



Council approves Northern Parkway agreement with Peoria, El Mirage and Maricopa County

By Cecelia Bustamante

Glendale Mayor Scruggs and Glendale city council members approved two consent resolutions to improve two major roadways on Tuesday's council meeting held in Glendale's Council Chambers.

The meeting went swiftly, with quick approvals on four liquor licenses. All but two consent resolutions were approved without discussion.

Councilmember Phil Lieberman called to discussion the intergovernmental agreement for the construction of Northern Parkway. The agreement between El Mirage, Maricopa County, Peoria, and Glendale paves the way for improvements to Northern Parkway from Loop 303 to Grand Avenue.

Lieberman said the reason he called the agreement to discussion is so citizens could understand how beneficial the project would be to the city. The project will reduce congestion in Glendale by tying together western and central portions of the city.

According to city staff members, the IGA requires that 30 percent of the costs be split between cities, leaving 10 percent for El Mirage, 20 percent for Peoria, and 40 percent for Glendale.

The project will take at least two to three years to enter the phasing period, where it then would take at least five years to complete, city staff members told council. The project was then approved unanimously.

Lieberman also called to discussion another IGA between Glendale and Peoria that would connect Beardsley Road with Loop 101. City staff presented a layout of the plan, which displayed the Beardsley connector to Loop 101. Lieberman again pointed out for clarity that the Beardsley connector would include a "Texas U-turn," a lane that would allow drivers on the frontage road to get on the opposite frontage road without having to stop. The project is estimated to cost \$27.5 million. According to the agreement request, although the project will not use Glendale funds, parts of the construction fall into the city lines of Glendale.

After a unanimous decision to approve the agreement, Scruggs called for any questions on the motion. Vice Mayor Manny Martinez did not offer a question, but rather a comment on the agreement, praising the project.

“This is a very good project,” Martinez said. “When it's done, it's going to ease a lot of congestion on Union Hills Drive.’

The rest of the ordinances were swiftly moved and approved unanimously.

As for proclamations, Scruggs proclaimed October as Fire Prevention Month, presenting the proclamation to two house fire victims. (Note: The annual Glendale Fire Prevention Day and Parade takes place Saturday in downtown Glendale.)

Also, Scruggs presented a proclamation celebrating the 100th birthday of Glendale resident, Maria Cleofas Hernandez Arzate. Arzate and two of her family members joined the mayor at the podium, where Scruggs called Arzate “kind and wise.”