



Price Road Flexible Transit Study Chandler Transportation Commission Presentation

JANUARY 20, 2021

VALLEY METRO STAFF PRESENTED A STUDY UPDATE AT A REGULAR MEETING FOR THE CHANDLER TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Presentation

The Price Road Flexible Transit study manager, Aaron Xaevier, detailed the PowerPoint presentation to the Commissioners and other meeting attendees during an online meeting, which was recorded by city of Chandler (COC) representatives and available to the public to access. The meeting and accompanying PowerPoint presentation can be viewed by using the link and password below:

Link:

<https://chandleraz.webex.com/recording/service/sites/chandleraz/recording/playback/3e8e25cf39dd4b95a1fd3d47b1f93a7d>

Password: aQH5A3yf (case sensitive)

Questions, Comments and Responses

Below are the Chandler Transportation Commission's (CTC) questions and comments regarding the Price Road Flexible Transit Study and the associated responses.

Online Public Meeting

Question (Q): Chairman Ron Hardin, (CTC): I saw the announcement for the virtual meeting, can you sign in anytime or is there a specific time to log in to the virtual meeting?

Answer (A): Aaron Xaevier, Valley Metro (VM): The survey and comment map elements will be running through January 25. They have been up for a few weeks and people can log in at any time of day or night. While the public meeting will close, the video will remain on the www.valleymetro.org/price-road webpage for public information purposes throughout the study.

Microtransit

Q: Dean Brennan, CTC: Does your study team consider Waymo a micro service?

A: Aaron Xaevier, VM: With their autonomous service area and capabilities growing in the region, we've had experience partnering with Waymo at Valley Metro. The service currently operated by Waymo is very similar to a microtransit service where rides are hailed by app etc. and trips are served within a given zone, though its user base is more exclusive. Generally, the idea of autonomous vehicles and technologies will be well addressed, especially considering Chandler is in the forefront of this technology nationally.

A: Jason Crampton, COC: Waymo's current service area doesn't reach as far south as the study but it's close. That could be a consideration to work with Waymo on this. The way they operate now is more like Lyft and Uber where they just provide a ride for a single passenger. However, I think with the right partnership and in conjunction with a software provider that provides microtransit type of routing to pick up passengers, I don't see why Waymo couldn't be a microtransit provider. They have the right vehicle type so I certainly think that could be an option. The questions will be "*does their service area fit*" and "*are they ready to partner with that type of thing at the time when we want to move forward.*" In any case, I think that's a great opportunity there.

Bond Election

Q: Vice Chairman Bill Kalaf, CTC: I know this is just a study, but Chandler is also in the middle of a bond process. Is there going to be any overlap between the bond activity going on in Chandler and the results of the study?

A: Jason Crampton, COC: There is some overlap. We have looked at this particular project as a potential bond project to fund the acquisition of vehicles. Of course, depending on who the city would partner with, we may or may not need to purchase vehicles. For example, if the city partnered with Waymo, they have their own vehicles and we wouldn't need to purchase the vehicles. The bond process does have a recommendation for funding so fleet can be acquired for this particular service. If the bond package gets approved as is, there could be some funding there the city could use to get this started. However, the bond funding would just be a one-time purchase of vehicles and the bigger cost of this is going to be operating the service year in and year out.