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**Date:** 8/25/2015 6:31 PM  
**Subject:** Comment re: Grant Widening/Design

Hi Rebecca,

I am baffled with respect to how a 'road widening project' ever evolved (or rather devolved) into a 'redesign major intersections and erect commercial centers' at every intersection. with a light. Not a single tax dollar should -legally- be used on building/designing anything not directly road-related as this was never approved by the voters. A bus lane, a bike lane, landscaping along the road,... are all part of constructing a wider Grant Road, but buildings aren't.

The commercial (or other) buildings we currently have along Grant are largely empty, so building new buildings will result in ... what exactly? More empty buildings, except newer-looking ones?

I voiced precisely that in one of the initial meetings re: the Grant Road widening projects but, alas, my comment wasn't really addressed by the poor guy who had to fend off comments by angry residents. 5 years have gone by since and here we are again with constructing 'centers'. Who is supposed to fill those buildings if the ones there now can't find occupants? Who will pay for building and then maintaining a bunch of -most likely empty or very sparsely occupied- buildings? This is just an asinine and costly idea from which no one benefits except construction firms. Secondly, on the newest info/plan/vision just sent out the NW quadrant of the Grant/Country Club intersection was identified as follows (and I quote): [the] northwest portion of the Country Club Center as "Mixed Uses (office, high density residential, and neighborhood commercial as well as "High Density Residential."

This is simply not true. There only is what used to be 'Decorator Square', now SunstatePlaza, and that is certainly not a 'high density residential' area. North from there is SUVA (Southwestern University of Visual Arts) and on the other side of 'Silver Street' is an apartment complex, but it is as close to Glenn as it is to Grant and can thus not be considered to be part of a (any) Grant widening, I would think.

I live on E. Loretta Dr. a small I-shaped street connecting Country Club and Grant on the NW corner of those arterial streets and am, naturally, very concerned about any and all developments so close to where I reside. So are the many other families who live here, I'm sure.

It is important that we get clarification on the map segment in the plan that was sent out yesterday. It only has colors and shapes (p. 59), but does not show how far the purple 'mixed use' block extends since there is only one labeled road: Grant. Thanks for clarifying.

Veronica Ostertag