



KINO PARKWAY – 22ND STREET INTERSECTION & WIDENING TO TUCSON BOULEVARD



Kino Parkway – 22nd Street Intersection Improvements Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #25 Meeting Summary – June 10, 2010

The 25th meeting of the CAC was held from 6:15-7:15 pm June 10, 2010 at the Patrick K. Hardesty Midtown Center, 1100 South Alvernon Way.

CAC members in attendance: Ivo Ortiz, Elaine Ward, Claire Fellows, Bill Seitz, Les Pierce, Jamey Sumner, Brett DuMont, and George Kalil.

Absent CAC members: Wright Thomas, Sandra Zepeda, and Dirck Schou.

Project staff in attendance: Janice Cuaron, Edie Griffith-Metty, Claudia Perchinelli, John Jolly, Barbara Grygutis, Britton Dornquast, Darlene Showalter, Dave Dobler, Priscilla Fernandez, Nanette Pageau and Freda Johnson.

1. Welcome and Introductions; Confirm Quorum

Chairman Ivo Ortiz called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and turned the meeting over to moderator Freda Johnson. Freda Johnson announced that a quorum was present and invited all present to introduce themselves and state their affiliations.

2. Review Ground Rules for Meetings/Meeting Summary/Agenda Item Order

Freda Johnson reviewed the ground rules and acknowledged the summary of the previous meeting. By general agreement, the CAC accepted the meeting summary of the November 19, 2009 meeting as distributed. Freda Johnson announced that two CAC members had let her know that they needed to leave at 7:10 pm and that meant there would no longer be a quorum for the meeting and the meeting would be adjourned at that point.

3. Call to the Audience

Freda Johnson invited members of the audience to address the CAC. Linda Kay asked how long it would be before this project would begin and she reported her distress over the fact that this project disrupts her family's life and that her family had lived in the area for over fifty years. No other audience members came forth to address the CAC.

4. Project Updates on Kino Parkway/22nd Street Intersection and Widening to Tucson Boulevard.

Subtopics: Park Avenue Traffic Signal Update and Art / Lighting / Bridge / Architecture / Landscape Architecture Updates.

Edie Griffith-Metty reported that project team staff had been working with residents of the Armory Park Neighborhood Association to mitigate effects of a new signal at 18th Street and Park Avenue. She said that progress is being made. Dave Dobler presented an overview of the art/lighting/bridge architecture/landscape architecture topics to be addressed in the status report to the CAC. He introduced Darlene Showalter who said that her focus was on the intersection of Kino and 22nd. She illustrated her comments with photos showing the sidewalk design pattern and the intent to provide repetitive design elements based on the aesthetic treatment presented at earlier meetings. Elaine Ward asked about how graffiti can be prevented. Darlene Showalter said that she would look into materials that are resistant to graffiti. Darlene Showalter continued and said that there would be different sizes of rocks and textures for benches and sidewalks. She commented that some palo verde trees would be removed and replaced. Predominant colors to be used were sage green and silver for the back panels. She was asked if she was going to salvage any Blue Palo Verde trees, and responded by saying they are not a long-lived specimen.

Dave Dobler reviewed the general plan for the bridge and elevation. He said that 90% of the design is completed for the intersection. There would be a stepped retaining wall under the bridge. He circulated samples colors of the shades of green to be used. Barbara Grygutis summarized the sculptural art elements. John Jolly presented information about how lighting for the art, walkway and roadway would appear.

Brett DuMont asked about lighting for the art sculptures. John Jolly said that this lighting would be for accenting the vertical artwork and is able to be on all night long, and still meet the lighting codes. Jamey Sumner asked if there were other variations of light posts, in particular the high-mast lighting. John Jolly said that several options had been presented at prior meetings, but that the Committee agreed on the lighting presented tonight. Edie Griffith-Metty said that although the City had accepted use of the high mast lights before, they prefer the lighting that John presented especially considering how high mast lights can spill over into adjacent neighborhoods. George Kalil suggested that there should be an option for security cameras in this project area.

5. Project Schedule

Edie Griffith-Metty presented the project schedule and said that the eastern end of the project would be done separately. She said that there would be two more CAC meetings that would be held after 30% design completion and after 75% design completion. Elaine Ward asked if potholes on the bridge would be repaired before construction began. Staff said they were unsure of this and that Elaine Ward should contact TDOT for further information. Claire Fellows asked how traffic would be managed once construction began. Staff said that a traffic management plan would be developed to address this once a contractor is hired.

Janice Cuaron reported that the RTA is undergoing an assessment of all Phase 2 RTA projects and audits are being conducted that would possibly delay progress at least three months. Brett DuMont asked if all these projects will be fully funded regardless of this audit, and Janice said yes.

6. Construction Sequencing for Kino/22nd Interchange

Edie Griffith-Metty spoke about construction sequencing and said that for Phase 1 of the construction, circulation roads would go in first. Edie Griffith-Metty and Claudia Perchinelli summarized the sequencing of detours and circulation. Also exhibited were bus stop locations to be established during construction. Bridge construction was also explained in detail through a PowerPoint Presentation.

Elaine Ward commented that there would be a Costco warehouse and the University of Arizona Bio Center in the project vicinity that will create heavy traffic, and she wondered how the traffic will go through the intersection during construction. Edie Griffith-Metty said that there will always be two lanes in each direction with left turn lanes during construction. Claudia Perchinelli reported that it would take at the most, 21 months to complete the Kino bridge over 22nd Street. Claire Fellows asked how neighbors would get updated project information and staff responded by saying that the contractor will update people regularly during construction.

7. Discuss Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

It was agreed that flexibility is needed at this point to predict future meetings, and Edie Griffith-Metty reiterated that there would probably be two final CAC meetings before construction begins.

8. Call to the Audience

Dave Kay said that he was speaking on behalf of one family that is being relocated. He said that many of the features raise the costs and this is a fact of life. He said he is concerned about acquisitions being done in this very low market. He said he was frustrated that elderly people are being displaced at the same time that money is being spent on artwork and other features. Appraisals are much lower now than 2-3 years ago. And that people are suffering.

Al Garcia said he felt that the height of the bridge should be flattened out and that steps should be taken to keep pigeons away from the project because they are so messy.

Mark Mayer, representing the Billboard Review Committee and the Julia Keen Neighborhood as well as the 29th Street Corridor Coalition, said that he had expressed concerns to this CAC 2-3 years ago about billboards. He said that it is a matter of code and policy that there be no relocation of nonconforming billboards in this project. He said that it is a legal matter. He said that there are three billboards in the right-of-way for this project and that the RTA should be concerned about this issue.

9. Adjournment

There no longer being a quorum at 7:15 pm, the meeting was adjourned.