

**Meeting Summary**  
City of Tucson  
Ward 4 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)  
September 17, 2008, 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Clements Center, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive

**ATTENDEES:**

**Ward 4 CDRC Members**

Shirley Bila, South Harrison Neighborhood Association (NA)  
Rick Hanson, Civano Neighbors NA  
Rudy Lopez, Rita Ranch NA  
Ken Moyes, Rita Ranch NA  
Randall Pierce, Mesquite Ranch NA  
Bob Small, Civano Neighbors NA  
Al Wiruth, Rita Ranch NA  
Moon Joe Yee, Harrison East South NA

**Ward 4**

Andy Squire, Aide to Council Member Shirley Scott

**Guests**

R. Craig Allison, Engineering and Environmental Consultants, Inc. (EEC)  
Britton Dornquast, Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Mainstreet Assistance  
Dempsey Helms, Arizona State Land Department  
Scott Lantz, Civano Neighbors NA Commercial Areas Working Group  
Tom Willard, Rita Ranch NA

**City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) Staff and Consultants**

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager, Northern (Tanque Verde Road to Old Spanish Trail),  
Central (22nd Street to Valencia Road) and Southern (Valencia Road to Interstate 10)  
segments  
Alejandro Angel, Psomas Project Manager, Central Segment  
Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement  
Arizeder Urreiztieta, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

**MATERIALS:**

- Agenda
- June 18, 2008, CDRC Meeting Summary
- RTA brochures
- Central Segment Design Concept Report (DCR) with 30 percent plans
- Draft Houghton Road Implementation Plan spanning 2008-2019 (included here)

## INFORMATION:

Arizeder opened the meeting by asking those present to introduce themselves and their guests. He reviewed the agenda items and reminded the committee that members of the project team would be available after the meeting for individual questions. In addition he requested that presenters be allowed to complete their presentations before taking questions, and referenced the places in the agenda intended for questions and discussion.

M.J. provided more information about the presence of guest Craig Allison, whose engineering consulting firm EEC would likely be joining the project team. Castro Engineering, previously responsible for both the Southern Segment (Valencia Road to I-10) and the Old Vail Road intersection within the Southern Segment, closed its doors during the summer. EEC's scope of work will focus on, but may not be limited to, the intersection of Houghton Road and Old Vail Road (OVR) and Mary Ann Cleveland (MAC) Way. Reassignment of work for the remainder of the Southern Segment is pending.

By way of a brief update on the Northern Segment (Tanque Verde Road to Old Spanish Trail), M.J. mentioned that it has been divided in two subsegments – Tanque Verde Road to Fifth Street; and Fifth Street to Old Spanish Trail.

M.J. reported that draft 30 percent plans and the DCR for the Central Segment (Old Spanish Trail to Valencia Road) are under review by the City.

M.J. distributed the Implementation Plan with 11 numbered items, beginning with OVR-MAC Way intersection (with anticipated construction start in 2008 or 2009), and ending with the Tanque Verde Road to Speedway Boulevard subsegment (anticipated construction start in 2019). The plan is as follows:

No.	Segment	Anticipated Const. Start
1	MAC Way intersection	2008
2	Irvington (inclusive) to Valencia (inclusive)	2010
3	Broadway intersection	2011
4	Valencia (exclusive) to MAC Way (exclusive)	2011
5	UPRR Bridge	2012
6	Escalante to Irvington	2013
7	Speedway (inclusive) to Broadway (exclusive)	2014
8	Broadway (exclusive) to 22nd (inclusive)	2015
9	22nd (exclusive) to Escalante (inclusive)	2016
10	UPRR to I-10	2018
11	Tanque Verde (inclusive) to Speedway (exclusive)	2019

A discussion period included the following points:

- Clarification that the subsegment from MAC Way to the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) bridge was part of Item 5 on the Implementation Plan.

- Could the subsegment from 22nd Street to Escalante Road be given a higher priority than its current status as Item 9, on account of its high traffic volumes? This will be given consideration.
- Would the project team be available to attend a Civano Neighbors NA-sponsored meeting to discuss public art on the project? This will be given consideration. M.J. also raised the possibility of a briefing for the CDRC on the public art process by a representative of the Tucson Pima Arts Council. M.J. noted that the CDRC would be asked to provide art concepts for the portion of the Houghton Road corridor that pertains to Ward 4.
- The CDRC requested additional information on the tagging of native plants, per the Native Plant Protection Ordinance (NPPO) in the project area. Information will be provided.
- The CDRC requested further evaluation of circulation on Valencia Road just east of Houghton Road, as well as an update from the project team on the status of related suggestions previously shared with John Litteer of Castro and TDOT's Craig Saltzman, then-project manager for the Southern Segment. Available information will be provided.

A brief discussion on noise followed. The CDRC noted that it had been reported in the media that Pima County Department of Transportation was considering sound walls on one of its road improvement projects on the Northwest Side (La Cañada Drive: Calle Concordia to Ina Road). If sound walls are deployed on that project, the CDRC will request similar consideration for Houghton Road. M.J. noted there were several fundamental differences between the two projects, beginning with jurisdiction. Noise-cancellation technology was mentioned as a potential method for noise mitigation. M.J. responded that the technology has been discussed, but that it is not yet refined to the point of being viable. A CDRC member added that improved windows in the home could significantly reduce the impact of outside noise.

The discussion returned to the Item 1 on the Implementation Plan. M.J. reiterated plans for an open house prior to the start of construction on OVR-MAC Way, the start of which was estimated to be in late 2008 or early 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.