
Minutes
City of Tempe Meeting of the Transportation Commission
January 20, 2026



Minutes of the meeting of Tempe Transportation Commission held on Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 7:30 a.m. via Teams and at the Tempe Transportation Center located at 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe AZ 85281.

David Sokolowski
Amanda Nelson
Roy Peterson
Anthony Strait

Sasha Pachito
Samuel Thiele
Chris Watts
Jacob Cox

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Mark Richwine
Dawn Hocking
Kelsey Files
Claire Lauer

Kendra Flory
Stevie Milne
Andrea Chalmers

City Staff Present:

Lisette Camacho, Deputy City Manager
Eric Iwersen, Transportation & Sustainability Director
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Director
Lindsay Post, Senior Transportation Planner
Greg Bacon, Lieutenant
Mary Kate Nacke, Public Information Officer
Mitchell Willard, Transportation Planner
Ryan Levesque, Deputy Community Development Director
Jacob Payne, Principal Planner

Shelly Seyler, Deputy Transportation & Sustainability Director
Chase Walman, Principal Transportation Planner
Sam Stevenson, Transit Manager
Kip Carroll, Transportation Maintenance Manager
Morgan Kennedy, Neighborhood & Community Engagement Specialist
Brendan Wagner, Transportation Planner
Rebecca Rothman, Arts & Culture Manager
Liz Mieth, Management Assistant

Guests Present:

John Federico

Commissioner Amanda Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:39 a.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

No public appearances

Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

Amanda Nelson introduced the minutes of the December 9, 2025 meeting of the Transportation Commission and asked for a motion for approval.

Motion: Commissioner David Sokolowski

Second: Commissioner Anthony Strait

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

David Sokolowski
Amanda Nelson
Roy Peterson
Anthony Strait

Sasha Pachito
Samuel Thiele
Chris Watts
Jacob Cox

Agenda Item 3 – Commission Business

The three new commissioners were acknowledged.

Agenda Item 4 – Commission Business

Amanda Nelson asked Commissioners for nominations to consider for Chair and Vice Chair positions.

A motion was made to nominate Dawn Hocking to serve as Transportation Commission Chair.

Motion: Commissioner Anthony Strait

Second: Commissioner Jacob Cox

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

David Sokolowski
Amanda Nelson
Roy Peterson
Anthony Strait

Sasha Pachito
Samuel Thiele
Chris Watts
Jacob Cox

A motion was made to nominate Kelsey Files to serve as Transportation Commission Vice Chair.

Motion: Commissioner Anthony Strait

Second: Commissioner Jacob Cox

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

David Sokolowski
Amanda Nelson
Roy Peterson
Anthony Strait

Sasha Pachito
Samuel Thiele
Chris Watts
Jacob Cox

Amanda Nelson asked for a motion to hold the 2026 Transportation Commission meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Chris Watts

Second: Commissioner Samuel Thiele

Decision: Approved by Commissioners

David Sokolowski
Amanda Nelson
Roy Peterson
Anthony Strait

Sasha Pachito
Samuel Thiele
Chris Watts
Jacob Cox

Agenda Item 5 – Density Bonus Program

Ryan Levesque and Jacob Payne provided an update on the city's Density Bonus Program. Topics included:

- Background and Council Direction
- How the Bonus Program Works
- Tempe's Affordable Housing Development Bonus Program Draft Proposal
- Timeline

Discussion included preserving affordable housing, parking standards, how is the reception to the new parking standards, what is the potential for affordable housing and in the Smith Industrial Hub can the city increase density over what is projected.

Agenda Item 6 – Federal Grants update

Chase Walman provided an update on Transportation related federal grants. Topics included:

- Current Projects in Construction
 - Kyrene/Roosevelt/Farmer (University – Baseline)
 - 8th St Streetscape (Rural – McClintock)
 - Grand Canal Connection
 - Scottsdale Road Bike Lane Project
 - Country Club Way Bike & Ped Improvement Project (Warner-US60)
- Current Grant Projects with Notice of Award
 - Streetcar Rio East-Dobson Streetcar Extension Study
 - Baseline Road (Darrow – Bala)
 - Upstream Dam Bike/Ped Bridge + Rio N. Bank Path + Indian Bend Wash Path
 - Broadway Road (55th – Mill)
 - Elliot/Kyrene + College/Southern Intersections

Discussion included 8th street mobility hub, timeline for the streetcar extension, review of the project area for the bike ped bridge at Rio Salado and Pier development.

Agenda Item 7 – Transit Shelter Update

Sam Stevenson made a presentation about transit shelters. Topics included:

- Transit Shelter Project Overview
- New Transit Shelter Designs
- Public Art Integration
- Timeline and Next Steps

Discussion included turn around time to install a shelter, Mill Ave southbound, upgraded Mill Avenue bus stop from micro and the prioritization of busy bus stops.

Agenda Item 8 – Department & Regional Transportation Updates

Eric Iwersen provided the Commission updates on the Mill Ave streetscapes which was presented to the city council, seven proposed speed limit reductions, possible venue change for Commission meetings, public meeting for the Kyrene/Roosevelt/Farmer streetscape bike ped improvements and that the Smith Rd project was completed fall 2025.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items

Eric Iwersen informed the Commission that in one of upcoming meetings there will be an update on speed limits and Mill Ave update.

The following future agenda items have been previously identified by the Commission or staff:

- February 10 **ONE ITEM ONLY**
 - Tempe Transportation Plan 2050
- March 10
 - Prop 479
 - Transit Fund Analysis Status
 - Complete Streets
- April 14 **ONE ITEM ONLY**
 - Tempe Transportation Plan 2050
- May 12
 - College Avenue Traffic Calming Update
 - TMA/TDM, Personal Delivery Devices/Autonomous Delivery Vehicles
 - Speed Cushion Process/Traffic Calming Tools & Results of College Avenue Speed Cushion Installations
- June 9
 - 5th and Mill Crosswalk Update
 - Phoenix to Tucson Rail Project
- July 14
- August 11
- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
 - Annual Report
- December 8
- January 12

The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2026. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Prepared by: Liz Mieth
Reviewed by: Shely Seyler