

Meeting Summary

City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)

Ward 4 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)

Oct. 19, 2011, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Clements Center, 8155 E. Poinciana Drive

ATTENDEES

Ward 4 CDRC Members

Rick Hanson, Civano Neighborhood Association (NA)

Rudy Lopez, Rita Ranch NA

Keith Miller, Mesquite Ranch NA

Ken Moyes, Rita Ranch NA

Michael Tone, Rita Ranch NA

Al Wiruth, Rita Ranch NA

Joe Yee, Old Spanish Trail NA

Guests

Sam Hagadorn, Mesquite Ranch NA

Davita Mueller, Rita Ranch NA

Pima County Department of Transportation

Dave Zaleski, Structural Engineer

Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)

Britton Dornquast, RTA MainStreet Program

TDOT Staff and Consultants

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager

Alejandro Angel, Psomas Project Manager

Melissa Anguiz, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

Jan Gordley, Gordley Design Group, Public Involvement

MATERIALS

- Agenda
- Implementation plan map
- CDRC neighborhoods map
- Meeting evaluation form
- Comment form
- Houghton Road Widening at Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) PowerPoint handout

INTRODUCTIONS

- Melissa Anguiz opened the meeting expressing appreciation to the CDRC members and guests for attending.
- Melissa asked all present to introduce themselves and then reviewed the meeting protocol.

- Melissa announced the pre-construction public meeting for the Houghton Road: Irvington to Valencia project. The meeting is anticipated to be held Dec. 1, 2011, and will also include information for the Valencia Intersection and UPRR to I-10 projects. The location of the meeting is still being determined.

PROJECT UPDATES

M.J. Dillard provided updates on the Houghton Road Corridor.

- Bids will be open for the Houghton Road: Irvington Road to Valencia Road project on Nov. 2, 2011. All funding is secured for this project. Construction is anticipated to begin in December 2011, with an 18-month duration.
- The construction for the Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard Intersection project is scheduled for early 2012.
- The design for the Houghton Road: UPRR to I-10 project is progressing toward 15 percent design completion.
- The RTA doesn't have funding for continued design on the remainder of the Houghton Road Corridor projects until 2016.
- Following the value analysis, TDOT and the RTA are discussing the possibility of extending the Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard Intersection project south to 22nd Street.
- Pima County Parks has moved the greenway location to Harrison Road. The result will change the paths from dual paths to a single, 12-foot path. This will allow the path to be further away from the roadway and allow for rearrangement of landscaping. The path will be constructed with asphalt.

HOUGHTON ROAD AT UPRR BRIDGE UPDATE

- Dave Zaleski, Pima County Department of Transportation Structural Engineer, distributed a handout that was presented to the RTA for funding purposes. The handout is included in this summary.
- The Houghton Road at UPRR Bridge project is at 30 percent design completion. The Design Concept Report has been completed.
- The purpose of the project is to replace the existing two-lane UPRR bridge overpass with a new six-lane, divided bridge structure.
- The project team is implementing cost-saving measures for the bridge design.
- During construction, the existing bridge will be in service to function for one lane of traffic in each direction as needed. The new bridge will be built on the east side of the existing bridge.
- The new bridge will have bat boxes attached to it to support the existing bat population.
- The Federal Highway Administration has deemed the project will have no adverse impact on the environment.
- The project is pending environmental approval from ADOT.

PUBLIC ART UPDATE

- The Houghton Road: Irvington Road to Valencia Road project artists brought art concepts to discuss with the public at a meeting on May 9, 2011.
- The project artists are proposing a structure with a nature theme to be located near Civano, next to the path. The nature theme came from the art plan created before the artists were selected.
- The project artists are selected from a panel that includes residents and artists from the neighborhoods.
- The Houghton Road Corridor art planner's goal was to meet with everyone along the entire corridor to get ideas and preferences, determine locations for art opportunities, and develop a Corridor Art Plan that could be passed on to artists as they are selected for each project within the corridor. This was done to ensure cohesion along the entire corridor, while allowing each project to have its own character.
- The project artists for the Houghton Road: Irvington Road to Valencia Road project will be at the Dec. 1, 2011, public meeting.

LANDSCAPING UPDATE

- The City inventories the existing plants and develops a landscaping plan utilizing existing plants to be transplanted and new plants.
- Once the City's inventory and design is complete, it is sent to the utility companies, along with the overall project plans. The utility companies then design the new locations for utilities (outside of the project area, but within the right of way). This is to be done paying respect to the protected plans and proposed landscaping design. Sometimes it is hard to accommodate everything, and the City has to make adjustments during construction.

PARKING LOT TRANSCRIPTION

- Intersection of Rita/Houghton on east side of greenway (drainage ditch)
- Landscaping items: Valencia to I-10
- Schedule of light pole replacement/sidewalks – Old Vail
- Southern segment plans
- Implementation plan schedule – CDRC to prioritize
- Timeline for walls at Rita Ranch
- Walking/biking north of Pantano
- Homeowners' brick wall between Rita Road and Old Vail
- Art process

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:15 p.m.