



# Town of Paradise Valley

6401 E Lincoln Dr  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

## Minutes - Final

### Planning Commission

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Tuesday, February 21, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Wastchak called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Attorney Andrew M. Miller  
Community Development Director Eva Cutro  
Senior Planner Paul Michaud

#### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present** 4 - Commissioner Jonathan Wainwright  
Commissioner Daran Wastchak  
Commissioner Jeff Wincel  
Commissioner Thomas G. Campbell

**Absent** 2 - Chairperson Dolf Strom  
Commissioner Richard K. Mahrle

#### 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

#### 4. STUDY SESSION ITEMS

##### A. [17-048](#) Discussion of Paradise Valley Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan

Paul Michaud introduced Jim Coffman, the lead consultant on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The plan is currently at the refine stage. Mr. Coffman gave an overview of the public outreach. He explained the relationship between the 2012 General Plan and the proposed plan. Additional direction is needed from the Planning Commission on selecting a cross section for the major arterial of Lincoln Drive and Tatum Boulevard; as well as a cross section for McDonald Drive.

A pedestrian route map is proposed. The General Plan does not currently have a pedestrian map. Wayfinding signs are also included in the plan. Signs would be used conservatively. The proposed above grade signs are

of natural materials including gabion cages and rocks. Some signs are proposed on the pavement.

One cross section for the major arterial includes narrowing the lanes to 11 feet to allow a 5.5-foot bike lane with a 2-foot buffer from the travel lane. The second option does not impact existing curb and gutter. The travel lanes are 12-feet and 13-feet in width. This option includes no in road bike lane. Sidewalks and multi-use paths are proposed instead separated by landscape from the travel lanes. The Planning Commission preferred this cross section design for Lincoln Drive and Tatum Boulevard.

There was discussion over 11-foot travel lanes. Mr. Coffman stated the Town Engineer stated the Town Engineer would not support travel lanes on a major arterial less than 11 feet in width. He continued that narrower lanes are becoming the norm. There was concern that hard-core riders will not use a sidewalk, rather they will continue riding in the street. If the option with the bike lane is preferred, recreational riders can still use the sidewalk.

McDonald Drive cross sections were discussed next. Two draft options were shown. The first option maintains curb and gutter except around medians where the curb and gutter "bows" out. The center turn lane is removed to accommodate bike lanes on both sides of the street. A decomposed granite path is also proposed for the south side of the street. There was discussion as to whether the volume on McDonald Drive requires a turn lane. It was observed that the volume is not high, but there may be a backup during peak hours without the turn lane. The turn lane is only 9-foot wide currently. The second option leaves current conditions, but adds the decomposed granite path and signs (sharrows) on the pavement in key locations. A twenty-five mile per hour speed limit is proposed with both options.

Sally Wingate, Echo Canyon resident, likes 25 mile per hour speed limit. Driveways are on the road and these homeowners would appreciate the lower speed limit. She also suggested to add a permanent speed camera(s) on McDonald Drive. She rides her bike on the sidewalk.

There was discussion that the medians on McDonald Drive would remain in both options and that no increase in the speed limit is being considered. Commissioner Campbell wanted to know if both options could be considered, one east of Invergordon Road and one west of Invergordon Road. There was concern about not wanting to invite more cyclists to McDonald Drive.

Scott Turner, resident, stated that removal of a few medians along McDonald Drive may make it easier to get around cyclists. There was

discussion of further moving the curb and gutter at the medians to allow the buffer to remain between the bike lane and the vehicular lane. There was discussion of doing nothing. There was a discussion of using a bike lane on just one side of the road. Mr. Coffman said it is unusual to see just one bike lane.

Commissioner Wainwright preferred the do nothing option on McDonald Drive. He doesn't want to encourage more bicycle traffic on this street nor does he want the turn lane removed. Commissioner Campbell can see a benefit to removing cyclists from Lincoln Drive and moving them to McDonald Drive. He doesn't want all turn lanes removed. Maybe just leave turn lanes at major intersections. Chairman Wastchak does not like the look of a "painted" road on McDonald Drive. His only problem with cyclists is at the medians. Maybe the plan can keep the current look but still bow out the road at the medians. This would get rid of the "pinch points". This may even create a traffic calming effect as a secondary benefit (similar to concept at 48th Street). All liked the pedestrian paths.

Mimi Daiza, resident, stated two of her three properties have driveways on Tatum Boulevard. She is not a fan of the plan because she doesn't want more pedestrian or cyclist traffic on Tatum Boulevard. She believes this will be a hazard when cars are trying to exit driveways. She inquired the location of the multi-use path. Mr. Coffman noted the general plan is to have this path on the east side of Tatum Boulevard and a sidewalk on the other side of the street.

Addition of the Minor Collector is proposed in the plan with additional pedestrian sidewalks. A decomposed granite path is an option as well.

Enhanced local cross section is another addition to the General Plan. Buffered bike lanes with decomposed granite trails are shown. There was discussion of the color of the paint stripes. Light tan paint could be used or decorative concrete. Commissioner Wincel has concerns with painted roads. If not maintained they look run down. He prefers an architectural solution. Chairman Wastchak stated there was a concern about keeping the roads looking rural. Mr. Coffman reviewed another option that has no striping but adds a decomposed granite path to one side of the road. A third option exists for just Golf Drive with walkable shoulders. It was noted that the map needs to better define where the three options will be used. There was also a comment that the maps need to be larger in the plan.

Performance Measures will be introduced in this plan. These will assist in monitoring progress. There was crash data shown. Most accidents occur east of Invergordon Road. There was discussion of progress since the 2012 General Plan. There was discussion of bike counts and pedestrian

counts. Connections to Phoenix and Scottsdale were shown, along with discussion of improvements that Phoenix and Scottsdale have implemented.

Scott Turner, resident, was concerned that if the speed limit is reduced on McDonald Drive existing traffic controls should also be examined. This could include changing the four-way stop at Mockingbird Lane and McDonald Drive to a two-way stop or converting certain intersections to a roundabout.

There was discussion of needing to work with the Ritz-Carlton team with both the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan and the Visually Significant Corridors plan. There was a concern with the lack of continuity on the Town's sidewalk network. Commissioner Wincel noted sidewalk gaps on Vista Drive and 68th Street. Mr. Michaud remarked that the scope of work on the inventory did not include all Town streets. As such, the inventory did not cover many local streets.

Mr. Michaud reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule. He stated the citizen review for this plan is set for the Planning Commission meeting of March 21, 2017 and the meeting for Planning Commission recommendation is set for April 18, 2017. The Planning Commissioners present did not see a need for additional study sessions then those noted.

**No Reportable Action**

## 5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

## 6. ACTION ITEMS

None

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. [17-052](#) Approval of February 7, 2017 Planning Commission Minutes

**A motion was made by Commissioner Wincel, seconded by Commissioner Wainwright, to approve the February 7, 2017 Planning Commission minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Commissioner Wainwright, Commissioner Wastchak, Commissioner Wincel and Commissioner Campbell

**Absent:** 2 - Chairperson Strom and Commissioner Mahrle

## 8. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Miller gave a legislative update on small cell site regulations. It was noted that the Town Manager is also working on efforts to get better cell

coverage for the Town.

## 9. PUBLIC BODY REPORTS

Commissioner Campbell announced that he is not requesting another term on the Planning Commission. However, he did apply for the Hillside Citizen member. Mr. Miller stated that ten applications have been received for the vacant Planning Commission seats. Jeff Wincel will be interviewed for Town Council this Thursday.

## 10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Michaud reviewed the upcoming agenda items.

## 11. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Commissioner Wainwright at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Wincel, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Commissioner Wainwright, Commissioner Wastchak, Commissioner Wincel and Commissioner Campbell

**Absent:** 2 - Chairperson Strom and Commissioner Mahrle

## Paradise Valley Planning Commission

By:   
Eva Cutro, Secretary