

Daniel Bursuck - Re: FW: Optional Grant Road Urban Overlay District (Oracle to 1st) Preliminary Draft Posted (Follow-Up)

From: John Falkenstine <falkyjohn@gmail.com>
To: Keeling Neighborhood <keelingneighbors@gmail.com>, Rebecca Ruopp <Rebecc...
Date: 03/30/2017 7:18 PM
Subject: Re: FW: Optional Grant Road Urban Overlay District (Oracle to 1st) Preliminary Draft Posted (Follow-Up)

- Thank you for keeping me on the list for the Grant Road Project.
- First of all, I know that the project is a *fait accompli* for the overall design, and I agree that something needs to be done urgently with the road so it can absorb the volume of traffic which is only going to increase.
- I did not participate in ANY of the design reviews, so whatever is now going to happen is done. However, last year after some severe FATAL accidents on First avenue immediately North of Grant, (one unfortunate person was run over TWICE), I did have the temerity to email a stop work order and a preliminary design to add a PEDESTRIAN OVERPASS on first, North of Grant. This letter and the drawing never received an answer. It was a very nice, swoopy design, which of course costs \$\$\$ but at least would have given some life to the overall dreary generic thing that will now go into place. An intersection designed by a committee. (There are cartoons about a process like that).
- I think that it's very unfortunate that within the sphere of this project, not the least attempt was made to add pedestrian crosswalks north of Grant on first, so can assume that people will continue to have to risk their lives crossing this street. (I can easily supply video evidence of how dangerous First Avenue is to human life.)
- Overall, the Detroit left turn is a debatable item, but it's going to be installed. This design has turned the Oracle road intersection into a wasteland with shriveled vegetation, poor drainage and mediocre lighting at night. (Although the Cactus statue is very nice, but also very lonely).□□
- Tucson's idea of desert landscaping consists of gravel and plants dying of neglect and reams of documentation justifying desert landscaping. The landscaping on any street recently done looks like landscaping on other streets also recently done. It's BORING AND REPETITIVE (my feedback).
- In previous emails on the Oracle intersection, the response from the City was that some litigation was going on.
- The progress of work at the Oracle intersection was glacial. We landed in Normandy and defeated Nazi Germany in LESS time than the Oracle and Grant road intersection project. When it rains, the turn pad east of Oracle on Grant fills up with water and since I'm on a motorcycle this is intimidating. I don't like driving into a lake especially one that expensive (Read: City failure to manage project correctly or perhaps failure to review drawings for decent drainage). Result: I stopped using the intersection and went back to using the very bumpy and rough Park Avenue.
- The current project is the result of working groups and volunteers who set aside a lot of time to work things out. So let it proceed. However, let's not proceed blindly. Let us NOT put in the same awful landscaping as at Oracle and Grant, which looks like it comes out of an old

Sweets catalog. Let's make sure that the intersection does not have the same serious drainage problems and let's get some better lighting. (Lights at Oracle look like fireflies at work high up in the air, with little of the light actually reaching the ground.)

- When it is done, let us celebrate this project. And when we do it again, I'll be there for something.

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- Sincerely, and with some seriousness and a bit of humor,
- John Falkenstine
- Former Director of Engineering, Evergreen Air Center, Pinal Air Park.
- 2851 North Fontana Avenue 85705
- [5202756208](tel:5202756208)

- On Thu, Mar 30, 2017 at 4:53 PM, Keeling Neighborhood <keelingneighbors@gmail.com> wrote:

- Does it matter to you how the land along the widened Grant Road between Oracle and 1st Avenue will be used? Please see the email below. There is a public comment period until April 17.

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- **From:** Daniel Bursuck [mailto:Daniel.Bursuck@tucsonaz.gov]
- **Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 5:02 PM
- **To:** Daniel Bursuck
- **Cc:** Leslie Ethen; Rebecca Ruopp
- **Subject:** Optional Grant Road Urban Overlay District (Oracle to 1st) Preliminary Draft Posted (Follow-Up)

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- Greetings,
- *[Note: You are receiving this email because you have indicated an interest in the Grant Road Improvement Project through attendance at a public meeting or through some other means.]*

- This email is related to the land use planning efforts associated with the Grant Road project, and, in particular, to the **AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW OF THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT OPTIONAL URBAN OVERLAY DISTRICT (UOD) proposed for the Grant Road corridor between Oracle Road and 1st Avenue.** Briefly, an Urban Overlay District (UOD) is an optional zoning for property owners that encourages comprehensively planned, better designed pedestrian, transit-oriented, mixed-use, and urban infill areas by allowing regulatory relief and flexibility for development. Implementation of a UOD does not preclude property owners from developing using the existing underlying zoning regulations.
- The preliminary draft UOD was introduced at the March 2nd Grant Road Citizen Task Force and subsequently posted and noticed. Because City staff has received only limited feedback on the UOD, we are extending the deadline for public review and expanding notification of the documents availability.
- **To obtain a copy of the preliminary draft UOD:** [Click here for link](#)
- **To provide comments (or ask questions):** Contact Daniel Bursuck at Daniel.Bursuck@tucsonaz or Rebecca Ruopp at Rebecca.Ruopp@tucsonaz.gov. If you prefer to phone, you may reach Daniel at [\(520\) 837-4984](tel:5208374984) or Rebecca at [\(520\) 837-6973](tel:5208376973).

- **Extended comment deadline:** Monday, April 17, 2017
- **Next steps:** City staff will compile the comments received and use them to inform revisions to the UOD. The revised draft UOD will be presented first at a future Grant Road Task Force meeting and then at public meetings. Notice of the Task Force meeting and the public meetings will be sent to everyone on the City's Grant Road contact list and to the Ward 3 and 6 Council Offices.
- We appreciate your time and look forward to your feedback.
- Thank you,
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- Dan Bursuck
- Lead Planner
- Planning & Development Services
- City of Tucson
- [520.837.4984](tel:520.837.4984)
- Daniel.Bursuck@tucsonaz.gov
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