



## **22<sup>ND</sup> STREET CORRIDOR Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) - Meeting #1 Meeting Summary**

The Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) met on Thursday, November 13, 2008, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Santa Rosa Center, 1080 South 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. In attendance were COC members Brett DuMont, Jeanne Grant, Kathy Sutherland, Fred Sowerby, Chris Stebe, Roy Schoonover, Michael Nicholas, Peggy Hutchison, Barbara Cariño, Ralph Lares, and Claire Fellows. Also in attendance were COC members whose oaths had not been received by the City Clerk, Pedro Gonzales and Ernie Lujan. Absent was COC member Sandra Leal and Lucy Valdez (has not taken her oath of office). Staff present included Jim Glock, Janice Cuaron, Jay Van Echo, Britton Dornquast, Jim DeGrood, Leslie Dornfeld, Ximena Zamora, Jana McKenzie, Bob Vint, Nanette Pageau, Priscilla Fernandez and Freda Johnson.

### **1. Welcome and Introductions; Confirm Quorum.**

Jim Glock, Director Tucson Department of Transportation, welcomed everyone and thanked the COC members for their commitment to the project. He introduced Freda Johnson, meeting moderator, who confirmed there was a quorum of COC members present. Introductions of the COC members, project team, and all in attendance, were made.

### **2. Develop Ground Rules for Meetings.**

Freda Johnson asked the COC members to come up with a set of ground rules for the meetings. She made a list of the suggestions and by general agreement; the group adopted them as guidelines for their meetings. The ground rules were listed as follows:

- Punctuality
- Agenda; have a purpose
- Courteous
- Respect
- One person speaks at a time
- Notify of meeting or activity, timely notification
- Honesty
- Cooperation
- Compromise.

### **3. Call to the Audience.**

Freda invited observers to address the Committee and reminded everyone that no response or comment would be made to remarks from the audience and this is because of the open meeting laws that govern what is addressed at public meetings. She reminded everyone that there was a second call to the audience at the end of the meeting.

Angie Quiroz, Santa Rita Park Neighborhood Association President, asked that historic homes on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street be saved and that they are not only historic but the families in them are historic. She said that her family goes back several generations. She asked that there be no more urban renewal. She pointed out that there is a website reference to land use in this project but there is no mention about the families. She said that the north side of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is different from the south side and that there are many monolingual Spanish-speaking families who will want to participate in the project. She asked who would help these people understand what is going on. She requested that the project schedules for Grant Road and for the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> Street be mailed to her.

Brian Flagg, 26<sup>th</sup> Street resident, asked that a South Tucson resident be represented on the COC.

### **4. Role and Responsibility of the Citizen Oversight Committee.**

Janice Cuaron, Project Manager for the City of Tucson, said that the main role of the COC is to be advisory to the Tucson Department of Transportation and the Mayor and Council, which have the final authority on all recommendations. Jay Van Echo spoke about the need for trust in this process. He reviewed the contents of the project notebooks that had been provided to COC members and pointed out the section where specific roles and responsibilities are written as guidance for the COC. He acknowledged the involvement of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and said that its role will be to make technical recommendations.

In response to a question, he said that the COC can make suggestions to the TAC and that there will be communication between the two committees. He said that there would be approximately 30 members on the TAC. A question was asked about the word 'oversight' as part of the Committee's name. Response was made that it was established in a Mayor and Council resolution about the project and it simply differentiates between the Citizen Advisory Committee for the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> Street project. Janice added that a CAC is a requirement of the City's Roadway Development Policies (RDP) of which the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> intersection project and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Kino to Tucson Boulevard project were following. This project with more of a transportation planning element will not be bound by the RDP guidelines.

Chris Stebe asked if the COC was limited to eight meetings. Jay said that the consultant team's contract is to service the COC for those meetings. Janice added that if more meetings were needed, the City would find the resources to support them. Brett DuMont commented that, as issues come up, the COC needed to address and resolve them. Barbara Cariño asked how many people on the COC are

also on the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> Street Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). Response was that there are two: Claire Fellows and Brett DuMont who represent respectively, South Park and Millville neighborhoods impacted by both projects.

A question was asked why all the neighborhoods were not being represented on the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> CAC, and response was made that there was a separate application process for the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> CAC. Michael Nicholas asked how the COC will be reflected in the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> Street project and if the COC needs to accept the design from that area. Jay said that any issues will be brought to the table, but that there are six lanes there as there are in this portion of the roadway. He added that a cross-section is still being developed and there can be minor differences, such as widths of sidewalks. A member asked for a status report on the Kino/22<sup>nd</sup> Street project and Jay responded that it would be put on the next meeting agenda. Another question was asked about where this project ends and it was stated that it would end east of Interstate 10 (I-10).

#### **5. Orientation to the Project/Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Mandate.**

Jim DeGroot, representing the Pima Association of Governments and RTA, said that the RTA was established at the May 16, 2006 general election and the result has been continuing consensus building throughout the region. He said that there are 51 elements that are identified as part of the RTA, and this project is explained on number 19 in a booklet that was distributed to those present, and that these are projects of which the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, I-10 to Tucson Boulevard/Barraza-Aviation Parkway are explained.

Components of the overall plan are roadway improvements, safety, environmental and economic vitality and transit. Jim said that for all the projects, the RTA seeks creative solutions that meet the needs of the community. He said that the language in the booklet must be adhered to. Kathy Sutherland asked if the economy will affect these projects and if the sales tax revenue doesn't come in, what happens? Jim said that the project costs are in 2006 dollars and this is a commitment that cannot be taken away. He said that \$105 million has been earmarked for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street project.

Another question was asked about the bridges over the railroad east of Kino Parkway and at the UPRR Nogales track, and whether they were necessary. Jim said that they are both necessary, and included in the RTA ballot language. Another question had to do with the configuration of the six-lane bridge over the UPRR and whether it could be reduced. Response was made that six-lane roadway cannot be changed, unless it is brought back to the voters. A person asked if the safety issue at the Nogales tracks would be addressed and the response was that it would be addressed and that it was of high importance. Another question was asked if the railroad tracks could be raised above the roadway. Jim said that if the tracks were to be raised, it would require a 2% incline, meaning 2-feet for every 100-feet in length. He said it was highly unlikely to change the configuration of the tracks to enough of an elevation so that the railroad could entirely go over the existing 22<sup>nd</sup> Street grade.

**6. Confirm Next Meeting Date and Agenda & the Saturday, November 15, 2008 Corridor Walk.**

Janice Cuaron said that the Corridor walk had been cancelled and that this activity would be rescheduled in January 2009, because not enough COC members could affirm their participation.

**7. Discuss Future Meeting Dates.**

By general agreement, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month would be acceptable as a standard meeting date. Kathy Sutherland asked if the facility for meetings would accommodate her 7-year old daughter. The January COC meeting would be a reschedule of the bus tour/corridor walk.

**8. Call to the Audience.**

Freda reminded those present that people could address the COC, but that staff or the COC would make no response. Demion Clinco spoke about the impacts in the area as a whole, as well as in the vicinity of Santa Rita Park. Manuel Hernandez, from the Ochoa neighborhood asked why the Ochoa neighborhood is not represented on the COC.

**9. Adjourn.**

By general agreement, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.