



# Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

February 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** February 16, 2023  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Via ZOOM Webinar

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rick Powers - *Chair*  
(*Globe*)

Larry Halberstadt  
(*Payson*)

Lana Clark  
(*Superior*)

Kennedy Ivy  
(*Mammoth*)

Barney Bigman  
(*San Carlos Apache Tribe*)

Homero Vela  
(*Gila County*)

Will Randolph  
(*ADOT - MPD*)

Gloria Ruiz  
(*Winkelman*)

Steve Abraham  
(*Pinal County*)

LaReesa Sanchez  
(*White Mountain Apache Tribe*)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tim Grier  
(*Star Valley*)

Sandra Shade  
(*Ak-Chin Indian Community*)

VACANT  
(*Hayden*)

Alexis Rivera  
(*Miami*)

Sharon Jakubowski Wolz  
(*Kearny*)

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Jason James  
(*ADOT - MPD*)

Mark Henige  
(*ADOT - LPA*)

Kevin Adam  
(*Rural Transportation Advocacy Council*)

**CAG Staff:**

Travis Ashbaugh  
(*Transportation Planning Director*)

Lorinda Aouita  
(*Administrative & Special Projects Coordinator*)

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Powers called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Powers led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call**

Roll call was taken. Ten (10) voting members were present, constituting a quorum as established by the CAG TTAC Bylaws.

**IV. Introductions & Title VI Notice**

Introductions were made on the Webinar. Mr. Ashbaugh read a statement of where and how to file a complaint regarding Title VI violations.

**V. Approval Of Minutes – (January 12, 2023)**

Mr. Ivy made the motion to approve the January 12, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Halberstadt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## VI. Call to the Public

No one answered the Call to the Public.

## VII. Standing Reports

### A. Member Jurisdictions

#### Gila County

Homero Vela reported on one (1) item:

1. The **Golden Hill Road (New Sidewalk)** project (**Project # GIL 22-01C | TRACTS # T009001C**) will be having a ground breaking on February 17, 2023.

#### Payson

Larry Halberstadt reported on one (1) item:

2. The **Granite Dells Rd (Geometric Corrections, Pavement Lift & Markings, Bicycle Lanes)** project (**Project # PAY 09-01D | TRACTS # TO21101D**) working on Right of Way Acquisitions. Town of Payson is still on track to request construction funding from ADOT by early May.

No other agencies present had updates.

### B. Multi-Modal Planning Division, ADOT

Mr. Randolph reported on ten (10) items:

1. **FY24-FY28 Planning to Program Cycle:** The final P2P list of projects has moved forward with upper management review and will be presented to the AZ State Transportation Board (AZSTB) on Friday, February 17, 2023, with public comment this spring.
2. **HSIP Call for Projects for the FY25-FY26 Program:** The Eligibility letters have been sent to the COG Work Programs by ADOT Traffic Safety Section and provided to MPD for the five-year construction plan.
3. **FY24-FY25 COG/MPO Work Program:** ADOT staff is currently reviewing the draft of the COG Work Programs, which will be sent to the COGs in early March 2023.
4. **ADOT SMART Program:** Continue to work with your local agencies to submit any applications for the SMART Program. The web site continues to host useful information.
5. **RAISE Grant:** Deadline to submit is February 28, 2023. Applications will go before the AZSTB in March. Applications will be submitted to USDOT before receiving state approval.
6. **Long Range Transportation Plan:** Over 7,800 responses have been received. Public meetings for comment will be held on February 28, 2023 in Phoenix, March 2, 2023 in Tucson, March 8, 2023 in Flagstaff, and a virtual meeting on March 9, 2023.
7. **Statewide Rest Area Study:** The consultant is currently developing the draft Final Report which is on schedule to be submitted for ADOT review on February 20, 2023. The draft final report will be posted on the ADOT website for TAC, Stakeholder, and public review March 6, 2023 – March 23, 2023.
8. **Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Plan:** The EV plan was approved in September 2022, and the final rule making regards to the EV implementation from the joint office of energy and Transportation was released on February 15, 2023.

9. **Transportation Alternatives Program:** Two committee meetings and a workshop have been completed with a third committee meeting scheduled for February 21, 2023. Topics covered so far include the program visions and priorities, use of available funding, peer state DOT interviews, program application administrations and project selection criteria.

10. **Other Technical Studies:** ADOT ROW “Wireless Communications Facilities Program Guidelines Study,” and the “Statewide Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Update” are still underway.

## **C. Local Public Agency, ADOT**

Mr. Henige reported that the call for projects for the Off-System Bridge/Bridge Formula funding that was conducted late last calendar year has closed. ADOT will be reaching out to the local agencies with any comments from the bridge committee and will be providing the sponsor an approval or denial letter. There were roughly twenty applications that will move forward for approval and selection.

Mr. Henige reported that all projects needing establishment in the 2023 TIP Tracker have been submitted. An updated workbook is needed to keep the HURF Exchange project moving forward.

Mr. Henige also reported that the guidelines for the Transportation Alternative Program should be completed in late April 2023. Any suggestions or comments should be directed to the attention of Mr. Ashbaugh so they can be brought and shared or presented to the committee for implementation.

## **D. District, Engineers, ADOT**

No updates were provided.

## **E. CAG Transportation Planning Update**

Mr. Ashbaugh reported on three (3) items:

1. The CAG Regional Traffic Counts will continue through March 2023. Mr. Ashbaugh stated that he has received a few complaints in regards to trip hazards. He advised that if any entities see a hazard to let him know. He also advised that the consultants should be calling the entities before they set the counters and encouraged entities that are not being notified, to notify him so he can bring it to the consultant’s attention.
2. CAG is waiting to hear if the funds have been awarded by ADOT FTA regarding the “Pinal County Coordinated Mobility Gap Analysis.” He is expecting to have a reply in the very near future based on the timeline.
3. CAG, Sun Corridor MPO and NACOG hosted a Legislative Day on February 9, 2023. He stated that Mr. Adam may have an update regarding that event within his presentation.

## **VIII. Old Business**

### **A. Transportation Improvement Program Amendments(s)**

No action was taken.

## **IX. New Business**

### **A. RTAC Priority Project Bill - UPDATE**

Mr. Adam provided an update on the RTAC Bill. He stated that the deadline for Bills to clear their initial committee assignments was this week. He stated if approvals are not made, they are considered dead for this Legislative session. House Bill 2543 was heard, and it was successful on a 9 to 1 vote through the House Transportation Committee. He stated that Representative Patricia Contreras supported the Bill but voted "NO" on it because she explained that if education was not getting funded then transportation should not be funded. Mr. Adam explained that overall, the bill received a lot of Bipartisan support.

Mr. Adam also shared that his concern is that the Chair of the House Transportation Committee, Representative David Cook, envisions the process to create such a Bill, being an annual process and is limiting the appropriation to only the next stage of the project. Mr. Adam is worried that future state budget cycles will not have the surplus or cash balances to allow for these projects to be broken up and funded in multiple years. The question comes down to what is a "shovel ready" project. He stated that with federalized projects, it takes multiple years of funding due to the federal process and could understand the need to break down the phases of a project for funding purposes. However, state and local projects can be designed and constructed in the same year if federal funding is not involved and is quite common. Mr. Adam is looking to meet with Representative Cook soon to discuss this very point.

### **B. ADOT Long Range Transportation Plan Update**

Mr. James presented a PowerPoint highlighting the following key factors to the Long-Range Transportation Plan that is required to be updated every five years:

1. Background/Vision/Goals
2. Requirements
3. Public Involvement Overview
4. Survey Results/Tactics.
5. Revenue Analysis

Mr. James also shared that Public Meetings will be held to answer any questions the public may have that will be held on February 28, 2023 in Phoenix, March 2, 2023 in Tucson, March 8, 2023 in Flagstaff and a virtual meeting on March 9, 2023.

### **C. Round Table**

Mr. Ashbaugh announced that the Rural Transportation Summit registrations will be open soon. The Rural Transportation Summit will be in Yuma, Arizona in mid-October 2023. Details should be released soon.

### **D. Future Agenda Items**

Mr. Powers suggested that Kevin Adam provide status updates on the progress of the RTAC Bills as they are available.

Mr. Ashbaugh announced that at the next meeting a representative from Lithifield Technologies will come out to present their product. The representative will be bringing samples to the next meeting. He reminded the Committee that the next meeting will be in person.



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## **X. Scheduling of Next Meetings**

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2023 in the CAG Conference Room located at 2540 West Apache Trail, Suite 108, Apache Junction, AZ 85140. There will also be a Zoom option for those who are unable to attend in person.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Mr. Abraham made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Halberstadt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.