

Jennifer Burdick - Re: Broadway Widening Project

From: Jennifer Burdick
To: Robert Hadel
Date: 2/3/2014 6:52 PM
Subject: Re: Broadway Widening Project
CC: Broadway; Richard G. Fimbres

Mr. Hadel,

Thank you for submitting your email for consideration to the Citizens Task Force, and to myself, and by extension, the project team.

I am adding your comments to the Public Input Report, which will be distributed to the Task Force and project team prior to this week's meeting.

I admit that the technical details of the report are beyond my training; however, I will ask our project engineers and designers to review.

Your comments do add to the conversation, and it continues to evolve. There are a diverse spectrum of issues to consider that inter-relate - and conflict - with one another. The points you raise are very important, particularly as we look to what Broadway needs to do to support all users better.

We are in the process of analyzing different alternative road widths for their ability to meet today's needs, as well as tomorrow's (at least 20 years into the future). The issue of congestion is one that larger cities are helping evolving mid-size cities understand a bit better. The streetcar is an example of our community's transition to transit. One of the challenges we will continue to face is how to address our unique issues in our region, while still learning from and incorporating the best practices and trends of other cities and regions. These studies help.

Thank you for forwarding, and I hope you will stay involved in the process.

Thank you,
~Jenn

>>> On 2/1/2014 at 2:12 AM, Robert Hadel <rhadel@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Ms Burdick and the Citizen's Task Force,

I am writing this to include my input and hopefully add insight to the Broadway project. I live at 1803 E 13th St in Tucson which is very close to Broadway Blvd. My family and I use Broadway daily. Primarily as cyclists and pedestrians and sometimes on bus transit. As someone that lives close to Broadway it would be incredibly destructive to add any right of way to the current alignment of Broadway. It seems important that Broadway becomes an urban corridor, and to achieve this we must concentrate on intensifying walkability, pedestrian access, batter mass transit options, and smarter use of the existing footprint. There have been numerous recent studies from very reputable institutions outlining that adding more roads and more lanes to roads only worsens congestion and that congestion is actually lessened as population densities rise in an

area. I can not support any option that increases the right of way of Broadway boulevard as we need to work at connecting the urban neighborhoods in Tucson not creating more barriers preventing both densification and economic development.

I have also included a pdf attachment and a link to a study entitled "The Fundamental Law of Road Congestion:Evidence from US cities" From the University of Toronto Published in 2010. This study shows exactly what my main point in this letter was: That adding lanes or roads does not work to reduce congestion. Only through intensifying the density of development and better accessibility through pedestrian infrastructure and transit will congestion begin to decrease.

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.170.7832&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

I hope that my comments can be considered and add to the discussion of what Broadway will become.
Thank You,

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