

Meeting Summary
City of Tucson
Ward 4 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)
Jan. 23, 2008
Clements Center, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive

ATTENDEES:

Ward 4 CDRC Members

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

Guests

Roger Montemayor, Mesquite Ranch NA
Scott Lantz, Civano Neighbors NA Commercial Areas Working Group
Elliot Silverston, URS/Arizona State Land Department

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

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager, Central (22nd Street to Valencia Road)
and Northern (Speedway Boulevard to 22nd Street) Segments
Craig Saltzman, TDOT Project Manager, Southern Segment (Valencia Road
to Interstate 10)
John Litterer, Castro Engineering Corp. Project Manager, Southern Segment
Joel Harris, Castro Engineering Corp. Project Engineer
Alejandro Angel, Psomas Project Manager, Central Segment
Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement
Arizeder Urreiztieta, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

MATERIALS:

- Agenda
- Nov. 28, 2007, CDRC Meeting Summary
- Handout on noise levels and noise abatement
- Handout on reclaimed water
- Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) handout with project list and funding schedule

SUMMARY:

Arizeder Urreiztieta of Gordley Design Group opened the meeting with general announcements about schedules and materials. M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager, presented background information on key topics that had been touched upon at the previous meeting: reclaimed water, RTA funding and noise abatement. Due to the number of questions on sound, it was suggested

that the discussion on sound be carried into the next meeting, where an Arizona Department of Transportation video on noise mitigation might be played. It was also suggested that a TDOT traffic expert speak on traffic speeds at a future meeting. Arizerder added that where possible, links to the aforementioned information resources would be posted on the project Web site.

With respect to reclaimed water, it was stated that Tucson does not currently have long-term range Capital Improvement Plans to extend reclaimed water lines further south along Houghton Road. Extension of reclaim lines can be funded privately. Members of the project team indicated they would refer to Council Member Shirley Scott's office the CDRC's request for further information about any likely reclaimed-water-use developments in the project area. It was suggested that those in attendance visit the Tucson Water Web site for more information: <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/reclaimed>

John Litteer, Castro Project Manager, and Alejandro Angel, Psomas Project Manager, gave brief overviews of the status of the Southern and Central Segments, respectively. While the Southern Segment's Design Concept Report with 30-percent plans are being delivered to TDOT, the Central Segment's DCR and 30-percent plans were submitted to TDOT for review in mid-January. M.J. Dillard also indicated that TDOT expected to review a draft of an implementation plan in March 2008.

Members of the Rita Ranch NA expressed a desire for a field review to discuss commercial developments at the southeast corner of the intersection of Valencia and Houghton Roads. John Litteer, Joel Harris and Craig Saltzman agreed to the meeting and requested that Gordley Design Group schedule the meeting.

Discussion was held regarding street lighting. Alejandro and John described that the current concept includes street lighting at the signalized intersections for safety. CDRC members asked about the use of solar power for street lighting. Craig Saltzman, TDOT Project Manager, explained that the City uses solar power in many areas around town, but the types of light used here require more power than a reasonable number of solar batteries provide under current technology. M.J. made mention of the City's night sky ordinance availability online.

A large portion of the meeting's discussion centered on the issue of the scope of review of the CDRC, and on seeking ways to clarify the process and role of the CDRC. Jan Gordley expressed her desire to present information at the next meeting, in consultation with Ward 4 offices, which would provide clarification on the role of the CDRC.

Topics that brought the scope of review into discussion included speed limit, and how and whether decisions on speed limit had been made by TDOT. The project team received specific requests from the CDRC to [a] consider a 50 mph speed limit on Houghton Road south of Irvington Road and [b] to provide information on whether policy decisions on speed limits in the project area are, or are not, final, and how CDRC input has or has not affected any such decisions.

After further discussion on whether there would be enough new project information to warrant a February meeting, it was agreed that a February meeting would be useful with three main topics:

the process and scope of review of the CDRC, the video on noise abatement, and a TDOT presentation on traffic that will include a discussion of how traffic safety administrators and engineers arrive at their speed-limit recommendations.

TDOT will schedule a corridor utility coordination meeting with all utilities in the area. In addition, Gordley Design Group will stay in contact with Ward 4 regarding coordination between Westcor and TDOT.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

The next meeting of the CDRC will be held Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2008, at 6 p.m. in the Clements Center. A reminder e-mail will be sent ahead of the date.