



## MINUTES

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:

**Thursday, January 8th, 2026 at 2:30 PM**  
**Park Tucson Conference Room, 110 E. Pennington St., Ste. 150**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call – 5 minutes

*Those present were:*

**Members**

-Ray Jordan, Ward 2  
-Suzanne Schafer, Ward 3  
-Gene Caywood, City Manager  
-Mike Milczarek, City Manager

*Those absent were:*

**Members**

-Mike Sanchez, Ward 4  
-Josue Licea, Ward 5  
-Margot Garcia, Ward 6

**Others**

-Preston McLaughlin, non-voting PAG/RTA staff representative

Allen Benz, Public  
Kimberly Sargent-Mason, Public  
Richard Mayers, Public  
Mikel Oglesby, Sun Tran  
Andrew Vargas, Sun Tran  
Davita Mueller, Sun Tran  
Shamara Smith, Sun Tran  
William Heath, Sun Tran  
James Tewksbury, Sun Tran  
Andy Bemis, City of Tucson  
Elaina Richards, City of Tucson  
Susan Spiess, City of Tucson  
Ian Sansom, City of Tucson  
Monica Landgrave-Serrano, City of Tucson  
Mike Czechowski, City of Tucson

2. Approval of Minutes – (Vote) – 5 minutes  
*Chair Suzanne Schafer*

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

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

Allen Benz came across two videos about two refineries closing in California, which he says will eventually impact Arizona in terms of gasoline supply. Here are the links of the videos he mentions: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uwatbgfuuns](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uwatbgfuuns) and [www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjB6ddaQKm4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjB6ddaQKm4).

4. Ronstadt Transit Center Development, RFI and RFP Update – 15 minutes

Mike Czechowski explained that the process for the Ronstadt Transit Center will begin with a Request for Information (RFI), followed by a Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFI will solicit statements of interest that integrate the transit center with potential event, retail, and residential uses, placing the responsibility on developers to propose a comprehensive concept. A selection committee, as defined by the City's Procurement Office, will oversee the process, and a community group will also attend presentations and provide feedback. He noted that a meeting with multiple City departments is scheduled to refine remaining details. Additionally, the three City-owned lots south of the rail tracks that were included in the initial RFP will be incorporated into this new process.

5. Updates/Announcements from TTAC Members and Staff (Informational Only) – 10 minutes  
*TTAC members, Sun Tran, City of Tucson, and/or PAG/RTA Staff*

Monica reached out to the City's bus wrap provider and their representative said that the current bus wraps meet all necessary national visibility standards, with a 60/40 perforated window vinyl that consists of 60% solid print area to produce the image on the outside and 40% tiny perforated holes to allow visibility from the inside. Multiple TTAC members concur visibility is too low even if the national standards are met.

Mikel shared the following response regarding a question raised by Laura Smith at the previous TTAC meeting about how transit-related crime is tracked and reported: All crimes, including those occurring on transit property, are reported to the Tucson Police Department (TPD). Sun Tran documents all operator assaults and other incidents that are reported directly to the agency and fully complies with all TPD requests related to crime reporting.

At the previous meeting, Ray Jordan described an incident in which a person using a walker was denied boarding due to space constraints while other passengers were allowed to board, raising concerns about access for individuals with disabilities. Mikel responded that this specific incident was not reported to Sun Tran and does not reflect agency practice. He noted that it appears to have been an isolated incident and emphasized that Sun Tran investigates all documented or submitted complaints and responds accordingly.

Preston mentioned RTA is currently conducting Q&A sessions regarding RTA Next. The next open houses will take place both in-person and online, as mentioned below. There will also be an RTA Next at the Sun Tran North Yard for Sun Tran staff. For more information, please visit [www.rtanext.com](http://www.rtanext.com).

**Jan. 13 – Tucson**

5:30 to 7 p.m.

El Pueblo Activity Center, Building 9

101 W Irvington Road, Tucson

Transit Service: Routes 12, 16, 23, 26, 27, 29, 421X, 430, 440, and 486

**Jan. 14 – South Tucson**

5:30 to 7 p.m.

South Tucson City Hall

1601 S 6th Ave, Tucson

Transit Service: Routes 16, 421X

**Jan. 21 – Tucson**

5 to 6:30 p.m.

El Rio Neighborhood Center

1390 W. Speedway Blvd., Tucson

Transit Service: Routes 5, 22

**Jan. 27 – Tucson**

5:30 to 7 p.m.

Tucson Association of Realtors

2445 N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson

Transit Service: Route 9

**Feb. 3 – Virtual Sessions**

12 to 1 p.m.

[Click here to register via Zoom](#)

5 to 6 p.m.

[Click here to register via Zoom](#)

Ray said he is interested in attending a Sun Tran operator training to observe how wheelchair users are secured. William Heath said he will be in touch so that he can attend.

6. Define TTAC Representative for the Complete Streets Coordinating Council – 5 minutes

This item will be tabled for now, but Suzanne said the next CSCC meeting will take place virtually on January 15 starting at 5:30 pm, and that everyone is welcome to attend. The link to attend the meeting is the following: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83504743040>

7. Sun Link Vehicles Update – 15 minutes

Mikel explained that with two Sun Link vehicles out of service, the streetcar is currently operating with four vehicles instead of six, as the two out-of-service vehicles are being held as spares for maintenance purposes. One vehicle has sustained more significant damage than the other, and an assessment of the damage is ongoing, expected to be completed by mid-February. Once the assessment is finished, funding requirements and a potential repair timeline can be determined. Another option under consideration is purchasing used streetcars from DC, though these would require retrofitting. Consequently, the streetcar's 10-minute headways have temporarily shifted to 15-minute headways.

8. Transit Safety and Security Action Plan Update – 15 minutes

Andy said that the Transit Safety and Security Action Plan has been approved by Mayor and Council, with an ask of \$500,000. Sun Tran is currently working with Chief Kasmar to define what the role of these off-duty officers on the public transit system will be, the description and logistics of these deployments, with mid-February being the earliest they can start. The other part would be environmental changes such as adding lighting at multiple bus stops to increase visibility, as well as rock placements to deter loitering.

Mikel said a productive discussion took place with the security company. The focus was on identifying their contributions to the transit system's safety and security, and making sure these are being implemented on a consistent basis. Sun Tran is tracking all kinds of data and Mikel ventures they will give a status update in a couple of months to Mayor and Council which will summarize the pilot's results.

Davita explained the Transit App provides a passive and active way of providing feedback. The passive way is when you click Go on a trip, the app will send you questions about cleanliness, stop amenities, etc., while the active way is by going to the Settings button and sending an email, which will be received automatically and sent wherever it needs to go, whether that be Operations, Customer Service, etc.

9. Call to the Audience (Second) – 5 minutes

Richard said the streetcar is less on time now with two vehicles out, and that the predictions are not very good. He expects the ridership will increase as weather improves and there are festivals, and that the only way to know would be to compare with past years. He thinks that when the two vehicles are fixed this should be broadly acknowledged and celebrated. He also said the Transit App is not great for people with visual disabilities. He said real-time is working better and that it is better than nothing, but to give feedback on it you have to be either extremely happy or upset, never in between.

Allen said in Cleveland they built over the heavy rail a mix of uses that is still being used today, with a department store turning into a shopping mall, and an office complex turned into housing. The rail is down below and buses are at surface level.

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

CSCC Representative

Primavera Foundation

Electric Trolley Presentation Part 4 (TBD)

Redesigning our Bus Stop Signage, with February being a setup for March

February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 pm

11. Adjournment

For further information, contact: Monica Landgrave-Serrano, (520)-780-0635, [monica.landgrave@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:monica.landgrave@tucsonaz.gov). Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Transit Services at 520 791-5409. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.