Urich. The Randolph North irrigation system is nearing its end of lifespan and needs replacement. The Del Urich irrigation system remains in good working order, with an estimated remaining lifespan of ten years. In response to public feedback and interest in improving the walking experience along 22nd Street between Alvernon and Randolph Way, staff recommended allocating the Del Urich funding to support golf course adjustments and improvements. These include creating a pocket park near the water treatment plant, shifting the path alignment to the north and installing additional vegetation and water harvesting features. To add, the realignment of the path will necessitate several modifications to the course layout. Hole 3 will be shortened from par 5 to par 4, while hole 14 will be extended and reclassified as par 5. Tee box adjustments are also planned for hole 18.

It was noted that the U.S. Army Corp of Engineering will assess the project plans and evaluate any potential impacts on a flood retention area.

It was added that the allocated funding remains in place for the David Bell Path project with increased focus on landscaping and changing the path alignment. The Randolph North irrigation project will move forward using bond funding, consistent with the original plan. The Del Urich irrigation is not subject to a deferred maintenance state as it has a remaining useful life of ten years.

Staff encouraged that the proposed changes benefit the community and support its feedback.

Commissioner Kendall Kroesen moved to approve the suggested project changes and to reallocate irrigation funding for Dell Urich to the David Bell Path improvement project. Commissioner Willie Blake seconded the motion. The motion was approved, 8-0.

5. Update on Loop to Bikeway's Signage

Transportation Project Manager Collin Chesston gave a brief update on the bike boulevard signage program. The signage installation has been completed through a collaborative effort with Pima County. Collin Chesston added that the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) maps were updated and printed last fall. The maps include completed bike boulevards and all connections to the loops.

6. Santa Rita Bathhouse Demolition

Parks and Recreation Administrator Jasmine Chan delivered an extensive overview of the Santa Rita Park Master Plan and its processes, followed by additional insights on the proposed demolition of the bathhouse from Desiree Miranda, Historic Preservation Officer. The master plan process began in January 2021. The scope of work includes restroom, playground, splash pad, plaza area, installation of 300 trees and shrubs, walking path with decomposed granite and asphalt, and parking lot. The program had three virtual meetings, three in-person meetings and two on-line surveys. A separate survey was conducted to prioritize the key objectives derived from community feedback. The master plan was adopted by city council during the August 9, 2022, Mayor and Council meeting. The work on construction documents started in 2023, along with the offering of a playground survey. Mayor and Council approved the closing of 3rd Avenue between 22nd Street and 21st Street as an element of the project. The city awarded the construction contract in April 2025. It was added that the Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation provided notice with a request to not move forward with the demolition of the bathhouse subject to a historic and cultural review. A historic review took place in June 2025 followed by a cultural review in July 2025.

Desiree Miranda, Historic Preservation Officer, included that Westland Resources conducted an evaluation of the bathhouse and pool and reported findings indicating that the property is ineligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). As the facility falls under a standard property category that has undergone various modifications and expansions over the past 50 years, it lacks the unique characteristics that would warrant its designation on the NRHP.

To add, there is no clear evidence that the facility had a distinctive cultural role for the local community that was also not served by other similar facilities in the city in the same era. It was suggested to add interpretive signage to the project to convey the history of the facility.

7. El Paso & Southwestern Greenway (6th Ave to Kino Parkway segment)

Project Manager Dustin Ahlrich provided a brief update on the El Paso and Southwestern Greenway project. The segment under discussion runs from Kino Parkway to 6th Ave and is currently in the design phase. The project crosses a railroad and enters the City of South Tucson right-of-way. The City of Tucson is designing that portion, but construction was expected to be funded by South Tucson. Although South Tucson officials were initially supportive, their City Council later stalled the process, citing insufficient public outreach. The City of Tucson will move forward without constructing the South Tucson portion. There will be a gap in the greenway until City of South Tucson portion is completed. The designs are 90% complete. Construction is anticipated to begin Spring 2026.

8. Project Change Request- Kenyon Bike Boulevard #2

Project Manager Collin Chesston submitted a second project change request concerning the Kenyon Bike Boulevard project, proposing a revised route that shifts from Kenyon Drive (between Kolb Road and Prudence Road) northward to Calle Arturo. The suggestion to adjust in this format was based on community feedback from a public engagement activity. This new alignment is safer, more cost-effective and improves bike and pedestrian connectivity to community facilities including Palo Verde Park and YMCA.

Commissioner Nicole Fyffe motioned to approve the project change request for the Kenyon Bike Boulevard project. Commissioner Kathy Kretschmer seconded the motion. The motion was supported unanimously by the committee and passed with a vote of 8-0.

9. Project Change Request- Drexel Road Shared Use Path

Project Manager Collin Chesston provided an update on the Drexel Road shared use path project, joined by Brent Kirkman from HDR Engineering. Due to utility and right-of-way challenges on the original proposed south side alignment, a revised alignment primarily on the north side of Drexel Road between 12th Avenue and Country Club Road was recommended. Staff requested provisional approval to allow design flexibility, permitting the path to be built on the north, south, or both sides of the road, depending on feasibility during design. Public outreach showed general support with a slight preference for the north side. Staff committed to returning to the Commission for final approval once design is further developed.

Commissioner Willie Blake moved to provisionally approve the design process, granting flexibility in the alignment of the Drexel Road shared use path project with an understanding that staff will return to the Commission with a final design. Commissioner John Anderson seconded the motion. The committee members were in favor of the motion. The motion passed, 8-0.

10. Program Update: Finance Detail and Timeline

Executive Management Advisor Aaron Williams provided a financial summary through July 15, 2025. The current cash balance, following the most recent issuance, is approximately \$3 million, which is expected to sustain the program through mid-2026. The program is seven months into the previous issuance with roughly 40% of the funds utilized so far. By mid-2026, it will be determined whether to proceed with two additional issuances or one additional. Currently there is approximately \$114 million available for issuance.

11. Next Meeting and Future Meeting Schedule

- October 20, 2025

- **January 19, 2026**

In observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on January 21, 2025, the meeting has been scheduled for January 19, 2026.

12. Future Agenda Items

- Drexel Road Shared Use Path

13. Commissioner and Staff Announcements

Chairman Ron Spark announced that the Commission participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the rehabilitation of Historic Fort Lowell Commissary on May 28, 2025, and the opening celebration for the Freedom Park splash pad on May 3, 2025.

Vice Chair Krista Romer-Cardenas announced an event for the Project Blue initiative. A community meeting for the Project Blue program will take place at Mica Mountain High School (10800 E. Valencia Road) on July 23, 2025, 5-7 p.m. Project Blue is a proposed data center, representing a major economic development opportunity for Tucson and Pima County.

14. Adjournment

Chair Ron Spark adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Commissioner Willie Blake motioned to adjourn, duly seconded by Commissioner Kendall Kroesen.

All committee members were in favor of the motion.

-LAST ITEM-