



APACHE JUNCTION
COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Task Assignment MPD 26 – 10
ADOT Contract No: T08-49-00001



Date: July 22nd, 2010
Time: 2:00PM to 4:00PM
Location: Parks & Recreation Department Conference Room, City of Apache Junction
Attendees: *ADOT* - Charla Glendening; *City of Apache Junction* – David Fern, Fred Baker, Nick Blake, Emile Schmid, Pat Brenner; *CAAG* – Bill Leister; *Pinal County* – Doug Hansen; *Maricopa County FCD* – Felicia Terry; *Maricopa County DOT* – Mitch Wagner; *City of Mesa* – Mark Venti; *Jacobs* – Rick Powers, Patrizia Gonella, Vamshi Yellisetty; *Rob Bohannon & Associates* - Rob Bohannon; *KDA Creative* – Amy Rosar

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting 1

MEETING PURPOSE

The purpose of the meeting was to kick-off the Apache Junction Comprehensive Transportation Study PARA.

AGENDA ITEMS

- Introductions
- Scope of work
- Study Planning Boundary, Project Influence Area, Study Roadway Network
- Ongoing and previous studies relevant to this study
- Project data
- Study issues
- Visioning process
 - Goals & Objectives
 - Public Involvement Process
 - Communication Protocol
 - Revisions to Scope of Work
- Transportation Plan Checklist
- Next Steps

INTRODUCTIONS

- Charla Glendening, ADOT Project Manager, opened the meeting and welcomed the TAC. A sign-in sheet was passed around and the TAC members in attendance gave brief introductions (See attached sign-in sheet).
- Charla mentioned that this study is a result of Apache Junction's application to the PARA program to update the City's transportation plan. She provided a brief overview of the PARA program. PARA program receives funding from FHWA and is managed by ADOT. The purpose of the PARA program is to assist rural and smaller communities prepare transportation plans.



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- Rick Powers provided a brief overview of the project and explained role of the TAC. TAC members will provide technical guidance throughout the study, assist in data collection, review working papers, and serve as liaisons between the study and the entities they represent.

SCOPE OF WORK

Patrizia Gonella provided an overview of Jacobs approach to this study and reviewed the proposed scope of work. Key points included the following:

- Portalis Master Plan efforts will be integrated with this study
- For this study, Population Growth Thresholds will be used as the benchmarks rather than horizon years to define the transportation plan phasing. TAC concurred with the approach.
- Jacobs will update and complete the 2005 Apache Junction Transit feasibility study as part of this PARA study. Once adopted by the City of Apache Junction, a decision will be made whether to move forward with the implementation plan. Implementation Plan is not part of this study.
- Extensive roadway alternative analysis will be conducted to assess the impacts of proposed new freeways/highways and residential/commercial development in the region on Apache Junction's roadway system.
- Jacobs will provide the City with a Transportation Plan Maintenance tool at the end of the study.

STUDY PLANNING BOUNDARY, PROJECT INFLUENCE AREA, STUDY ROADWAY NETWORK

- Patrizia reviewed the proposed study planning boundary extents. TAC concurred with the proposed study area boundary.
- Patrizia also explained that a Project Influence Area was necessary for this study to capture the impacts of new developments and roadway improvements in the surrounding area on Apache Junction's roads. TAC was provided with a map showing the proposed Project Influence Area and it was approved.
- Fred Baker asked if there was a logical reason for choosing Queen Creek Rd as the southern end of the Project Influence Area.
 - Vamshi responded that the most of the big developments including the proposed DMB Proving Grounds and Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport plans are located north of Queen Creek Rd. Hence, it was chosen as the southern boundary.
- Patrizia mentioned that it is critical to identify the base roadway network or study roadways for this study. A map showing the preliminary roads (as outlined in the City's Circulation Element of the draft General Plan) was provided to the TAC. TAC members recommended the addition of Mountain View Rd: McKellips to US 60, Meridian Rd: McKellips to Baseline Rd, McKellips Rd: Meridian Rd to Goldfield Rd, extend east-west streets until Mountain View Rd.
- Fred Baker asked the reason for why we need to identify study roadways.



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- Vamshi responded that for planning purposes, we only plan for roadways that are functionally classified as collectors and above. Local roads will not be studied as part of this project.
- Vamshi emphasized that the study roadways should be chosen irrespective of the jurisdiction that owns the roads.
- Fred Baker cautioned the study team that the City is expecting this study to establish the major study corridors and the major roads identified in the draft General Plan should be used for reference.
 - The study team and TAC agreed with the suggestion.

ONGOING AND PREVIOUS STUDIES RELEVANT TO THIS STUDY

- Vamshi presented the TAC with a list of ongoing and previous studies that are relevant to this study.
- TAC members recommended the addition of the following studies and projects to the list:
 - Apache Junction Downtown Redevelopment Plan
 - Desert Drive hydrology study
 - Powerline-Rittenhouse Flood Control structures
 - Apache Junction citywide stormwater study
 - Meridian Road Study
 - City of Mesa Transportation Plan
 - City of Mesa Bicycle Plan – expected completion is Summer 2011.

PROJECT DATA

- Vamshi reviewed the list of data items that were still needed for this study.
- David Fern mentioned that the City of Apache Junction will provide pavement conditions, traffic counts, GIS data, and aerial imagery.
- CAAG will provide traffic counts, crash data, demographic information, and future socioeconomic data.
- Pinal County will provide floodplains data.

STUDY ISSUES

- TAC was provided with a map of preliminary study area issues. Vamshi summarized the issues and asked the TAC if there were any other issues that need to be addressed.
- David Fern mentioned that
 - A half diamond interchange is planned for construction at US 60/Meridian Rd in 2012.
 - Northbound left turn movement at Ironwood Dr/US 60 intersection experiences several delays and there are plans of adding an additional left turn lane.
 - Several roadways experience flooding
- Study needs to address bike/trails including equestrian trails
- Study maps need to show powerline and flood control structures
- Review City impact fee procedures.



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VISIONING PROCESS

- **Goals & Objectives:** Vamshi presented the preliminary list of goals and objectives to the TAC and requested feedback. The TAC recommended the following revisions:
 - Add to Goal 1 – address flooding issues
 - Revise Goal 2 , Objective 7 – address equestrian trails
 - Add to Goal 2 – Evaluate BRT options
- **Public Involvement Process:** Amy Roser provided a brief overview of the Public Involvement Plan prepared for this study. Public meeting announcements will be made on local city TV channel and cable advertising in addition to the methods proposed in the Public Involvement Plan.
- **Communication Protocol:** Charla mentioned that
 - She will be the point of contact for distributing study products to the TAC and also receiving TAC input.
 - The City of Apache Junction can communicate directly with Rick Powers and Vamshi Yellisetty for any technical communication and data requests processing.
- **Revisions to Scope of Work:** Rick asked the TAC if they suggested any revisions to the scope of work. The TAC did not suggest any scope revisions.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN CHECKLIST

Vamshi mentioned that the Jacobs team will maintain a comprehensive transportation plan checklist to manage the study progress.

NEXT STEPS

Rick mentioned that the next steps included

- Project data collection
- Field review
- Analysis of existing conditions

Meeting was adjourned at 4PM