

Meeting Summary

City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT)
Ward 2 Citizen Design Review Committee (CDRC)
Houghton Road, Northern Segment: Tanque Verde Road to 22nd Street
April 30, 2013, 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Tucson Eastside City Hall, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd.

ATTENDEES

Ward 2 CDRC Members

Helen Arnold, Macalester Park Homeowners Association
Mike Collins, five homes on Houghton Road
Dominique Drentrea, Casas de Santo neighborhood
Paul Gegenheimer, property owner
Richard Hagenah, Houghton Neighborhood Association (NA)
Frank Salbego, Eastside NA

Guests

Roger Blumenthal, Executive Pastor Pantano Christian Church

City of Tucson, Ward 2 Council Office

C.J. Fitzgibbon, Office Assistant

TDOT and Consultants

M.J. Dillard, TDOT Project Manager
Melissa Anguiz, Gordley Group, Public Involvement
Jan Gordley, Gordley Group, Public Involvement
Lori Lantz, Gordley Group, Public Involvement

MATERIALS

- Agenda
- Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street fact sheet
- Construction contact sheet
- Meeting evaluation form
- Comment form
- Implementation plan map
- CDRC neighborhoods map
- Feb. 28, 2013, Ward 2 CDRC meeting summary

INTRODUCTIONS

Melissa Anguiz opened the meeting and asked all present to introduce themselves.

PROJECT UPDATES

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

Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street

- The Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard intersection and Sun Tran Park & Ride lot will be constructed first. Houghton Road from Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street is being designed at the same time and will be constructed as the intersection work is concluding.
- Before construction begins, underground utility work is being conducted on the northeast side of the Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard intersection.
- Surveyors will be marking the existing right of way along Houghton Road from Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street.
- Following the survey work, landscape architects will be conducting a native plant inventory.
- Geotechnical soil borings will be conducted to evaluate the dirt, specifically around the box culverts and near the roadway.
- Construction will begin on the north side of Broadway Boulevard and the west side of Houghton Road.
- The underground portion will be constructed first. Construction will be phased in quadrants so traffic can be shifted with the use of temporary traffic signals while box culverts are installed.
- In response to questions, Melissa will resend Sun Tran ridership information and handouts from the Feb. 28, 2013, meeting to the Ward 2 CDRC.
 - The Broadway/Houghton Park & Ride project is part of the RTA 2006 transit plan. The decision to include the project was based on census information and community meetings at the time of the plan development.
 - The area served by the Speedway/Harrison Park & Ride is bordered by Tanque Verde/Sabino Canyon on the north, Vail on the east and Rita Ranch to the south.
 - It has 51 vehicle spaces and is currently at capacity, both for customer vehicles and Sun Tran coaches, which enter, board and exit. The Park & Ride services Routes 4, 8, 101X, 108X and 201X. Congestion between the parked vehicles and the number of Sun Tran buses entering, boarding and exiting is an issue.
 - The Broadway/Houghton Park & Ride will have 100 parking spaces and allow buses to safely enter, board and exit. It will relieve capacity and congestion issues of the Speedway/Harrison Park & Ride as the Route 8 and Route 108X will no longer need to service the Speedway/Harrison Park & Ride. When completed, the Broadway/Houghton Park & Ride will be serviced by Routes 4, 7, 8, 17 and 108X and will serve as an east side transfer station.
 - At the time of the RTA transit plan development, Camino Seco was not seen as being a major corridor development. Sahuaro High School is served by Route 8 to the south and Route 4 to the north. The high

school is approximately one-quarter mile from Broadway – a bit further from Speedway – closer to one-half mile.

- There will be security cameras on site with tape back-up, just like at the Houghton/Old Vail Road Park & Ride. This means that in the event there is vandalism, City staff will be able to review the video footage to identify a potential suspect. Fencing and lighting will add to security as well.
- There will be storm drains installed during construction, in addition to sewer work and minimal water work.
- One lane of traffic will remain open in each direction during construction, and a left-turn lane will be available.
- There will be barricading during construction and a reduced speed limit.
- Access to local businesses will remain open.
- M.J. will be available for questions and concerns throughout construction.
- The project will taper up to 5th Street for an ease of transition from the widened lanes at the Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard intersection.
- The Houghton Road and Broadway Boulevard intersection work is anticipated to last approximately seven to eight months.
- The project has a two-year landscape establishment plan. If a plant dies within the first two years, the landscape architect is required to replace it.
- The residents directly adjacent to Houghton Road from Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street will be impacted because they are close to the roadway. The frontage road will be removed, but the newly widened roadway will be a better solution for everyone. The project team is available to meet with any concerned property owners.
- The RTA has put the remainder of the future Houghton Road Corridor projects on hold until 2016 or later due to the economic downturn. (Exceptions are the federally funded projects from the bridge over the railroad to Interstate 10.)
- The Ward 2 CDRC will meet again when construction ramps up, approximately in two months.
- Construction updates will be emailed to the Ward 2 CDRC throughout the construction process.

PARKING LOT

- Retaining wall by five houses and frontage road
- Bus ridership
- Where bus stops exist

Meeting adjourned