

Meeting Summary

City of Tucson Department of Transportation
Ward 4 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)

Jan. 12, 2010, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Clements Center, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive

ATTENDEES:

Ward 4 CDRC Members

Rudy Lopez, Rita Ranch Neighborhood Association (NA)

Keith Miller, Mesquite Ranch NA

Moon Joe Yee, South Harrison NA

Scott Lantz, Civano NA

Robert Small, Civano NA

Guests

John Litterer, Citizen

Blessing Hancock, Houghton Road Corridor Art Planner

Nina Borgia-Aberle, Houghton Road Corridor Art Planner

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

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager

Alejandro Angel, Psomas Project Manager, Central Segment

Melissa Benton, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

Alice Templeton, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

MATERIALS

- Agenda
- Implementation plan map
- Art planner fact sheet
- Art planner questionnaire
- Art planner map
- Public meeting evaluation form

INTRODUCTIONS

- Alice showed the CDRC members the new detailed map depicting the neighborhoods represented by the CDRC members.
- Issues not on the agenda to be discussed later will be recorded on the list known as the “parking lot.”
- Alice requested that any visitors speak during the designated time at the end of the meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES

- Rudy Lopez shared his experience in serving on the panel designed for the selection of the consultant team for the design of Houghton Road: Valencia Road to Interstate 10. He announced the selection of Psomas.
- The Houghton Road Corridor project is comprised of eleven segments.
- There is a plan to accelerate the Houghton Road and Valencia Road intersection project so it coincides with the Houghton Road: Irvington Road to Valencia Road project.
- New federal money is available for the Houghton Corridor. This will be used to start the portion of roadway between the bridge over the railroad to I-10.
- Construction continues on the Houghton Road and Old Vail Road intersection, and will be completed by early spring.
- The Houghton Road: Irvington Road to Valencia Road project is moving from 75 percent to 90 percent design completion.
- The Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard intersection project 75 percent design has been submitted for review to TDOT.
- Art planners have been selected for the Houghton Road Corridor.
- The relocation of the monument walls at the Old Vail Road intersection, entering Rita Ranch Neighborhood, was discussed. M.J. solicited input on the best location for the new walls. Rudy Lopez suggested waiting until the intersection construction is complete to make any decisions. The committee concurred.

ART PLANNER UPDATES

- Blessing Hancock and Nina Borgia-Aberle did a PowerPoint presentation on funding sources, the art planning process and examples of art.
- The Houghton Road art planners will not create art, but rather seek input from the community on the art, including locations for the art throughout the Corridor. They will then create the general art plan. The art plan will help the future artists selected to connect with the community.
- The art planners asked the CDRC members to act as ambassadors for the art planning and to share the information they presented with their community.
- Blessing and Nina both have a strong art background.
- They passed out a questionnaire to be distributed to residents to get feedback on the area.
- They also distributed a map designed for the community to draw their daily routes, as well as to provide input. The CDRC members were encouraged to practice mapping their individual routes prior to distributing the maps to their neighbors.
- Attendees were encouraged to write down thoughts on the art plan.
- The art planners' PowerPoint presentation and materials will be available on the Houghton Road Web site.

GENERAL

- The Houghton Road and Old Vail Road intersection construction work was temporarily delayed due to unexpected minor utility issues, but is now on schedule.
- The Valencia intersection construction will be scheduled for completion at the same time as the Irvington Road to Valencia Road segment.

- The landscaping for the Houghton Road and Old Vail Road intersection will be installed when the Valencia Road to Old Vail Road project is constructed.
- Landscape architects for the Houghton Road Corridor will be working closely with the artists.
- Alice distributed a public meeting evaluation form to get CDRC member input regarding the public process.

PARKING LOT

- Houghton Road Railroad Bridge update
- Greenway location
- Salvaging trees for neighborhoods
- Speed limit on Old Vail Road and Rita Road
- Implementation plan schedule
- Light pole replacement schedule (at Old Vail Road)

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.