



Complete Streets Coordinating Council (CSCC)

October 22, 2025 (5:30-7:30pm)

Zoom



Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order by co-chairs at 5:35pm

Members Present:

Marshall Davis
Jennifer Flores
Ariel Gilbert-Knight
Sophia Gonzalez
Nikita Lindgren
Riley Merline
James Wood
Cytllali Gonzalez
Zach Coble
Samuel Paz (non-voting)
Carissa Sipp

Members Absent:

Miranda Schubert
Laura Horley

Staff:

Ryan Fagan
Patrick Harley
Lee Miller

Observers

Stacy Balstad, Council Office

Summary of actions and decisions:

- *September meeting minutes:* Motion to approve – Marshall; Second – Sophia. All in favor; none opposed.
- *Letter supporting Missing Middle UDC code amendment:* Motion to approve Sophia to write a letter in support of the Missing Middle UDC code amendment using language from Tucson for Everyone and past CCT support letter, and to submit and read at the upcoming M&C meeting before their December decision – Sophia; Marshall – second. All in favor; none opposed.

2. Housekeeping

- Approval of September minutes:
 - One correction: Jesse Lugo's name was mis-spelled. Ryan will correct before posting
 - **Motion to approve – Marshall; Second – Sophia.**

3. Call to the audience - None

4. Outreach to new members - Sophia Gonzalez

- At the last meeting, a number of members volunteered to reach out to potential new members. Status check:
 - Carissa – did some outreach and found some interest; need a bit more info
 - Jennifer – put it out to LSA advocacy committee, no takers at the moment
 - Ryan – no one yet
 - Zach – not yet

- Ariel – not yet
- Ryan noted he hadn't yet sent out the outreach blurb, along with application instructions, but he will do so after the meeting.
- Check in again on this at the next meeting.

5. First Avenue RTA Project Design - *Patrick Hartley*

Patrick shared a presentation. Main points are summarized here.

- The original RTA 1st Avenue project began as a 6-lane roadway widening, based on traffic projections at the time. Prior to beginning design, the City did a needs assessment. Based on this, staff felt the approach needed to change; CSCC was supportive.
- Ultimately the scope was changed to a 4-lane modernization and complete streets project. This is the first time the city is advancing something large like this under the Complete Streets Policy.
- Design began last year. Now in the middle of round two of public outreach, focused on understanding needs and priorities.
- The City has a draft preliminary design for which they are seeking input. There is an online public meeting available until Nov 15th. Patrick shared the online tool and walked the CSCC through the website (further detail is available on the site).
- Project will include: replacement of existing Rillito bridge, continuous sidewalks, upgraded smart traffic signals, street lighting, drainage improvements, landscaping, improved safety, transit connections.
- Design is still in early stages, and there is a lot of opportunity for public input. Further down the timeline, the design becomes more locked in and harder to change. The City is encouraging people to engage now while there is more scope for change.
- There are monthly meetings at Donna Liggins and the Citizens Commission, which is exclusively focused on the 1st Ave project. All these meetings are public.
- Goal is to finalize the design concept report in December. Construction will likely to start in 2028, although some of this is tied up in the RTA Next election. There is a gap of about 40-50% in total funding, and funds will be needed from RTA Next.
- 6 project goals have been identified based on engagement – safety improvement is number one.
- The project will be able to avoid a lot of structural acquisition, due to the reduction to 4 lanes. There are two different cross-sections. Between Prince and Roger the corridor is constrained with single family homes – this half-mile will not have raised medians in order to not impact properties.
- Some of the safety improvements likely to be included: leading pedestrian intervals, protected only left-turn phasing, protected bike lanes, additional HAWKS, protected intersections, and raised medians.
- Transportation options will be expanded.
- The bridge will be elevated to clear a 100 year flood level. Shared use paths and Loop connections will be added. It will be two separate structures.
- The online tool also includes a mini-survey on landscaping aspects.
- The tool also includes the current 15% design which can be explored. Patrick walked the members through the design. Some curvature has been introduced, to address differences in ROW on east and west and avoid acquisitions. All features are in line with the Design

Guide. Different treatments are planned for larger and smaller intersections. There are some different approaches in more narrow parts of the corridor.

- One challenge is the floodplain and wash running through north of River. This is currently a dip crossing, and people have been washed out. Will be doing drainage improvements.

Questions/discussion

- Nikita – what is the bike lane protected width?
 - This will be a full concrete element, not flex posts. These haven't yet been designed. Due to a number of driveways, it may not be continuous.
- Sophia – how does the City approach protected bike lanes with street cleaning?
 - The City just purchased a narrow bike lane sweeper. Don't know the schedule, but you can put in a request through 311.
- Sophia – when are we able to put bike boxes on streets? Can there be treatments at Glenn/1st?
 - Typically we do include intersecting roadways. There will also be improvements to Glenn. Could bring in protected bike lanes on the approaches within the project footprint. Outside of the footprint that would be separate.
 - Ryan – there isn't a policy for bike boxes; they are currently installed on a case by case basis. If there are locations on 1st that would benefit from this we would like to know.
- Sophia – at Ft. Lowell and also Miracle Mile there are yield signs for right turns. What would it look like to put a stop sign at these places? This is an important issue in Tucson – drivers don't have encouragement to look for pedestrians.
 - This will include a stop at the intersection. This is different than other slip lane configurations at places like Campbell and Grant, with a receiving lane and cars going through without yielding. This is more similar to Grant and Oracle, although that location doesn't have raised sidewalk. Another option would be to supplement with an RFB. But we feel confident that the raised cross-walk and better visibility will improve yielding compliance.
- Ariel – this is amazing, all corridors should be like this. What will pedestrian and bike experience be on the new bridge?
 - It will be like the Loop on top of the bridge – with a barricade and a 12' shared use path for bi-directional travel on both sides of the bridge.
- Marshall – at River, were you looking at adding slip lanes but there was no room?
 - These currently exist. Our proposal is to continue the existing slip lane design.
- Marshall – is there funding leeway to create green spaces to capture rain water and other treatments?
 - Yes, there is significant landscape investment.
- Marshall – do you work to minimize ROW work due to timelines?
 - It has a lot of benefits – it causes disruption to community, the cost can be double, and it takes a long time to negotiate the price. All this can take years.
- Zach – when hiring construction crews and contractors, will we be making sure that they create accessible routes during construction? Grant Rd inaccessibility has been discussed in CODI meetings recently.
 - Yes, this is discussed with contractors. These are big difficult projects, and sometimes it is difficult to get people through. It is an on-going challenge, and the City wants to be responsive to this. Aware that Grant has had a lot of challenges.

- Jennifer – will there be something dedicated to cleaning sidewalks? The pedestrian experience is not good for folks with wheelchairs.
 - It may be the responsibility of adjacent property owners, but not 100% sure. We know this is an issue, especially after rain.
 - Jennifer – this maybe should have been included in the Complete Streets handbook
 - Ryan – this is something CSCC could discuss at a future meeting.
- Sophia – it's confusing that we are looking to push water out of this area, when we're also trying to introduce shade. How is that decision making handled?
 - There is a goldilocks zone for where GSI is effective. If there is too much water it will scour out. This is a major federal floodplain. The velocity and amount of water are too much. There will be GSI along the corridor to pick up the pavement drainage.
- Nikita – at intersections with a curb ramp to the roadway, will they be the 45 degree ones? Or will they be the separate ones that are preferred?
 - All curb ramps will be directional ramps. At signalized intersections there will be two ramps per corner.
- Nikita – is it possible to use raised crosswalks with HAWKs?
 - Usually raised traffic calming is not used on arterial streets.

6. RTA Next – CSCC Letter - *Sophia Gonzalez*

- At a recent meeting the RTA team came to address the CSCC.
- Who would like to write a letter in support of RTA Next?
 - Hands raised: Marshall, Cytllalli, Carissa, Ariel, Zach
 - Zach – to clarify, my position is that I actually feel ambivalent.
- Who would like to write a letter opposing RTA Next?
 - One hand raised: Nikita
- It is important for us to all go to those we represent on CSCC. Sophia represents Ward 1, and this council member is in support because in order to get the things that are important for the ward we have to also agree to projects that are not meaningful to the ward. But there are several things that she finds problematic with RTA Next.

Discussion/questions

- Marshall – if we end up writing a letter, we could come at it from the angle that while it might not be exactly what we need, it creates a framework that allows us to get some of the important things we want, while also funding things that are less important to us. Seems like a letter written like this might get approved by CSCC.
- Carissa – to clarify: I am in favor, but there are things I would like to see changed. We all have hesitation. I haven't yet spoken to my ward rep about this, but can reach out. When would we want to have the letter done?
 - The election is in March, so having it done by January would be good.
- Nikita – why is this a special election?
 - Ryan – it had to be scheduled far enough in advance such that, if it is approved, all the legal and procedural items can be complete in time for the sunset of the current RTA.
- Marshall – seems like a next step might be to form a subcommittee to help write this and make sure we include all the pros and cons. The other ones this year were all broadly supported by the Council. We need more input for this one.

- Sophia – we could give members another month to go talk to their ward offices or whoever they represent. Then we could discuss those responses at the next meeting.
- Marshall – this seems like a good way forward. We could aim for having a letter out in January to review and approve.
- Sophia – can Ryan collect the feedback into a single document?
 - Ryan can collect the info and share it ahead of the meeting.
- James – to clarify this is just about what BAC thinks, not me?
 - Sophia – it's probably a mix. We are all accountable to who we are representing.
- Jennifer – this was discussed at the LSA advocacy committee. What I came away with is, that even though this isn't at all perfect, it is our only chance to have local control over our own funds. We have no idea what will happen with state and federal governments in upcoming elections. This is our chance to have local control over our own tax dollars.
- Ryan – this is a great opportunity to reach out and talk to council members or the offices that appointed you about RTA, and maybe even other CSCC items while you're doing it.
- Sophia – when we write letters as CSCC, it is also important to show up at M&C meetings; this bears more weight.

7. Missing Middle Housing – CSCC Letter *Sophia*

- Sophia shared a recent email that went out from Tucson for Everyone in support of the Missing Middle UDC code amendment. Ryan shared this on screen: <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/support-missing-middle-housing-across-tucson/>
- CSCC wrote a letter on the Community Corridor Tool. These things are more about land use and how this connects to land-use.
- Is there any interest in writing a letter of support for the Missing Middle UDC code amendment?

Discussion/questions:

- Nikita – have seen this in other social media recently. I am supportive of more housing supply. But would need to read more about the details. It seems good on the surface, but the devil is always in the details.
- Marshall – we wrote a letter for the CCT, and that had a tie-in to what we do with Complete Streets. Could we get a presentation from the City so we could better understand how our complete streets guidelines would feed into this amendment?
 - Ryan - can reach out to someone from PDSD. I think this is intended to get ahead of state rules, to avoid a blanket re-zoning. So the City Council may need to take action in December. In that case the timeline may not work for a letter.
- Marshall – so potentially we could try to draft a letter and get it reviewed in our next meeting and get delivered to Council before the vote.
 - Ryan can find out when this is expected to go before the City Council. It will go to the Planning Commission in November.
- Sophia – maybe having a letter in December is a little late.
- Zach – if the City Council needs to take action by December, this would be more of a general letter of support. There wouldn't be time to get into details and advocate for changes. Is that right?
 - Ryan – yes, if it does get approved by the Planning Commission in November, it would be unlikely to change after that. It would just be M&C voting on it.

- Sophia – are people comfortable with me shortening the language from Tucson for Everyone, and combining with some language around density from the Corridor Tool letter? And if so would we need another vote, or could I just do that and send it?
- Roll call to gauge support for this approach: All members were supportive.
- **Sophia - Motion to approve Sophia to write a letter in support of the Missing Middle UDC code amendment using language from Tucson for Everyone and past CCT support letter, and to submit and read at the upcoming M&C meeting before their December decision. Marshall – second.**
- Sophia will write the letter.

8. Eastside Bike Boulevard Update: Sarnoff/Kenyon – Lee Miller

Lee shared a presentation. The main points are summarized here:

- The project is funded by Prop 407.
- This is part of the bike boulevard network on the eastside. The City recently completed a 30% draft design of these projects, and completed three open house events and some good feedback online. They are summarizing feedback now to inform the next steps of design.
- Sarnoff/Kenyon section is about 2 miles.
- Community concerns: speeding, lack of stopping in school crosswalk. This is an important access area to the Loop. Vehicles are going about 10-12 mph over the speed limit.
- Improvements included – downsized travel lane, buffer space between parking and vehicular travel lanes, parking protected bike lane along Jessie Owens park, and a HAWK at the Loop connection.
- The park here is highly used. Two new pedestrian crossings were added.
- They also worked to address pick up/drop off issues at Steele Elementary with a parking protected bike lane.
- A number of improvements were made to the intersection at Kenyon and Sarnoff.
- Kenyon approaching Camino Seco: HAWK will be converted to bicycle HAWK.
- There were a few issues: people didn't initially understand what was happening with the parking protected bike lane. They put up signs to explain, and it seems to be working better now.
- Initially there was a lot of negativity about these issues, although there was some positive feedback as well. Negative feelings are typically about how things looked. KGUN 9 did a story about some of the negative feedback.

Questions/Discussion

- Ariel – in terms of the overall network, what is the vision for connectivity with the Kenyon sections that are split by a major wash?
 - There are currently no plans for a bridge to connect these, but they are within the RTA Next list of potential funding. We did hear feedback that people desire this.
- Ariel – is there proposed funding for improving the bridge experience at either 22nd or Broadway?
 - Not that I am aware of.
- Nikita – great design to see. One concern – it looks like you will go from next to curb, and then on the next section you will be in a bike lane on the right side of parking, and then

back. This could be confusing for drivers and cyclists. On University they had to re-design a similar section due to confusion.

- Stacy – have driven this area by the park the past couple of days. It's very confusing. The Ward 2 council member said that there are some funds to address this. I do think in front of Jessie Owens we do need to paint this section green. Maybe it doesn't need to stay green, but initially for learning this is important.
 - Lee – agree that painting it one time initially is a good thing, and a lesson learned from this project. Do hear that this is still confusing for folks, so we need to do something to help clarify.
 - Stacy – how much would this cost?
 - Lee – would be expensive to paint it green the whole length of the park. Maybe \$50k or more. But there may be other things we could do. Maybe just on approaches to certain sections, or signage improvements.
 - Stacy will reach out to Lee for follow-up.

9. CSCC Hub

- Park Tucson - *no member*
- Tucson Transit Advisory Committee (TTAC) – *no member*
- Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) - *James Wood*
 - Recent discussion about bicycle death on the Loop and people feeling unsafe at that particular location. Want to engage with TPD on this, but they didn't join last time. Working further on what safety on the Loop means.
- Commission on Disability Issues (CODI) - *Zach Coble*
 - Spoke with Sun Van about their comprehensive operational analysis. They have implemented some changes. They are working to update the no-show policy and CODI is thinking about how to respond to this.
- Independent Oversight and Accountability Commission (IOAC) - *Jim DeGrood*

9. Updates and Future Agenda Items

- Update: New member tonight – Cytalli Gonzalez
 - Cytalli works for Pima County Health Department. Excited to be involved. Passionate about the built environment as someone using public transit and biking since young.
- DTM update:
 - Outreach on Alamo Wash Greenway will happen this weekend at Cyclovia
 - MS&R update was approved the M&C
 - Downtown Links should be complete by beginning of next year.
 - 22nd St. bridge is out to bid and construction is expected to start in Spring.
 - Bilby and Limberlost 411 projects are expected to start in the spring.
 - Current round of Grant Road should be done by the end of next year.
 - 5th/6th St. is currently under construction and moving east; should be done by middle of 2027.
- Future agenda item requests: James – 22nd St. Bridge update

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm by co-chairs