



Kolb Road: Connection to Sabino Canyon Road



Fact Sheet Aug. 4, 2011

Overview

The City of Tucson, in conjunction with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), is planning improvements to Sabino Canyon Road from just north of Tanque Verde Road to Kolb Road. The proposed improvements include two lanes of traffic in each direction, bike lanes and sidewalks along Sabino Canyon Road. This project is part of the \$2.1 billion, 20-year RTA plan that was approved by voters in May 2006.

Purpose and Need

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve mobility and relieve traffic congestion at the Tanque Verde Road and Grant Road intersection. Studies indicate the Tanque Verde Road and Grant Road intersection is one of the most dangerous and polluted intersections in Pima County. Allowing traffic to move freely through Sabino Canyon Road, and bypass the Tanque Verde Road and Grant Road intersection, is projected to significantly improve mobility and reduce congestion and pollution in the area.

Improvements and Construction Schedules

• **Tanque Verde Road and Sabino Canyon Road Intersection**

Sabino Canyon Road: The southbound approach to the intersection will be reconfigured to have two through lanes, two right-turn lanes and two left-turn lanes. The northbound approach will be rebuilt with two left-turn lanes, two through lanes and one right-turn lane. Improvements will start approximately 1,500 feet north of Tanque Verde Road and extend to approximately 1,000 feet south of Tanque Verde Road.

Tanque Verde Road: The eastbound approach to the intersection will have three through lanes and two left-turn lanes. The westbound approach will have three through lanes, one right-turn lane and one left-turn lane. The improvements will extend from 1,000 feet east to 200 feet west of the intersection.

Other work includes improving drainage, relocating the existing bus layover station to about 500 feet south of its current location on Sabino Canyon Road just south of Tanque Verde Road, and providing bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on the east side of Sabino Canyon Road.

These improvements are funded through the RTA. Utility relocation work began in July 2011, and construction is expected to be completed in spring 2012.

• **Sabino Canyon Road extension south to Kolb Road**

These proposed improvements, currently in conceptual design, would provide two lanes in each direction connecting to a new intersection with Kolb Road, located approximately 0.3 miles north of Speedway Boulevard.

These improvements would include a new signalized intersection at Kolb Road and the new Sabino Canyon Road extension, a new traffic signal at the new Sabino Canyon Road extension and Crestline Drive, drainage improvements, a bridge on top of the Vincent Mullins Landfill and over the Pantano Wash, and pedestrian and bicycle connections to Udall Park from the Pantano River Park.

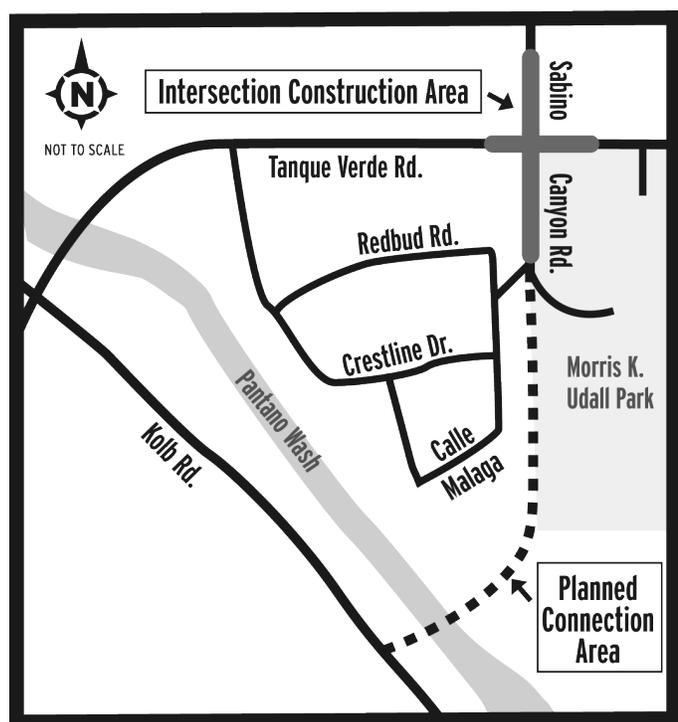
The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is participating in these improvements, which would be funded through the City of Tucson, RTA and FHWA. Federal funding is contingent upon the completion of the environmental process. The Environmental Assessment (EA) is anticipated to be drafted in late 2011, and the environmental process is anticipated to be completed in late 2012. Construction is anticipated to begin upon completion of the EA process and would take approximately 12 months to complete.

Public Involvement

Through the course of the project, there have been ongoing meetings with the public, a community-based Task Force, area businesses and nearby residents and neighborhood/homeowners' associations. Input at these meetings has contributed to several design and construction considerations and modifications.

A construction open house to meet the selected construction contractor for intersection improvements is anticipated for September 2011. The purpose of this meeting will be to provide information about possible construction impacts to local residents and businesses. A public hearing to present and gather input on the environmental documents for the Sabino Canyon Road extension to Kolb Road is anticipated for spring 2012.

Project Map



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