

## **PORA Roads, Safety and Traffic Committee May 28, 2014 Minutes**

**Attendees:** Merlyn Carlson / Chairman, James West, Del Young, Posse: John Merkel, MCDOT: Vicki Stewart, MCSO Sgt. Polly White, ADOT Michelle Thompson.

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. Merlyn Carlson
2. Minutes of April 23, 2014, were approved as corrected. Merlyn Carlson
3. Current Updates:

**MCSO: Sgt. Polly White:**

- The first of the three academy classes graduates tomorrow, Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 4PM. Twenty-three deputies, as well as two police officers from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Police Department, will be sworn in by Sheriff Arpaio.

Training included detailed instruction in such areas as law and legal, bias-free policing, weapons training, traffic instruction, report writing and defensive tactics, among others.

Sheriff Arpaio says these new hires bring our staff to a total of 529 deputy sheriffs with 24 more positions still to fill. The addition of these positions brings the total of all sworn deputy sheriffs, including command staff, to over 700 personnel.

- We have a double squad on Tuesdays doing traffic enforcement in Sun City West and Sun City.
- The patrol cars have new computers and printers; they can automatically print a ticket.
- Radar in all patrol cars.

**SCW Sheriff's Posse: John Merkel:**

- MCDOT, thank you for the new Posse sign on RH Johnson. The sign traveling south is perfectly placed.
- The sign traveling north is hidden by a pine tree and can't be seen. Can you have relocated or trim the tree.
- Can MCDOT check the stop light at Granite Valley & Dachtler? The light turns red on Granite Valley when no one is on Dachtler.
- I contacted the manager of CVS regarding the faded stop sign. He had already put in request and has heard nothing as yet. He is hoping to get two signs replaced.

**Q: to MCDOT:** Has MCDOT had an update on no parking on Beardsley and 128<sup>th</sup>?

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** John Counts is working on it.

**ADOT: Michelle Thompson:**

- We ended our public review and comment of the Bell Rd. and Grand (US 60) interchange study on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We received around 300 comments. Now we are compiling all the comments into a final document. Some comments will be answered and that will be part of the final document that will be out the end of June. We would have the final copy online and will have a copy at the PORA office for residents to review. By the end of summer we will have an official decision on which alternative we will go with.
- We at this time do not have either road closing during construction, and no detour plans. Traffic will narrow down to two lanes in each direction, with possible brief closers during over-night or on weekends. We do not want to impact residents on RH Johnson with detour traffic.

**Q: Diane Chaney:** Changing the lights to slow down traffic?

**A: Merlyn Carlson:** That will be MCDOT not ADOT. We will have to ask John Counts at our next meeting.

**MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:**

- Heritage and 151 Ave. it did not meet warrants for traffic light or four way stop.

**Q: Nolan Reed:** Is a stop light going in at 151<sup>st</sup> and Deer Valley Dr.?

**A: MCDOT:** No traffic light.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Could you check the intersection of RH Johnson and Whispering Oaks Dr. / Conquistador, for a turn arrow at the light.

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** We will check this out starting in November – May.

**Q: Ed Truskowski:** please take a look at RH Johnson and Limousine Dr. The right line is marked as a turn only lane onto Limousine Dr. from RH Johnson, but golf carts stay on and continue to Sun City Grand. Cars coming on Limousine Dr. turning left on to RH Johnson have to be very careful not to assume the golf carts or cars in that lane will be turning. Remove the turn lane only arrow or?

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** we will check it out.

**Q: Nolan Reed:** Continuing on RH Johnson to the Grand intersection. You have a right turn lane and two lanes going straight into Sun City Grand. The problem is that several times cars have continued into Grand from the right turn lane. Is there any way to prohibit that?

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** we will take a look.

**Q: Nolan Reed:** Concern with the new Fry's going in, could we prohibit cars from turning left from Meeker into the library parking lot and cutting thru to Fry's?

**A: Bob Garrett:** Suggested waiting to see what happens after Fry's opens.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** When will the traffic light replace the pedestrian light on RH Johnson in front of the new Fry's?

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** Any day.

4. Old Business:

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Should we print new Traffic Safety brochures? Adultcare Assistance Homecare will cover the cost of printing them for both Sun City and Sun City West. If we print new brochures do we need to update them to include Debbie Leskos new legislation?

**MCSO: Sgt. Polly White:** Yes, the brochures should reflect the new information.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Would MCSO study the brochure and help us with the changes they think are needed?

**A: MCSO: Sgt. Polly White:** Yes

**SCW Posse: John Merkel:** We should also have the committee take a look for any updates.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Will you be committee chairman, John, along with Harry Abramowski on your committee?

**SCW Posse: John Merkel:** It would be helpful to know when Fry's will have its grand opening, so both MCSO and the Posse can put a plan together for managing the extra traffic.

**Q: Ben Snyder:** When will the road maintenance "plate" be removed on the north bound lane of RH Johnson at Whispering Oaks Dr.?

**A: MCDOT: Vicki Stewart:** I will let John Counts know.

**Q: Roy Handwork:** At the intersection of RH Johnson and Granite Valley, on the southwest corner is a shiny steel electrical box by the church. When the sun hits the box it can be very blinding to drivers. Can that be painted a dull color to help with the glare?

**SCW Posse: John Merkel:** Will MCDOT take a look to see if it is your box?

5. New Business

**SCW Posse: John Merkel:**

- I have been working on a proposal for increased speeding fines in senior communities. This will be similar to construction zones' larger fines. A senior community with golf carts needs extra protection also. I think this can be done at the county level. I will present this proposal to our county supervisor, Clint Hickman's office.

**Q: Merlyn Carlson:** Would MCSO have a problem with it?

**A: Sgt. Polly White:** No, I think it is an excellent idea.

6. Adjournment: 2:25 p.m.

7. Next Meeting: **September 24, 2014 @ 1:30 p.m.**