

Meeting Summary

City of Tucson

Ward 2 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)

Houghton Road, Northern Segment: Speedway Boulevard to 22nd Street

Sept. 4, 2007

Tucson Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd.

ATTENDEES:

Ward 2 CDRC Members

Paul Gegenheimer

Fran Johnson

Frank Salbego, Eastside Neighborhood Association (NA)

Tom Stefanek, Mesquite Trails NA

Ward 2

Lorraine Hernandez, Aide to Council Member Carol West

Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) Staff and Consultants

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager, Houghton Road Northern Segment (Speedway Boulevard to 22nd Street) and Central Segment (22nd Street to Valencia Road)

Ricardo Pargas, PB Project Manager, Northern Segment

Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

Arizeder Urreiztieta, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

HANDOUTS PROVIDED

- Aerial photo and issues map
- Existing traffic volumes

INFORMATION

Meetings

The first public meeting for this segment of the Houghton Road Corridor widening project will be held Sept. 13, 2007, at 6 p.m. in the East Tucson Baptist Church. Information on the meeting has been disseminated by a variety of methods including postcards, paid newspaper ads and the project Web site: www.houghtonroad.info. Visual information for the meeting will be based on the handouts provided at this meeting. A summary of public comments submitted at the meeting and during the two-week period following will comprise a bound meeting summary. The comments will also be posted to the project Web site.

The project team has been invited to the Dec. 5, 2007, meeting of the Eastside Neighborhood Association at Ward 2 offices. Meeting time is 7 p.m.

Processes, Orientation and History

An overview was given of public involvement process and input, advisory committees and future public involvement specifics. Other items addressed: Project orientation, Houghton Road Corridor Study (HRCS), Houghton Road Master Plan (HAMP), Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), the Central and Southern segments of the HRC project and the role of the TDOT project manager in promulgating City of Tucson policies.

Project Information and Discussion

Design Progress: Design concept work is beginning in this segment of Houghton Road. The project is largely in the data collection phase, with soil testing soon to follow. Other parameters that will come up shortly include drainage, access management, right-of-way and landscape design.

The consultant for the Northern Segment (Speedway Boulevard to 22nd Street) is PB. The consultants for the two other segments – Psomas for the Central Segment (22nd Street to Valencia Road) and Castro for the Southern Segment (Valencia Road to Interstate 10) – began work at different times and their progress may be slightly different as the project moves forward.

Construction Phasing: Public needs and input will help shape prioritization of project construction. Thirty-percent plans and construction sequencing are the goal by year's end. Under this plan, construction in some specific areas would then begin by the end of 2008.

Intersections: The RTA plan requires that intersections be designed as at-grade intersections. Although the HRCS identified a grade-separated intersection (outside the Northern Segment Scope) at Valencia Road, a grade-separated intersection will not be a part of the current design.