

# AGENDA TOWN OF CAMP VERDE WORK SESSIONS MAYOR AND COUNCIL 473 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 106 WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M.

Note: Council member(s) may attend Council Sessions either in person or by telephone, video, or internet conferencing. **No public input to be taken at this meeting.** 

- 1. Call to Order
- **2. Roll Call.** Council Members Buck Buchanan, Joe Butner, Bill LeBeau, Jessie Murdock, Robin Whatley; Vice Mayor Dee Jenkins; and Mayor Charles German.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Work Session. No legal action to be taken.
  - 4.1. Discussion regarding but not limited to Yavapai County Build Grant for the Verde Connect. A multi-agency discussion and update. Representatives from the following agencies may be present: Yavapai Apache Nation, Yavapai County, Federal Highway Administration Arizona Division, Copper Canyon Fire and Medical District.

## 5. Adjournment

Posted by: vjones Date/Time: 07-24-2019 9:30 a.m.

Note: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.2 and A.3, the Council may vote to go into Executive Session for purposes of consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney on any matter listed on the Agenda, or discussion of records exempt by law from public inspection associated with an agenda item.

The Town of Camp Verde Council Chambers is accessible to the handicapped. Those with special accessibility or accommodation needs, such as large typeface print, may request these at the Office of the Town Clerk at 928-554-0021

Agenda items may be taken out of order.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.01 Meetings shall be open to the public - A. All meetings of any public body shall be public meetings and all persons so desiring shall be permitted to attend and listen to the deliberations and proceedings. All legal action of public bodies shall occur during a public meeting.

Pursuant to A.R.S.  $\S38-431.03(A)(2)$  and (A)(3), the Council may vote to go into Executive Session for the purpose of consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney on any matter listed on the Agenda, or discussion of records exempt by law from public inspection associated with an agenda item.

Camp Verde Council Meetings are recorded and may be viewed on the Camp Verde website. Pursuant to A.R.S. §1-602(A)(9), parents and legal guardians have the right to consent before the Town of Camp Verde makes a video or voice recording of a minor child. If you permit your child to participate in the Council Meeting, a recording will be made. You may exercise your right not to consent by not permitting your child to participate or by submitting your request in advance to the Town Clerk that your child not be recorded.

### JULY 31<sup>st</sup> TOWN OF CAMP VERDE WORKSESSION GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Re: Yavapai County's Verde Connect BUILD Grant. (By Mayor German)

Please Note: There will be NO Public Input at this work session nor will there be any legal action taken by the Town of Camp Verde.

Over the past few weeks, I have received information from various sources which has made me realize that conversation among the principles of this proposed project has been missing. Therefore, I have initiated a work session inviting the principles to join with the Town Council to talk together. Since the "favored route" from Beaver Head Flat on Cornville Road westward across the Verde River to the Coury Round-about has been identified by the County and published in the news media, it is now important for Camp Verde Town Council to hear how this route meets the concern of the Council in assisting the residents of Middle Verde in preserving their neighborhood through the Town's General Plan. It also is important to hear directly from our local EMS first responders (Copper Canyon Fire and Medical) as to how this preferred route impacts not only Copper Canyon Fire and Medical but the effects upon mutual aid agreements throughout the Verde Valley including Cornville and the Village of Oak Creek. Hopefully, we will receive additional information related to the possibility of improving conditions through this Project related to the Health and Safety of the area as well as all residents.

We have been informed that the Federal Highway Administration, Phoenix Division as well as the County are interested in minimizing the impact upon the Middle Verde Character Area as identified through the current Town's General Plan. (Note: On Oct. 7, 2009 the Town Council operating under the Town's General Plan at that time, voted to approve a Resolution 2009-789 adopting the Town of Camp Verde Small Area Transportation Study. This was unanimously approved by Mayor Burnside, Vice Mayor Bob Kovacovich, Councilors Robin Whatley, Jackie Baker, Carol German, Norma Garrison and Pete Roulette. The transit portion was to be considered at a later time.)

Since 2009 and the passage of that Resolution, a number of changes have occurred. Two of which are: the re-alignment of Highway 260 and the voters of Camp Verde approving the new General Plan which adopted "Character Areas" thereby more clearly defining what each Area was envisioned for the future of the Town as it continues to implement this plan. This July 31<sup>st</sup> work session will provide opportunity for the FHWA, Phoenix Division and Yavapai County representatives to share how they have mitigated the concerns which have been identified to them through direct contact by the Public on-line and through each agencies' review of the Town's General Plan. They will also share their information related to the NEPA study process, the general timeline for its completion, additional opportunities for the Public to have additional comment once the results of the NEPA study is completed and the results are made public. Everyone needs to remember that the NEPA could very well bring the project to a NO BUILD conclusion.

It appears the preferred route from Beaver Head Flat/Cornville Road to Coury Round-about avoids the Middle Verde residents completely. Now it would appear the "connector road" from Middle Verde to the main through-fare from Cornville Road to Coury Round-about is of a continuing specific concern by the local Middle Verde Residents. The County will address how the Middle Verde Road extension would be constructed and operated as a neighborhood road consistent with the current existing portion. Again, there is expressed interest in dealing with mitigating remaining obstacles to facilitate a viable project. There are common conditions which are identified throughout all of our road systems and would not be a violation of the general plan. Conditions like blind driveways, sharp curves, flooding issues, speeding and the increase of traffic have been identified

throughout Camp Verde, Yavapai County as well as the State of Arizona. Those conditions should be addressed as they come up through the development process by the agency which has jurisdiction. This is another area in which the FHWA, Phoenix Division and Yavapai County could identify how and when individuals would be able to present their statements showing how their concern specifically violates the current Town's General Plan. The County perhaps could identify how that information might be shared with the Town of Camp Verde.

It is also critical that our Town Council be able to listen and talk with the Yavapai-Apache Nation representatives regarding their concerns related to this project as their safety, access and connectivity will have definite impacts on their future plans for their Nation. Their latest position statement is included so that all will be able to read what they have stated for the record at this point.

The Town Council's current position is through a Resolution passed by the Council to have our manager work for a "NO BUILD" Solution. This can only be changed through the Council's reconsideration of that Resolution and replace it by a new resolution or repeal of the old one. This Work session is not being conducted to do either of those. It is for the expressed purpose to have 5 of the principle agencies involved with this project sitting in the same location at the same time, hearing the same information regarding the same issues. I personally have found it very hard to glean the appropriate information through the news media, social media, e-mails, personal conversations, and information from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> sources. Additionally, there has been communication to suggest there is now a willingness from some in the Middle Verde area to the possibilities of a compromise on the Verde Connect BUILD Project specifically concerning the "Middle Verde Connector" portion of the Project.

Lastly, there seems to be a debate about the public process and review of the BUILD Grant application with the Public. There may be problems with that process but it should be a topic to be resolved in the future. However, we are now determining how to approve, mitigate conditions and manage a funded BUILD Grant application making the best possible decisions with the least negative impact.

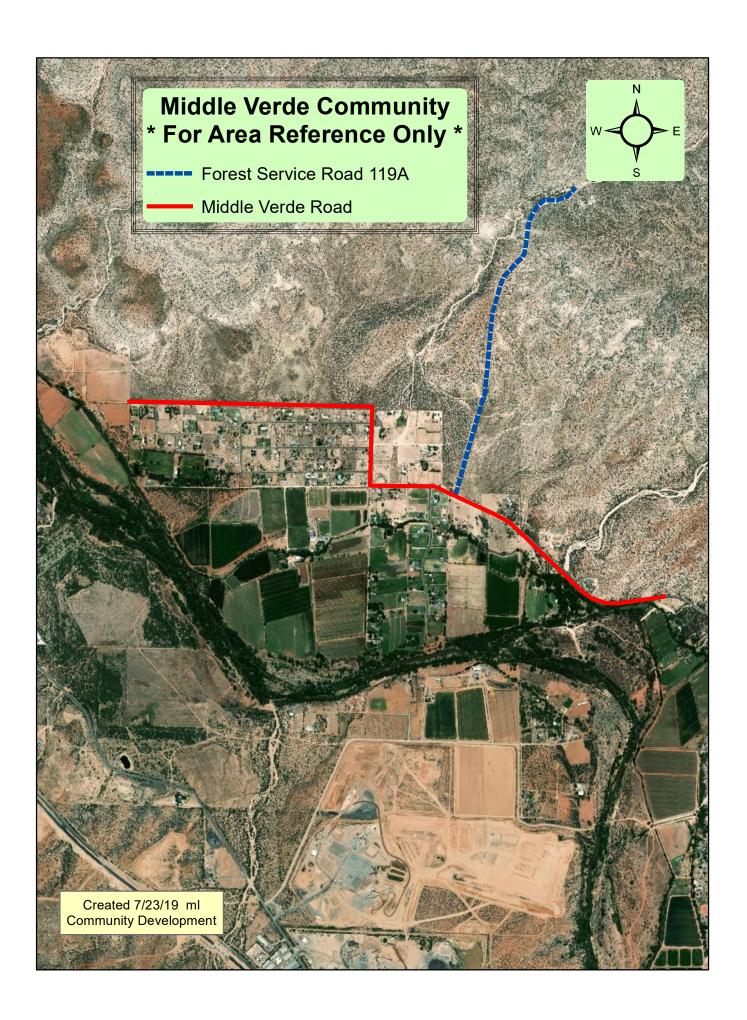
It is time to once again employ our democratic process and engage in fact finding, analyzing the results and determining the process forward which will include what is best for all of Camp Verde Citizens.

I am hopeful this additional will assist the various agencies in bringing whatever materials or information which each may deem necessary to the approximate 25 individuals who have been invited to the table including copies to Town staff who would benefit from the information.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Respectfully,

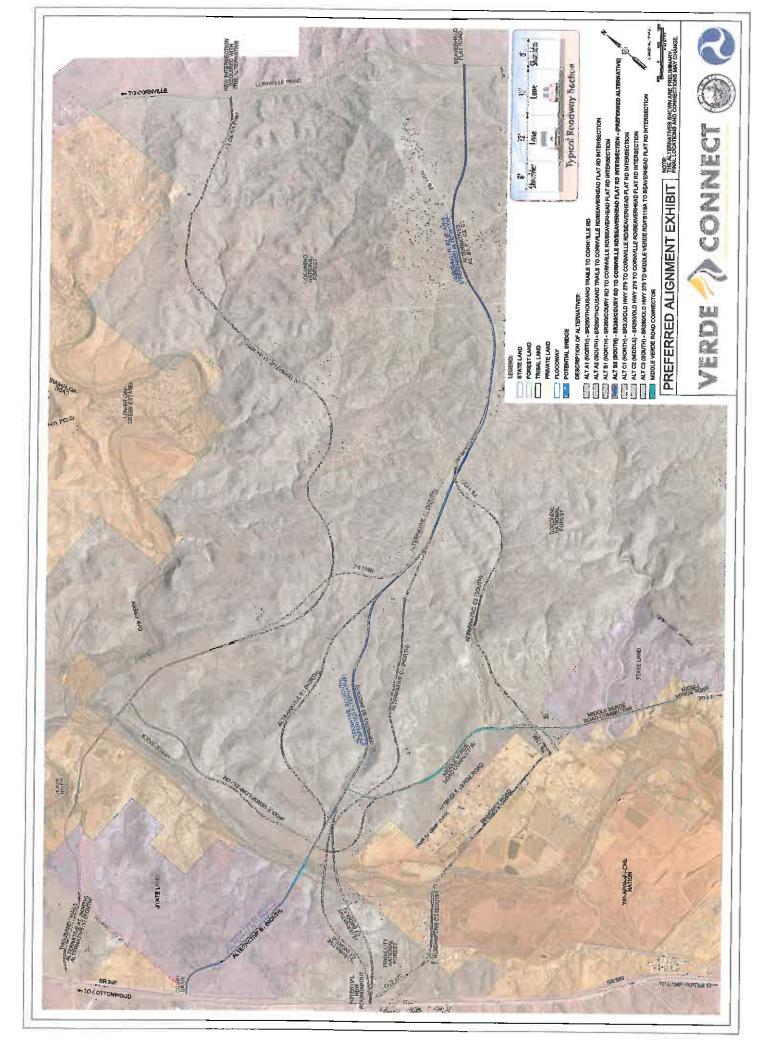
Mayor Charles C. German



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
WORK SESSIONS
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
473 S. MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2019 AT 5:30 P.M.

# Attached is additional information for the Work Session

- Map-Preferred Alignment Exhibit-Verde Connect
- Letter from Yavapai-Apache Nation dated 06-17-2019





## YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION

**Executive Office** 

Chairwoman Jane Russell-Winiecki Vice Chairman Lawrence Jackson, Sr.

2400 West Datsi Street, Camp Verde, AZ 86322

Phone (928)567-1021

Fax (928)567-3994

June 17, 2019

#### Via Email To: Karla.Petty@dot.gov; web.public.works@yavapai.us and U.S. Mail

U.S Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Karla S. Petty, Division Administrator 4000 North Central Avenue – Suite 1500 Phoenix Arizona 85012-3500

Yavapai County Public Works Department Dan Cherry, Director 4000 W. Cherry Creek Road Camp Verde, Arizona 86322

Re: Yavapai-Apache Nation Comments - Verde Connect Project Proposed Site Selection

Dear Administrator Petty and Director Cherry:

The Yavapai Apache Nation has considered the question recently posed by your Offices of whether the Nation would consent to inclusion of its reservation lands in the Verde Connect EIS process as an alternative Verde Connect Project alignment site. Be advised that after thorough consideration by the Tribal Council and consultation with our citizens, the Nation, acting through the Tribal Council, has decided that it will not consent to inclusion of the Nation's lands in the NEPA analysis as a possible alternative Verde Connect Project alignment site.

Sincerely,

YAVAPAI-APACHE NATION

Jane Russell-Winiecki, Chairwoman

cc:

Tribal Council

Scott Canty, Attorney General Karla Reimer, Tribal Secretary