



MARICOPA COUNTY TRAVEL REDUCTION PROGRAM REGIONAL TASK FORCE

Teleconference Meeting (all participants joined via GoToMeeting)

Jerry Geering, Chairman

September 15, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Annie Foster
Jerry Geering
Sheila Johnson
Tina Wesoloskie
Chelsie Hockersmith
Kim Passante*
Terry Solis

ABSENT

Jean Woltjer

**Left meeting early*

STAFF / VISITORS PRESENT

Kristen Weston-Smith, Morgan Wohlbrandt, Joel Fowler – Maricopa County TRP
Peter Muthig – Deputy County Attorney
Abigail Cooksey-Williams – Valley Metro
Amanda Luecker – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Andres Martin, Courtney Medina, Gregory Verkamp, Kimberly Butler, Laura Jardieanu, Nancy Johnson – Maricopa County
Katie Dykes, Leah Kostelny - HonorHealth
Al Hunt, Ananya Sudhir, Carrie Roberts, Chuck Elmore, Courtney Hayden, Debbie Moore, Emma Henry, Jason Crampton, JC Porter, Kristin Zipprich, Lora El-Sheikh, Patrick Dennis, Sarah Fitzgerald

Call to Order

Jerry Geering called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. (quorum present).

Meeting Minutes

Kim Passante motioned to approve the August 11, 2020 minutes and Chelsie Hockersmith seconded. Annie Foster, Sheila Johnson, and Terry Solis voted aye and the motion passed.

Plans Offered with 'Disapprove' Recommendation

Western Window Systems – Kristen Weston-Smith said the submitted plan has a budget cut from the previous plan year and other corrections are necessary. She also said TRP staff has continued to try to reach the TC since the end of March with no response. Kim Passante motioned to accept staff's disapproval recommendation and give the employer 14 days to submit a revised plan. Chelsie Hockersmith seconded. Annie Foster, Sheila Johnson, and Terry Solis voted aye and the motion passed.

Zillow Group, Inc. – Kristen Weston-Smith said the submitted plan includes a large budget that is spent on a transit program and needs revision, but when the plan reviewer contacted the employer regarding plan revisions, an employee stated Zillow Group, Inc. should be removed from TRP due to their large number of teleworkers. Kristen shared she responded with what would be needed for a variance or removal of an employer from TRP and no response has been received. Terry Solis

motioned to accept staff's reject recommendation and give the employer 14 days to submit a revised plan. Sheila Johnson seconded. Annie Foster, Chelsie Hockersmith, and Kim Passante voted aye and the motion passed.

Consent Agenda

Kim Passante questioned the budget amounts listed for Phoenix VA Healthcare System and Kristen Weston-Smith confirmed the amounts and provided clarification. Kim Passante motioned to approve all plans on the consent agenda and Annie Foster seconded. Chelsie Hockersmith, Sheila Johnson, and Terry Solis voted aye and the motion passed.

Discussion / Action

Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve the proposed revisions to AQ-2019-005-Ordinance P-7 (Trip Reduction Ordinance) – Jerry Geering stated Ordinance P-7 has undergone revisions and is nearing final approval, including Task Force approval. Kim Passante clarified that the name of the ordinance will be the Travel Reduction Ordinance instead of Trip Reduction Ordinance and Kimberly Butler confirmed this would be updated when the revisions are fully adopted. Terry Solis made a motion to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to approve the proposed revisions to AQ-2019-005-Ordinance P-7 (Trip Reduction Ordinance). Kim Passante seconded. Annie Foster, Chelsie Hockersmith, and Sheila Johnson voted aye and the motion passed.

HonorHealth Variance Request – Katie Dykes explained many employees have been furloughed or are working from home and other employees are hospital workers with a high case load due to COVID-19, therefore HonorHealth is requesting a variance from surveying in October 2020 and instead surveying in May 2021. Jerry Geering stated October would be a good time to survey to capture the data and lower SOV rates since HonorHealth has a high number of teleworking employees and asked for TRP staff opinions. Kristen Weston-Smith said TRP staff supported the HonorHealth variance request if the employer was able to provide documentation showing the full names of all telecommuting employees. She also explained the employer will continue to follow their previously approved travel reduction plan measures. Terry Solis made a motion to grant a variance to HonorHealth to allow them to not survey in 2020 and instead resume surveying in May 2021 contingent on receiving the requested telecommuting documentation within 10 business days. Sheila Johnson seconded. Annie Foster, Chelsie Hockersmith, and Kim Passante voted aye and the motion passed.

180 Day TRP Staff Variance – Kristen Weston-Smith stated the previous extensions of the TRP COVID-19 variance has resulted in approximately 600 employers surveying in October so TRP staff is requesting a variance to allow staff 180 days to review plans instead of the 90 day time limit. Jerry Geering questioned the legality of this action and Peter Muthig confirmed this would be allowable in light of current circumstances. Kristen Weston-Smith and Jerry Geering also clarified employer submission timelines and that the variance would only be for plan review deadlines and would not affect survey processing times. Annie Foster motioned to grant TRP staff 180 days to conduct plan approval activity. Terry Solis seconded. Chelsie Hockersmith and Sheila Johnson voted aye and the motion passed.

Valley Metro

Abigail Cooksey-Williams reviewed the update.

Call to Public

None.

Updates from Chairman and Other Members

Tina Wesoloskie shared she is excited for the update to the P-7. Jerry Geering commented on the low number of additional variance requests with the impending end of the TRP variance.

Adjournment

Terry Solis motioned to adjourn the meeting and Sheila Johnson seconded. Annie Foster and Chelsie Hockersmith voted aye and the motion passed (10:27 a.m.). The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Approved