



City of Avondale

Neighborhood and Family Services Commission



[Link to Summary of Actions](#)



[Link to Meeting Minutes](#)



Neighborhood and Family Services Commission Meeting
Avondale Civic Center, 11465 West Civic Center Drive, Council Chambers
Wednesday, November 20, 2019 6:00 p.m.
Summary of Action

Commission Members in Attendance: Chair Fabian Prado, Vice Chair Oliver Morrison, Glenn Coleman, Jeffrey Rich, Wendy Dormer, Melissa Valdez, John Raeder, Alternate Michelle McMullen, Alternate Gloria Solario

Commission Members Unexcused: Delores Robinson

Commission Members Excused: Lisa Osborne

City Staff and Guests in Attendance: Neighborhood & Family Services Director Chris Lopez, Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Edith Baltierrez, City Clerk Marcella Carrillo, Development & Engineering Services Assistant Director Jodie Novak, City Engineer Dave Janover, Administrative Assistant Paula Swenson

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| 1. Call to Order | 6:01 PM |
| 2. Review and Approval of the June 26, 2019 | Approved |
| 3. Review and Approval of Revisions to Neighborhood & Family Services Bylaws | Approved |
| 4. Election of 2020 Officers | Approved |
| 5. Introduction of New Staff | Discussed |
| 6. Streets Construction Update | Discussed |
| 7. New Developments' Update | Discussed |
| 8. Future Agenda Items | Discussed |
| 9. Announcements | Discussed |
| 10. Call to the Public | None |
| 11. Adjournment | 7:06 PM |



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MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance: Chair Fabian Prado, Vice Chair Oliver Morrison, Glenn Coleman, Jeffrey Rich, Wendy Dormer, Melissa Valdez, John Raeder, Alternate Michelle McMullen, Alternate Gloria Solario

Commission Members Unexcused: Delores Robinson

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1. Call to Order

The Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Prado at 6:01 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of the June 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Dormer made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Morrison seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by Members present.

3. Review and Approval of Revisions to Neighborhood & Family Services Bylaws

Ms. Carrillo described the proposed revisions to the Neighborhood & Family Services Bylaws. The revisions are primarily administrative changes with updates to the Department's current divisions. Previously, the Libraries were under Parks & Recreation. This Division is now with Neighborhood & Family Services. The Code Enforcement Division is no longer with Neighborhood & Family Services; they are with Development Services and Engineering. The primary impact to the Commission would be presentations.

Ms. Carrillo described the current Commission to be comprised of 11 regular members with voting authority, with two alternates members, for a total of 13. We would like to recommend the approval of nine voting members, and two alternates for a total of 11. This change will not impact current members on the Commission. We have one vacancy in regular status; one vacancy in alternate status, and one regular member opting to not continue with a term. This change from 11 regular members to nine will allow us to reach quorum more frequently by requiring five members be present versus six. Mr. Raeder made a motion to approve. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The vote to reduce the members was unanimous. The new bylaws will be taken to Council for approval.

4. Election of 2020 Officers

Mr. Morrison made a motion to nominate Mr. Coleman to serve as Chairperson for the 2020 calendar year. Mr. Coleman declined the nomination due to personal commitments. Mr. Prado nominated Ms. Vasquez to

serve as Chairperson for the 2020 calendar year. She accepted the nomination and was appointed with a unanimous vote to serve as Chairperson for the 2020 calendar year. Ms. Dormer nominated herself to serve as Vice Chair. The Commission voted to accept her nomination unanimously. Ms. Dormer will serve as Vice Chair for the 2020 calendar year.

5. Introduction of New Staff

Mr. Lopez introduced Ms. Baltierrez as the new Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director. Mr. Lopez described Ms. Baltierrez' s vast experiences in municipal government and relationships with other organizations. Ms. Chavez will join us next meeting for an introduction and presentation on the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

6. Streets Construction Update

Mr. Janover presented a streets construction update; specific to the Capital Improvement Program. The Fairway Drive interchange is an Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) project underway. Mr. Janover confirmed that ADOT plans to complete the work in Spring 2020, not 2021 as the slide indicated. A subsequent city project will connect the interchange off-ramp at Garfield to Van Buren Street with a re-aligned, five-lane road. Rights-of-way will be acquired for the widening. A design contract has been awarded. The design, rights-of-way and construction will cost \$4M. Mr. Janover confirmed that this project will be completed by the end of 2020, not 2021 as the slide indicated. Once the project is complete, it will connect down to Van Buren Street. There is a new trombone-style traffic signal at Maricopa Street and Avondale Boulevard. This signal is warranted due to the crash risk in the area. The signal will be fully operational by tomorrow. The costs to the city for the signal were \$698k. There are many developments in North Avondale that require additional traffic capacity and circulation improvements. For design and construction from 2-to-4 lanes on Avondale Boulevard, the costs will be \$2M. For the extension of Palm Lane, it will cost \$385k. For the signal at McDowell Road and 119th Avenue, the costs will be \$550k. A Garden Lake Corridor study is being finalized. Mr. Janover explained that these improvements are all necessary to maintain the levels of service on our roadways; and to prepare for future demand and growth. Mr. Janover discussed the 107th Avenue and McDowell Road widening project. Mr. Janover clarified that this project will no longer relocate the well as was the original intention and listed on the presentation slide; they will remove the well completely. The design is underway to widen McDowell Road to provide a six-lane arterial west of 107th Avenue to widen 107th Avenue south of McDowell Road to provide a four-lane section. This project includes the modification of a traffic signal. The costs for the project are \$600k for programmed design and rights-of-way acquisition, and \$6M for construction improvements. El Mirage Road and Buckeye Road improvements include a project design for a dedicated turn lane at the intersection. The projected cost is \$320k. Construction is expected to be completed this fiscal year. The City received a 2.3M Federal TAP grant to provide a multi-use path along the north side of Van Buren from 113th Avenue to 127th Avenue. This trail will include lighting, landscaping, benches, a water fountain, street art and other amenities. Construction is anticipated to start by 1st quarter, 2020. Mr. Janover explained the elements in the Avondale Street and Utility Improvement Program. This is a multi-year program designed to address street issues, sidewalks, ADA guidelines, water and sewer mains, streetlights, etc. We have six phases to complete by fiscal year 2027. The designer and contractor are on board for Phase 1. Total program costs are \$29M. Ms. McMullen requested the presentation be sent out via email to Commission Members.

7. New Developments' Update

Ms. Novak presented an update on new developments in the city. Residential development underway includes Alamar (Lakin Ranch), Roosevelt Park, and Vista del Verde. New approvals include Parkside Village and Del Rio Phase III. Ms. Novak discussed many commercial developments underway. They include the following:

- AKOS Medical Building
- Avondale Commerce Park
- Avondale 107
- Black Rock Coffee
- Residence Inn by Marriott
- My Place Hotels
- Home 2 Suites by Hilton
- Springhill Suites by Marriott

Ms. Novak explained a planning and economic development project: The BLVD. This new project includes new trendy district concepts, opt-in zoning, incremental development for market demands, etc. Business assistance programs are available. This is a great opportunity for public-private development partnerships. Recent open developments include West Point High School, several restaurants and an ISM upgrade (\$178M) for the Nascar Championship Race scheduled for November 6 - 8, 2020. Coming soon is a new Avondale City Buildings at the City's Civic Plaza, and a new Resource and Senior Center, Hickman's, and Avondale 50 (Opus). There are new hotels developing which will provide opportunities for economic boosts with various sporting events in the area. These new opportunities continue to provide us the attractions to Live, Work and Play in Avondale. Ms. Novak provided the website address to connect to the Development & Engineering Services Department and the project search map, known as In the Zone, as well as staff email addresses: jnovak@avondaleaz.gov and djanover@avondaleaz.gov.

8. Future Agenda Items:

Mr. Lopez stated that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26. Housing & Community Development staff will present the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for your input on how we use our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Libraries' staff will also present an update on current activities and community outreach efforts.

9. Announcements

Mr. Lopez invited Commission Members to join us on December 2 at 10:00 a.m., for the ground breaking of the Care1st Avondale Resource Center at the Marie Lopez Rogers Complex, located at 995 E. Riley Drive.

10. Call to the Public

None

11. Adjournment

Ms. Valdez made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Mr. Raeder. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Signature of approval:

Fabian Prado, Chair

Melissa Vasquez

(Wendy Danner, Vice Chair)

Next meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Avondale City Hall – February 26, 2019

