

DOWNTOWN LINKS CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MONTHLY MEETING

ACTION REPORT AND SUMMARY

Monday, May 8, 2006

FROM: PROJECT MANAGER: Kim McKay

Gene Caywood called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M. at the Joel D. Valdez Main Library

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chair** Eugene Caywood, (Old Pueblo Trolley)
- Vice Chair** Donovan Durband, (Tucson Downtown Alliance)
- John Burr, (Armory Park Neighborhood Association)
- Charles Davis, (Barrio Anita Neighborhood Association)
- Joseph Maher, Jr., (Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee)
- Natasha Winnik, (Dunbar-Spring Neighborhood Association)
- Christopher Carroll, (El Presidio Neighborhood Association)
- John Sedwick, (Fourth Avenue Merchants Association)
- Jonathan Levy, (Ironhorse Neighborhood Association)
- Kory Kruckmeyer, (Pie Allen Neighborhood Association)
- David Bachman-Williams, (Tucson-Pima Bicycle Advisory Committee)
- Gerald Juliani, (Tucson-Pima Historical Commission)
- Mindy Bernstein, (West University Neighborhood Association)
- Mary Ellen Wooten, (TPAC, on behalf of David Hoyt Johnson)

PROJECT TEAM:

- Kim McKay, TDOT
- MJ Dillard, TDOT
- Jim Glock, TDOT
- Mike Barton, HDR Engineering, Inc.
- Joan Beckim, Kaneen Advertising & Public Relations

AGENDA ITEM/COMMITTEE ACTION	STAFF ACTION
1. Opening Remarks and Introductions	<u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u>
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes The April 10, 2006 meeting minutes were approved with changes.	<u>MINUTES REVISED AND POSTED TO WEBSITE</u>
3. Announcements a. Jim Glock had several announcements. Jim clarified staff's understanding of the RNM&C Downtown Advisory Committee's direction to the City with respect to the Plaza Cento / 4 th Avenue Underpass project. The Downtown Links CAC will be able to offer citizen oversight of this project. Any subsequent actions, advice or recommendations from the CAC would then be forwarded to the RNM&C Downtown Subcommittee for their review.	<u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Because this project is critical to other projects occurring downtown, Kim McKay has been reassigned to Project Manager for the Downtown Links CAC. Kim is very involved in much of the Río Nuevo work and understands how this project integrates with others downtown. c. On Wednesday, May 10 at 6:00 pm, the RNM&C Downtown Subcommittee will hold a public meeting on the Nimbus proposal. d. On Wednesday, May 10, the Historical Commission will again be reviewing the Plaza Centro concept, in particular the requirement to demolish the historic 4th Avenue Underpass to accommodate their plan. e. Verbatim minutes of the Downtown Links CAC meetings will now be available. You can listen to the tapes at the TDOT Director's office on the 6th Floor of the Public Works building. f. Gerry Juliani commented that Jim Glock had recently made a presentation to the Historical Commission about the end of Congress project. He asked Jim to give that presentation to this Committee at their next meeting, which Jim agreed to do. g. Jim Glock announced that the Dunbar-Spring Neighborhood Association had a block party event over the past weekend. The neighborhood residents painted the intersection of University and 9th Avenue. This style of painting was pioneered in Portland, Oregon by a group called City Repair and the painting is called Intersection. He was very impressed and encouraged everyone to drive through the intersection to take a look. 	
<p>4. Presentation of Alignment Options by HDR</p> <p>Joan Beckim began the presentation of the proposed alignments by stating that it is recommended this committee meet again between this meeting and the June CAC meeting for a facilitated workshop or design charrette to get down to details and discussion to narrow tonight's choices down to three alignments. HDR will then be able to do the engineering necessary for the Committee to come to a decision on an alignment recommendation. The proposed selection criteria were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. neighborhood priorities and impacts (neighborhoods include businesses and organizations within) 2. historic structures 3. impacts on environmental projects 4. connectivity 5. construction issues 6. traffic flow and circulation 7. development and land use opportunities 8. visual impacts 9. noise impacts 10. drainage impacts 11. capital costs 12. land availability 	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>

<p>Joan introduced Mike Barton from HDR who presented each of the nine alignment potential concepts and potential cross sections. Each preliminary concept has been posted on the www.downtownlinks.info Website. Alignments will be discussed in more detail at future meetings.</p> <p>Comments were made regarding the various alignment alternatives. Regarding the objective to eliminate downtown drive-through traffic and to make Downtown and 4th Avenue more of a destination, Jim Glock spoke to the issue of utilizing 22nd Street as the main connection for traffic driving to I-10. Funding for this project and 22nd Street are dependent upon the success of the RTA and are concurrent. When this project begins, 22nd would also begin so it would be in a position to accept bypass traffic as this project is being constructed.</p>	
<p>5. Call to Audience</p> <p>An audience member commented on the alternatives by saying that the concepts were too large and the City would miss an opportunity if other issues to handle traffic are not considered such as an urban arterial that is narrower and promotes traffic calming.</p> <p>An audience member commented against the size of some of the alternatives and doesn't see the need for raised medians and multiple turn lanes.</p> <p>An audience member commented that those who live and work on the east side consider downtown difficult to navigate. Those who live and work downtown think downtown, but the majority of the community does not. He won't drive a mile south to 22nd Street just to get to the interstate.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>
<p>6. ADJOURNMENT: 7:25 p.m.</p> <p><i>VERBATIM TAPE RECORD AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST FROM THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</i></p>	