

Broadway - Fwd: Re: Broadway Boulevard and Downtown Links

From: Jennifer Burdick
To: Broadway
Date: 1/30/2014 2:29 PM
Subject: Fwd: Re: Broadway Boulevard and Downtown Links
Attachments: Downtown Links Project Update- Nov 2013-final.pdf; Tom Fisher1.vcf

>>> On 1/30/2014 at 2:27 PM, Tom Fisher wrote:

Hello Mr. Foster,

Thanks for your comments and concerns regarding Downtown Links. Much appreciated. Attached you will find a full update on the project as presented to the public, the City Manager, RTA, and others.

Recent good news is that we are gradually resolving some citizen concerns regarding bike connectivity and safety, property acquisitions and demos, and funding. We are at 75% design completion now and will reach 100% by end of year, then construction in late 2015. The RTA Board recently voted to allot \$200 million in bonds for upcoming projects, including remaining funding for this one. We are on the cusp of reaching full public consensus on design of the corridor as originally scoped: 4 lanes, landscaping, bike lanes, sidewalks, drainage improvements.

Jenn has a major task on her hands and we hope to offer support as the design team and CAC works through the issues. Would be great if you could participate. She can provide info on upcoming meetings. I believe you work downtown, so feel free to stop by if you can.

Thomas Fisher
Project Manager
City of Tucson Dept. of Transportation
201 N. Stone, 6th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210
phone (520) 837-6752
tom.fisher@tucsonaz.gov

>>> Jennifer Burdick 1/30/2014 1:50 PM >>>

Mr. Foster,

Thank you very much for taking time to express your opinion and logic regarding both the Broadway and Downtown Links projects.

We are continuing to engage in analysis of the scope of Broadway to determine what the need is to address capacity in the immediate term, as well as decades into the future. The Task Force will be receiving initial

analysis of the various alternatives being reviewed right now within the next month, and we expect a larger community meeting to be held later this Spring. I will add you to the project listserv, so you will be kept aware of our progress and when future opportunities to weigh in will be offered.

I will include this email in the Public Input Report for the Broadway Project, which is distributed to the Citizens Task Force for their consideration as we continue in our planning and design phase work.

I will also share this with Tom Fisher, project manager for the Downtown Links project, so he is aware of your thoughts and concerns.

Again, many thanks to you for taking time to share your viewpoints with the Task Force and the project team.

Respectfully,
Jenn

Jennifer Toothaker Burdick, Project Manager
Broadway: Euclid to Country Club Roadway Improvement Project
City of Tucson Department of Transportation

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>>> On 1/30/2014 at 9:01 AM, Foster & Yates <gregffoster@cox.net> wrote:
Dear Jennifer,

I would like to lend my opinion to the present rumblings about scaling back or eliminating the following:

Downtown Links_Barraza-Aviation Parkway and I-10, Broadway Boulevard, the 4th Ave and Downtown. (4 lane w/safer railroad crossings and sidewalks)

Broadway Boulevard, Euclid Avenue to County Club road (6 travel lanes, plus 2 dedicated bus lanes, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

These projects were approved by ALL the voters as part of the plan to improve our roadway system in a way that expands capacity before it lags the actual required needs. The idea was to catch up with over crowded roads and provide excess capacity for future growth. To deliver anything less than the voter approved projects would be a great insult to the voters and another failed promise by local government. The RTA plans were assembled with tremendous stake holder input. Everyone understands that property owners directly effected by the projects may object, but the projects were approved by a vote to serve the ENTIRE community.

It is unfortunate that there is now talk of either scaling back or eliminating these two projects. Although the recent traffic loads are lower than projected it is my contention that the data has been greatly skewed by the installation of the street car tracks and very, very poor traffic management downtown. If any conclusions should drawn from traffic avoiding the mess created downtown in the need for both of the above projects. They will complement the streetcar's negative impacts on traffic through downtown to I-10 and provide a

proper conclusion for the west ends of Broadway and the Barraza-Aviation Parkway which without the links pretty much end in a parking lot downtown, in other words these are roads to nowhere.

The present configuration of Congress Street and Broadway Boulevard downtown are not designed to either move traffic I-10 or aid in getting any more destination traffic into the downtown area. When the streetcar is fully operational the interference with other traffic on these streets will be even greater and provide a huge motivation to avoid the downtown area all together, (i.e.. 22nd St., Grant, and River as alternatives from central and east Tucson to I-10)

Thank you for your work on this project,
Sincerely,

Greg Foster
7358 E. Kenyon Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85710

From my I-Pad