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Balancing the Natural and Built Environment

Public Meeting

March 27, 2012

Kolb Rd.: Connection to Sabino Canyon

COT Project No. SR8A

CITY OF TUCSON

RTA Regional Transportation Authority

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Welcome and Introductions

- **Janice Cuaron**

  City of Tucson, Project Manager

- **Jan Gordley**

  Gordley Group, Public Involvement

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Sabino Canyon/Tanque Verde Intersection Construction Update

- **Joe Chase, PE**

  City of Tucson, Construction Manager

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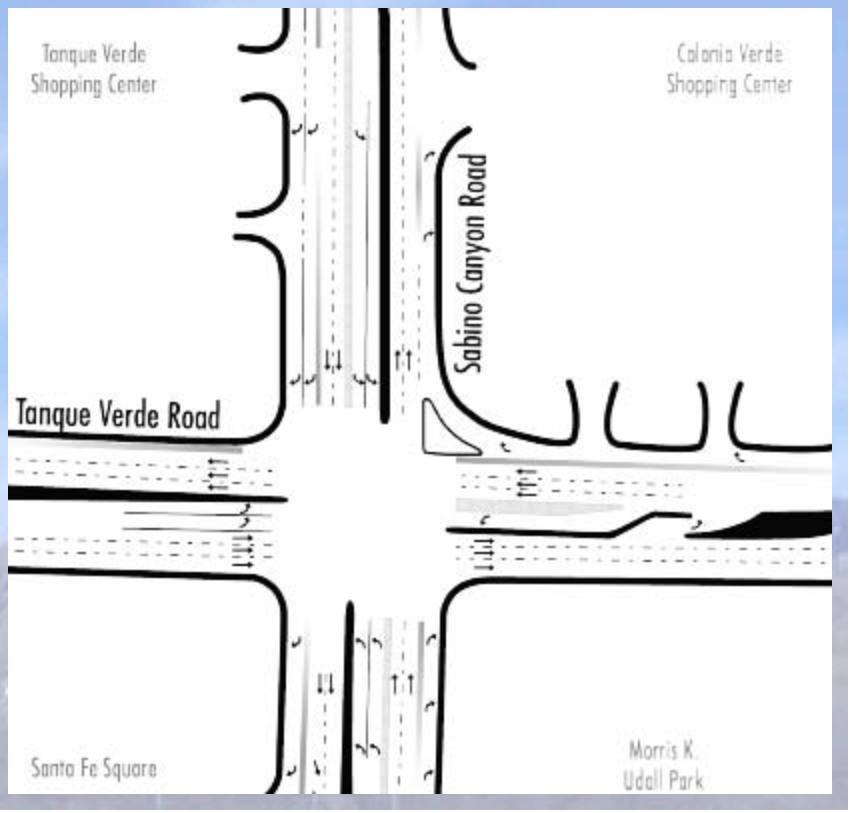
Sabino Canyon and Tanque Verde Intersection Improvements

- Construction Cost - $3.45M
  - RTA Funded
- Estimated Completion Date
  - August 2012



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Budget Update

- **Total Budget - $21,564,233**
  - RTA Funds - $9,104,000
  - Federal Funds - $11,750,000
  - City Funds - $710,233

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KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Budget Update

- **Design Cost - $3,700,000**
  - Planning - $1,300,000
  - Intersection Design - $700,000
  - Connection Design - $1,100,000
  - Design Administration - $600,000
  - To Date - $2,228,719
- **Construction Cost - $17,645,394**
  - Intersection Construction - $3,345,394
  - Connection Construction - $12,100,000
  - Construction Administration - $2,200,000
  - To Date - $1,289,813

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Project Update/Alternatives Analysis

- **Kevin Thornton, PE**

  Psomas, Project Manager

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Update

- **Public Meetings**
  - March 27, 2012
  - June 23, 2010
  - February 10, 2010
  - September 10, 2009
- **Task Force Meetings**
  - March 1, 2011
  - November 9, 2010
  - May 25, 2010

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Update

- **Task Force Meetings (con't)**
  - January 26, 2010
  - November 19, 2009
- **Udall Park Master Plan Update**
  - Approved by Mayor and Council – June 7, 2011

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Update

- **Homeowner/Neighborhood Association Meetings**
  - Pantano II Homeowners Association
  - Udall Park Neighborhood Association
  - Dorado Country Club Estates

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Update

- **Business Outreach Meetings**
  - 110 businesses in district
  - August 2011
  - June 2010
  - February 2010
  - June 2009
- **Project Website**

  tucsonaz.gov/project/kolb-sabino-canyon

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KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Project Need

- Relieve Traffic Congestion at Tanque Verde/ Grant/Kolb
- Improve Air Quality
- Improve Regional Mobility

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Alternatives Analysis

1. Sabino Canyon Extension
2. Grade Separation Alternatives
3. Parkways
4. Indirect Left Turns
5. Prudence Alignment
6. Snyder Bridge
7. No Build

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1. Sabino Canyon Extension

- Begins just south of Tanque Verde
- Construction Estimate – $12.1M
  - Federal, RTA and local funding
- 4-lane Roadway
- Includes
  - Bike lanes and sidewalks
  - Bridge over landfill
  - Bridge over the Pantano Wash
  - Public art
  - Landscaping

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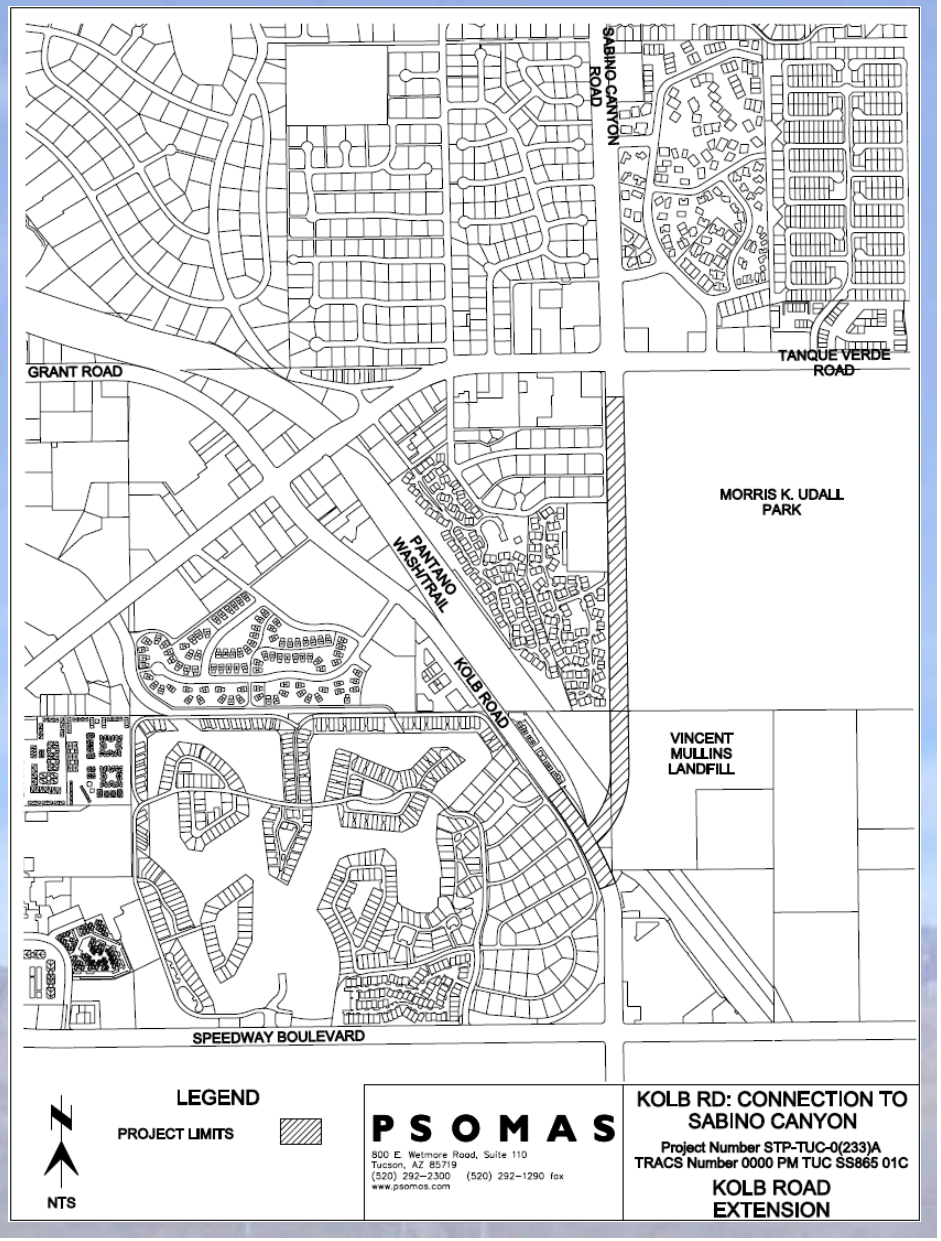
1. Sabino Canyon Extension



P S O M A S

2. Grade Separation Intersection (GSI) Alternatives

- 1989 Environmental Design and Mitigation Report
- 3 Alternatives
  - Extension of Kolb with 3 GSIs
  - 3 GSIs
  - No Build

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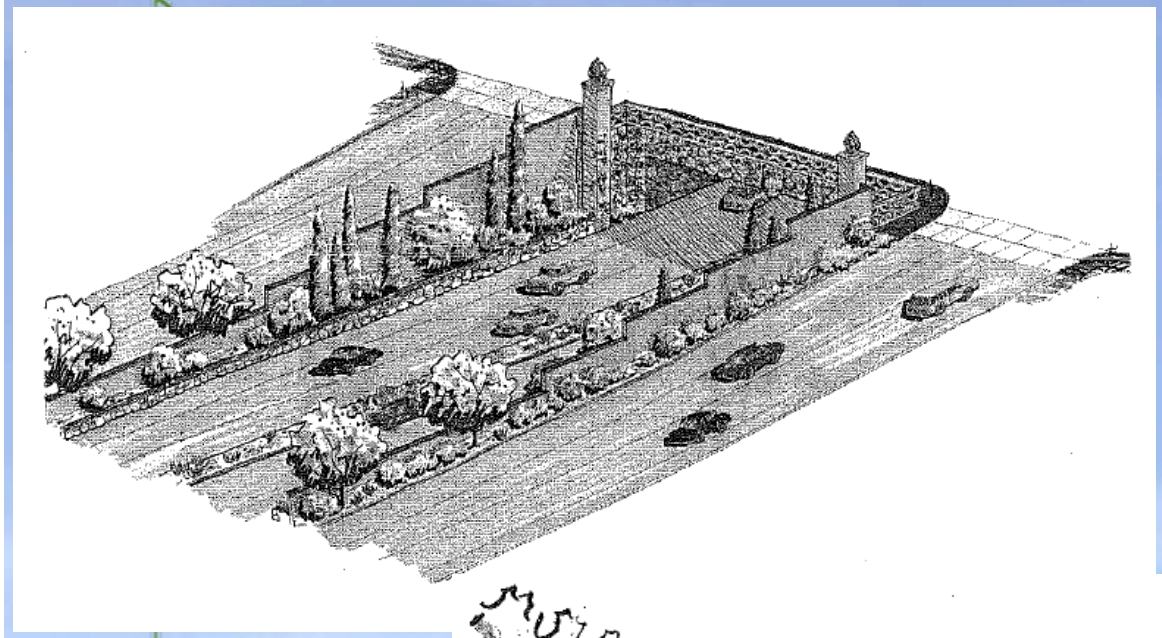

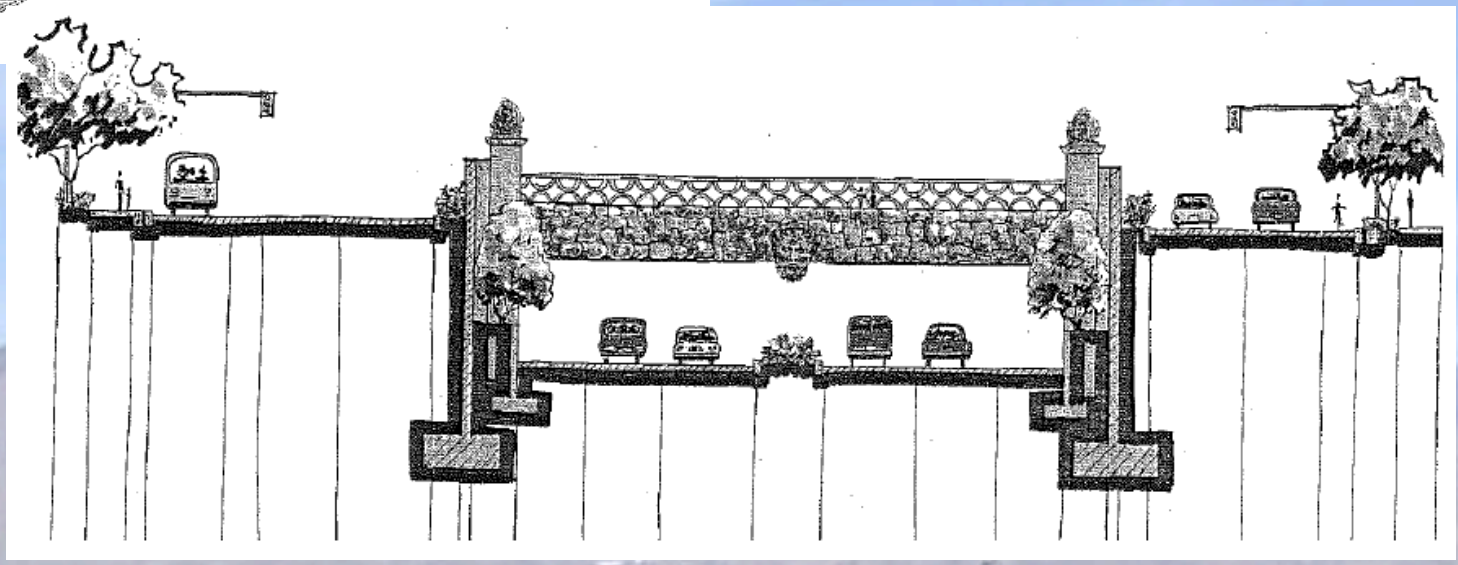

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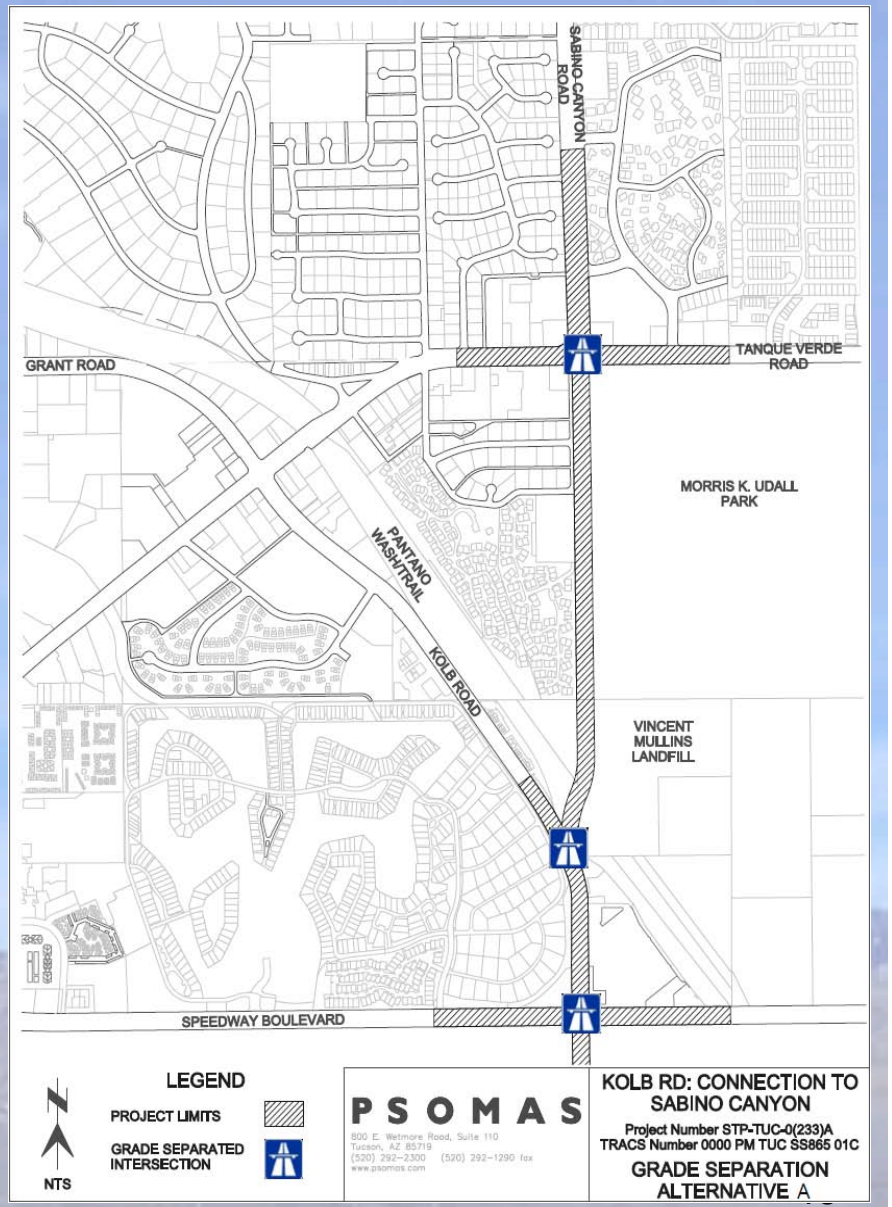
Kolb Extension with 3 GSIs

- 2012 Cost Estimate
  - $108M - $148M
- Major Property Acquisitions (Lowe's)
- Significant Business Access Impacts



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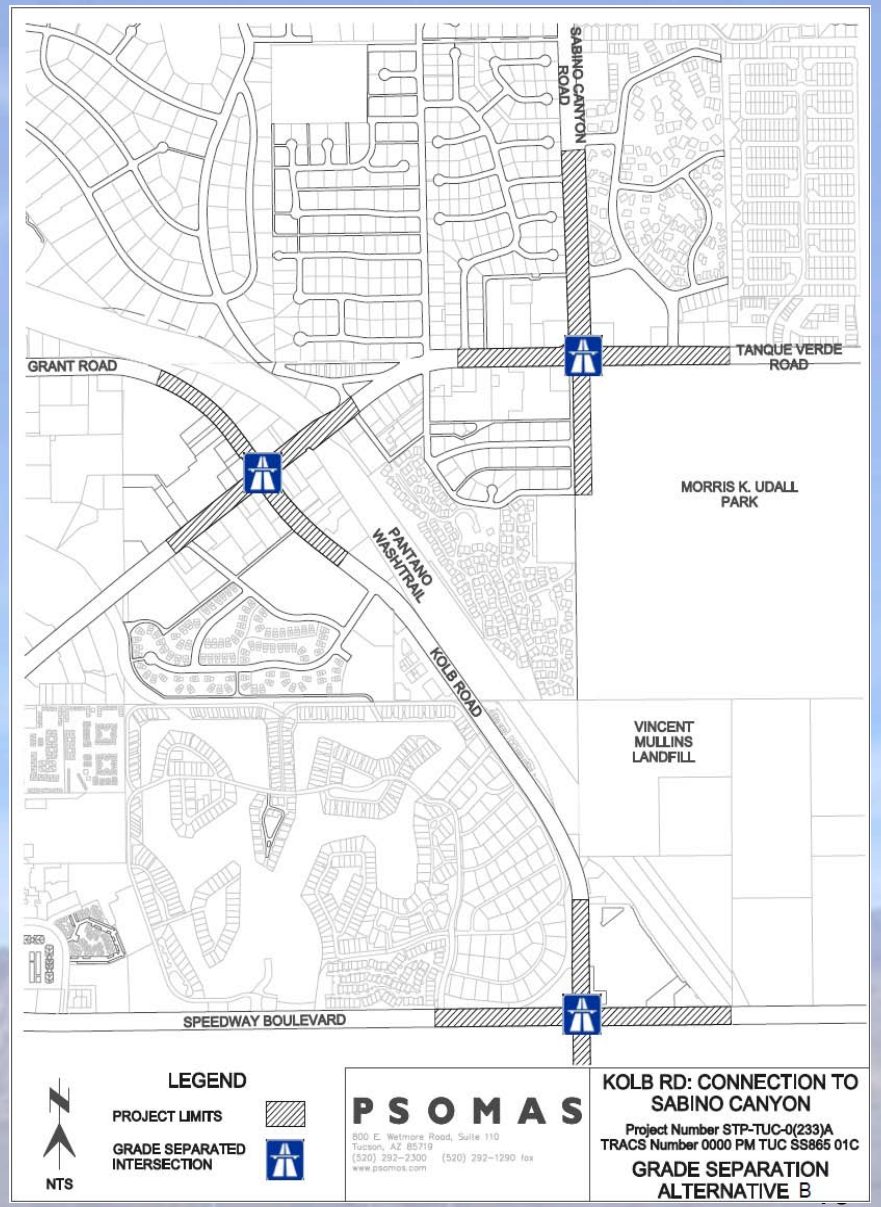
3 GSIs

- 2012 Cost Estimate
  - $64M - $67M
- Significant Business Access Impacts



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2. Grade Separation Alternatives

- 1990 City Council voted to select the No Build Alternative
- 2002 Proposition 400
  - Included GSI at Tanque Verde/Grant/Kolb
  - Defeated 68% to 32%
- Eliminated from further consideration

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3. Parkways

- Example – Aviation Highway

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3. Parkways

- Parkways increase capacity by controlling access to the roadway
- Access at major arterials only
- No direct access to businesses or neighborhoods
- Eliminated from further consideration

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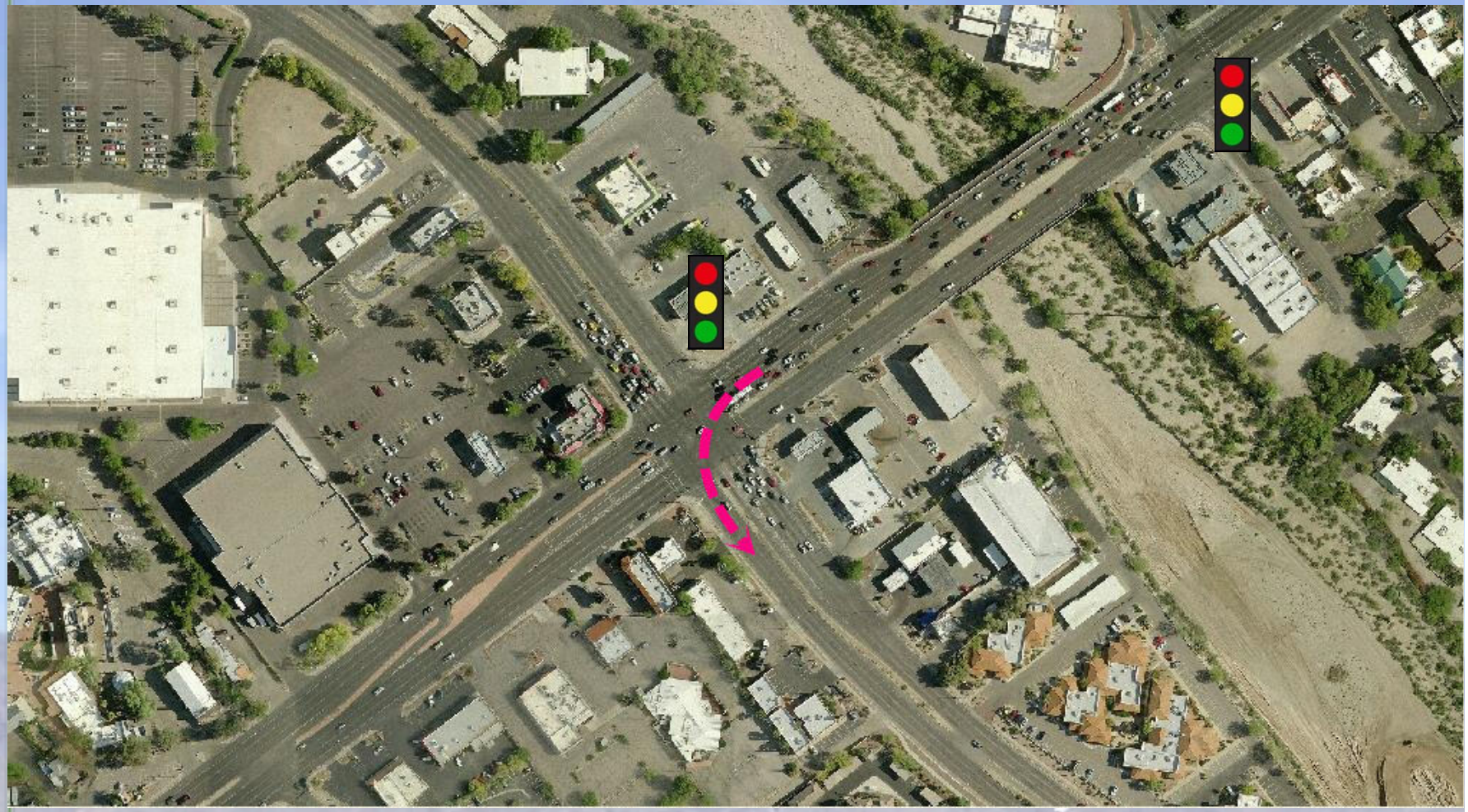
4. Indirect Lefts



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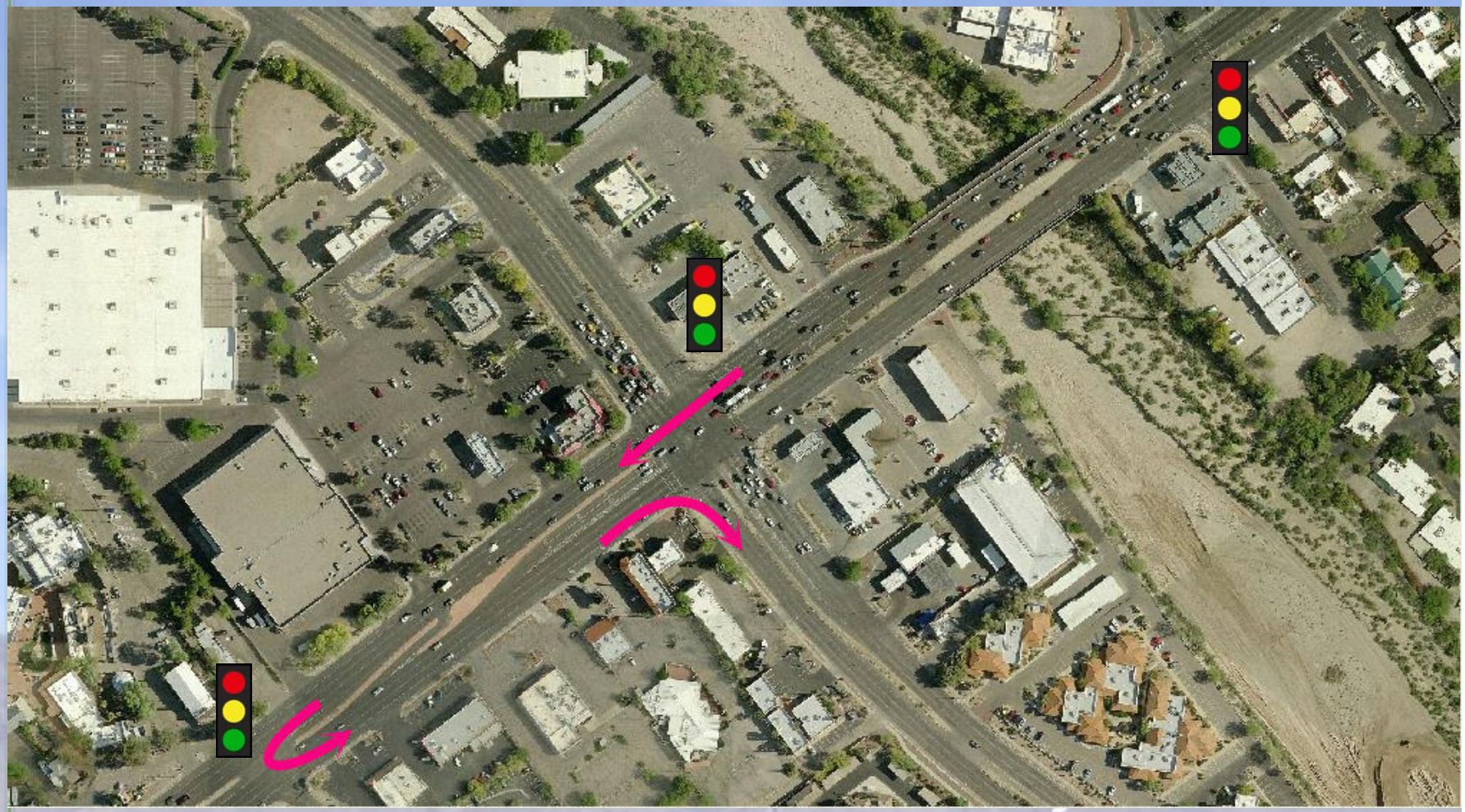
4. Indirect Lefts



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4. Indirect Lefts

- Delay is substantially higher than the Sabino Canyon Extension
- Eliminated from further consideration

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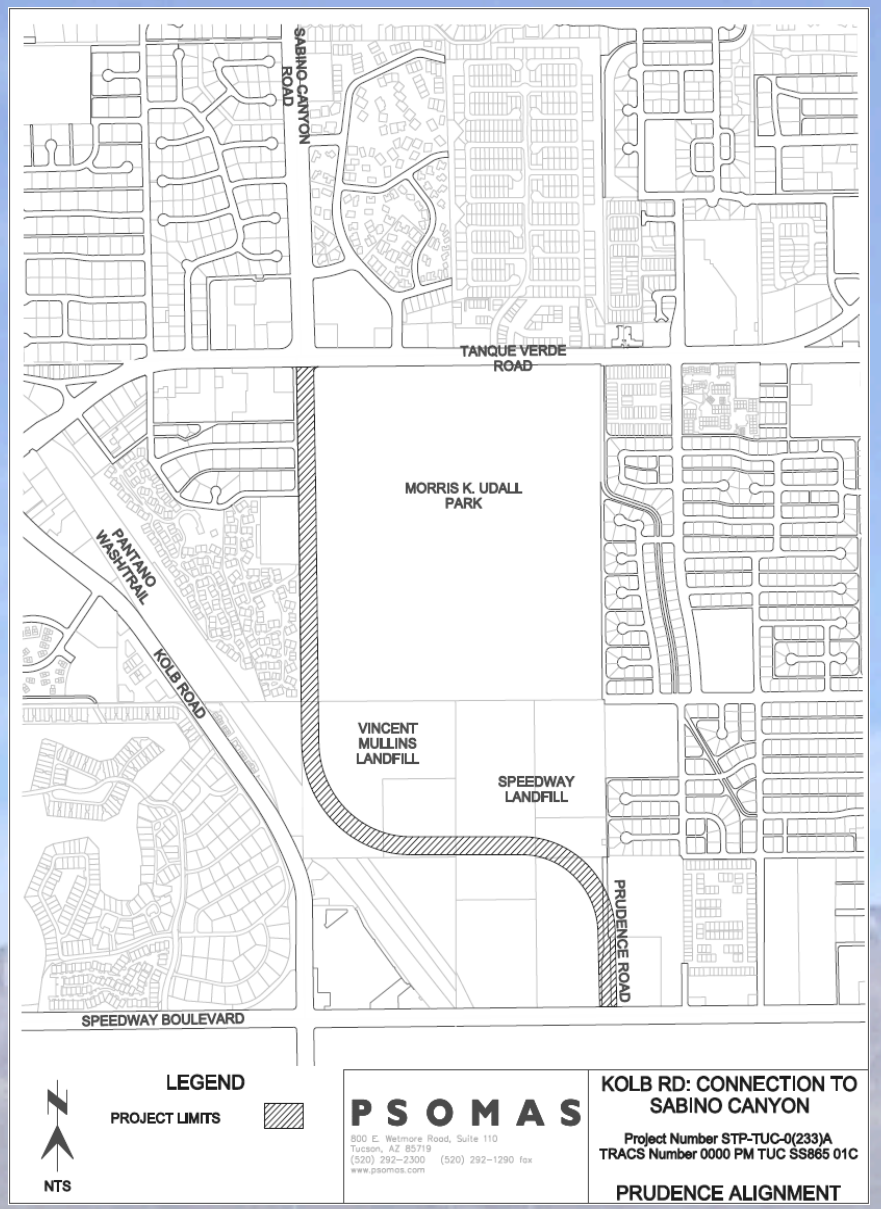
5. Prudence Alignment



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5. Prudence Alignment

- Would not connect to the north-south arterial grid (examples – Kolb, Pantano)
- Additional Right-of-way (ROW) from residential and commercial properties
- Would lengthen the Vincent Mullins Landfill bridge
- Would require a bridge and ROW over a private landfill
- Eliminated from further consideration

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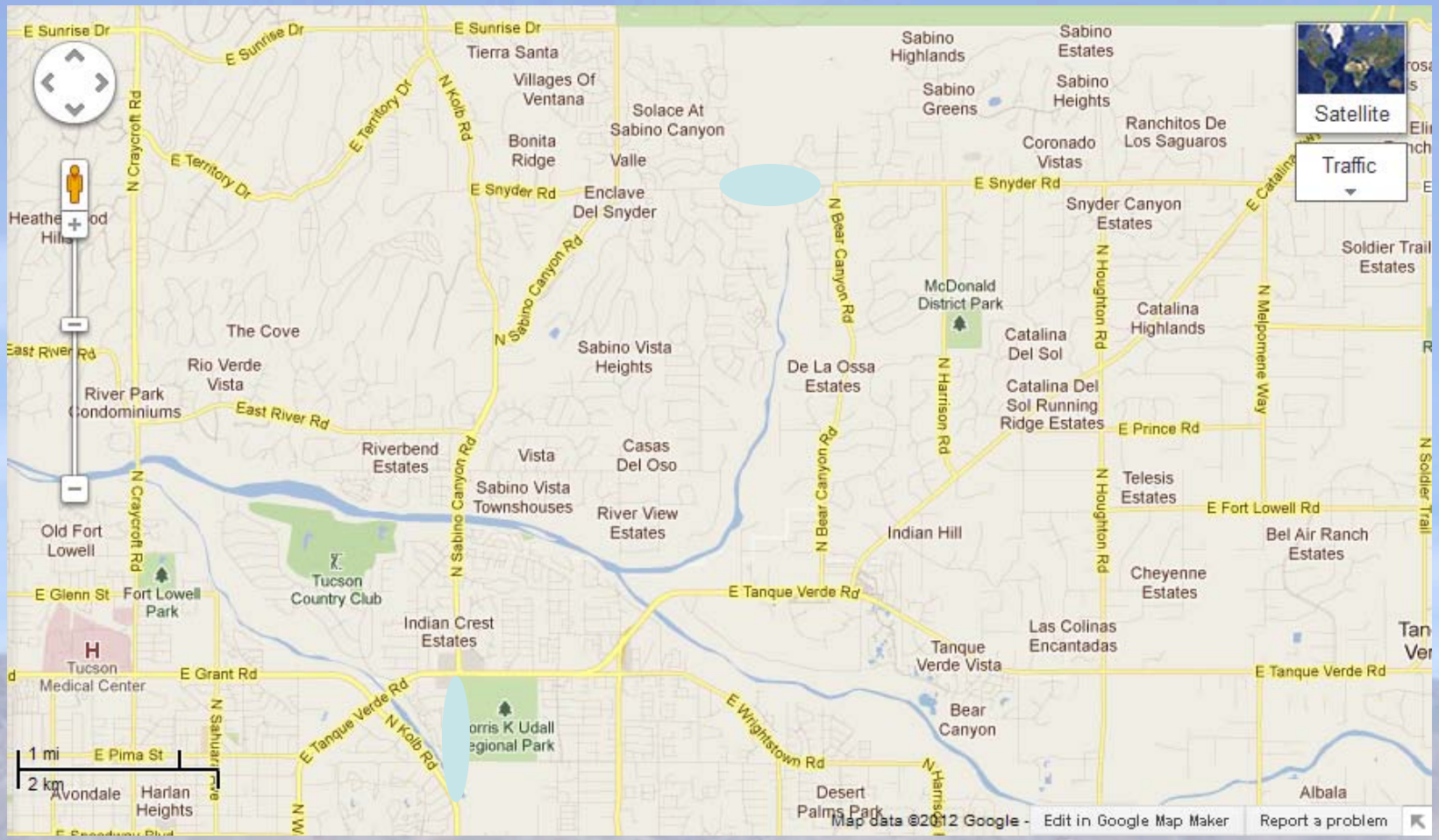
6. Snyder Bridge



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6. Snyder Bridge

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6. Snyder Bridge

- Snyder Bridge – 2% less traffic than the no build
- Sabino Canyon Extension – 14% less traffic than the no build
- Limited ROW at crossing
- Sabino Creek is in Pima County's Highest Habitat Protection Priority classification
- Eliminated from further consideration

KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Section 4(f)

- **Scott Stapp**

  HDR, Environmental Planner

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KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Department of Transportation Act of 1966

- Prohibits **"use"** of a Section 4(f) property for a transportation project unless:
  - No feasible and prudent alternative
  - "All possible planning" is used to minimize harm
- Section 4(f) properties:
  - Publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges
  - Public and private historical sites

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"Use of a Section 4(f) property occurs when:

1. Permanent incorporation of land into a transportation facility;
2. Adverse temporary occupancy; or
3. Constructive use

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KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

Morris K. Udall Regional Park

- Owned and managed by the City of Tucson
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- *Udall Park Master Plan Update*

Pantano River Park

- Owned and managed by Pima County
  – only positive effects

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KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

de minimis (minimal) use

- Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005

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- *de minimis* use:
  - The transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource would have no adverse effect on the protected activities, features, or attributes of the Section 4(f) property
    - Parks, recreational areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refugees – concurrence from the local jurisdiction
    - Historical sites – concurrence from State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)

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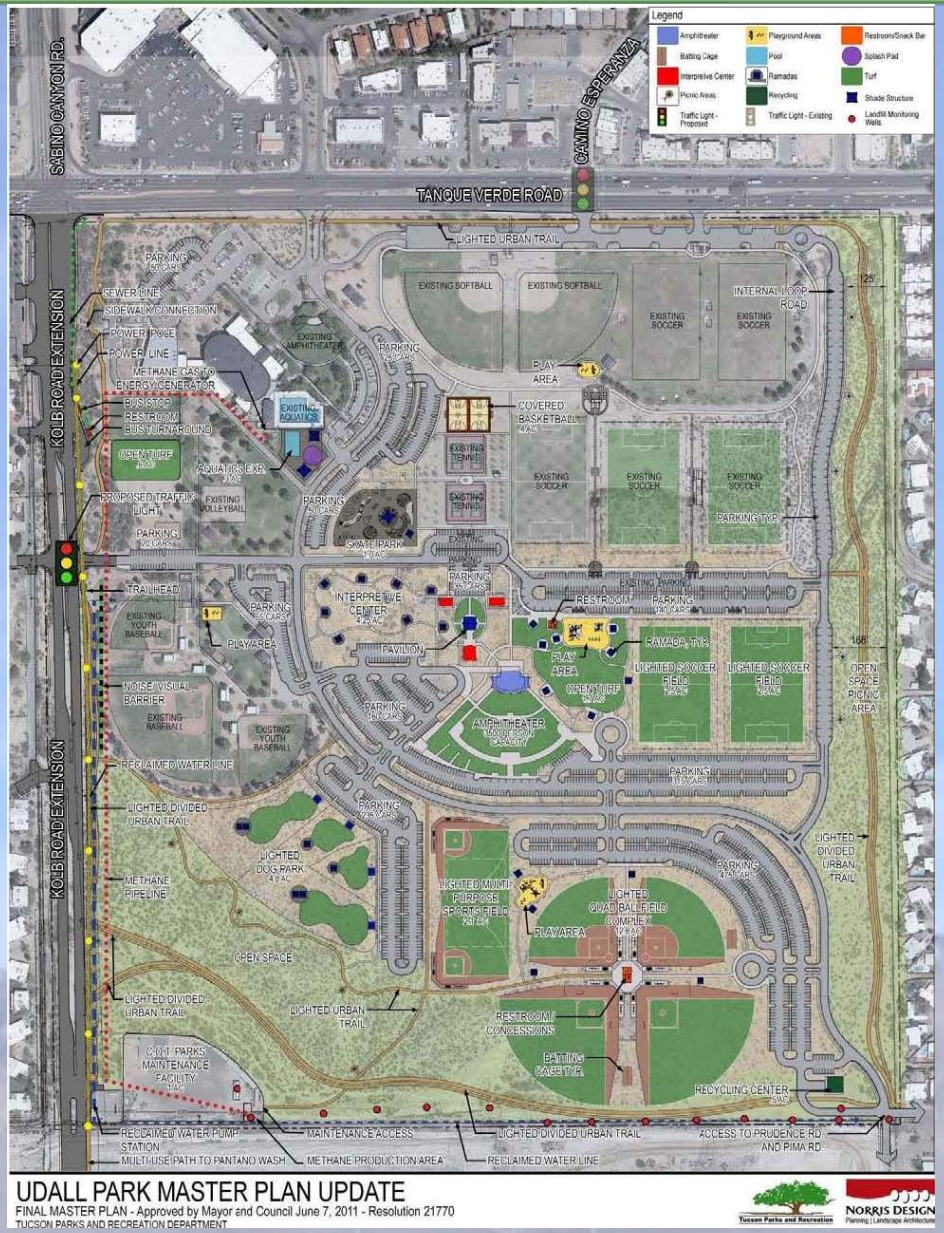
Udall Park:

de minimis use



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Udall Park: *de minimis* use

- Protected activities, features or attributes:
  - Recreational areas (existing and planned)
  - Community center
  - Access

KOLB RD.: CONNECTION TO SABINO CANYON

- Findings:
  - No developed portion of the park is impacted
  - No protected activities, features or attributes would be affected
  - No reduction in access
  - *Udall Park Master Plan Update* (2010)
  - Noise barrier at the ball field
  - Enhancements to multimodal access with connection to Pantano River Park

Agency/Public Coordination

- Morris K. Udall Regional Park
  - BLM concurred with the *de minimis* use finding
  - City of Tucson concurred with the *de minimis* use finding
  - Public Input
    - Public Meetings
    - *Udall Park Master Plan Update* process
    - Tonight's Meeting

Next Steps – Jan Gordley

- Public Artist Meeting sponsored by Tucson-Pima Arts Council
- Draft Environmental Assessment/Public Hearing – Late 2012

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

www.tucsonaz.gov/kolbsabinoconnection

March 27, 2012

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