

## Broadway - Re: Letter to the Broadway CTF

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**From:** Jennifer Burdick  
**To:** Broadway; Jose D - (jdgarcia) Garcia  
**Date:** 5/29/2014 1:20 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Letter to the Broadway CTF

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Thank you for submitting this letter, which will be forwarded to them for their next meeting.

~Jenn

>>> On 5/29/2014 at 1:14 PM, "Garcia, Jose D - (jdgarcia)" <jdgarcia@email.arizona.edu> wrote:  
Below is a letter to the Broadway Boulevard Citizens' Task Force.

Thanks.

JD Garcia  
3100 E. Calle Portal  
Tucson, AZ 85716

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May 29, 2014

Dear Broadway Project Citizens' Task Force,

Thank you for the many hours you have spent working on our behalf. In the final 4-5 months of the planning for the RTA's Broadway Corridor Project, it appears that you are very close to coming up to what everybody could consider as a win-win situation. We see that as follows: a design that has been tailored to significantly improve the way in which people are able to move **to** the Broadway corridor as a destination, as well as move through it as a corridor, but a corridor in the heart of a thriving metropolitan area.

The block-by-block analysis of the layout will give you an opportunity to explore in detail the implications of the proposed changes. You have already expressed a strong desire to do as little damage to existing business and historical structures as possible, while remaking the roadway to be more efficient in moving people by as many means as possible.

Broadway Project staff and Transportation Director Cole have mentioned that a 6 lane, 96 foot right-of-way was possible. Actually, it is not hard at all to conceive of a proper 6 lane road in a right-of-way as narrow as 88 feet (the minimum right-of-way within the project currently is ~84 feet): 4 car lanes at ten feet, plus 2 twelve foot transit lanes, plus 2 five foot bicycle lanes, plus 2 four foot sidewalks plus 2 three foot separators. Of course, the roadway is already wider than that in most parts of the study area. As you can see, the above estimate was obtained without any attempt at using all the tools available for designing smart roadways. A creative design team can use its expertise to find ways to make the throughput per minute larger without destroying the sense of place in the process. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the city of Tucson to shine.

We believe you share our goal of a thriving, livable Tucson. We have a vision of how the Broadway Project will contribute to that goal. We envision an attractive two mile stretch of road that has been tailored to be

a mix of flourishing businesses, from the Sunshine Mile to Broadway Village, and historic properties that have been enhanced through reinvestment because the situation has been stabilized, supported by city-owned parks, parking structures or parking lots (utilizing in part vacant City-owned property). We see a road that periodically has wider right-of-way to accommodate turn lanes, and synchronized traffic control lights helping to make automobile throughput more efficient for those wishing they could stay but needing to move on. We see pedestrians being able to get across the street in well-marked, well lit attractive cross walks. And we see the large copper plaque on an elegant pedestal honoring the City of Tucson for best design and creative enhancement of an existing destination while improving the functionality of the major arterial at its center.

We ask you to challenge the Design team to give you plans that push the limits of minimizing the right-of-way footprint of the roadway and to incorporate elements that to reinforce a sense of a living community, while improving throughput for those who need to move through. We believe this can be done if we are clever and determined. Be not deterred by the easiest layouts; insist on creating a roadway we can all be proud of. Focusing **only** on moving automobiles rapidly at the cost of creating a bleak landscape should not, in our view, be an option, in part because the traffic data do not support that, but mostly because it makes Tucson a much less desirable place to live.

We applaud your efforts to date, and urge you to insist on a creative solution that is truly a win for Tucson.

JD Garcia  
For the Broadway Coalition