

DOWNTOWN LINKS CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE – MONTHLY MEETING

ACTION REPORT AND SUMMARY

Monday, June 12, 2006

FROM: PROJECT MANAGER: Shellie Ginn

Gene Caywood called the meeting to order at 5:40 P.M. at the Joel D. Valdez Main Library

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Chair** Eugene Caywood (Old Pueblo Trolley)
- Vice-Chair** Don 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)
- John Sedwick (Fourth Avenue Merchants Association)
- Kory Kruckmeyer (Pie Allen Neighborhood Association)
- Mindy Bernstein (West University Neighborhood Association)
- Christopher Carroll (El Presidio Neighborhood Association)
- David Hoyt Johnson (Tucson-Pima Arts Council)
- David Aguirre (Warehouse Arts Management Organization)

PROJECT TEAM:

- Jim Glock, TDOT
- Andrew Singelakis, TDOT
- Shellie Ginn, TDOT
- Melissa Antol, TDOT
- Mike Barton, HDR Engineering, Inc.
- Corky Poster, Poster Frost
- 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 May 8, 2006 and May 22, 2006 meeting minutes were approved with changes.	<u>MINUTES REVISED AND POSTED TO WEBSITE</u>
3. Announcements a. Andrew Singelakis introduced Shellie Ginn as the new Project Manager for Downtown Links. Kim McKay has accepted another position at the University of Texas in Galveston. b. Shellie Ginn informed the audience that the Technical Advisory Committee will meet after the Citizens Advisory Committee meeting and use same agenda. Groups on the committee include	<u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u>

<p>representatives from ADOT, City Managers Office, Development Services, Engineering, Environmental, Fire, Historic Preservation, ParkWise, Pima Association of Governments, Pima County, Planning, Real Estate, Rio Nuevo, Sun Tran, Traffic Engineering, Transportation and Planning, and the University of Arizona.</p>	
<p>4. Regional Transportation Authority Update</p> <p>Tim Ahrens briefed the committee on the RTA plan and its intended purpose. The plan includes roadway projects, transit, safety, environmental and economic vitality projects. The plan was developed by a Technical Management Committee alongside a 35-member Citizens Advisory Committee. The new Downtown Links project from I-10 to Broadway will include a four-lane urban linkage, enhanced multi-modal features, drainage and noise mitigation measures. Funding will be in two-year phases.</p> <p>Natasha Winnik contested the RTA’s plan for a Downtown Links 4-lane road, and said that the public can vote to change the RTA plan. Gene Caywood clarified the role of the committee and specified that they may vote on the landscaping, alignments and noise mitigation. TDOT staff’s opinion was that if less than what was approved by the RTA (4 lanes) was accepted by the DLCAC, the issue would need to go back to Mayor and Council. TDOT will be going before Mayor and Council on a regular basis for their approval of alignment selection alternatives.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>
<p>5. Schedule of Land Use Element – Neighborhood Workshops</p> <p>Corky Poster announced his firm’s involvement in the development of urban design concepts for the land in and around 5 proposed areas. Meetings begin in July 2006 and continue through November 2006. A subsequent meeting will follow each meeting. Task II meetings will run in January and February 2007.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>
<p>6. Traffic Modeling / Existing Traffic</p> <p>Mike Barton of HDR made a presentation to the committee regarding existing traffic conditions that included a discussion of traffic modeling and various traffic studies and results.</p> <p>This PowerPoint presentation will be placed onto the Downtown Links Website.</p>	<p><u>PRESENTATION POSTED TO WEBSITE</u></p>
<p>7. Presentation of Three Additional Alignment Concepts</p> <p>A few members voiced their disapproval of the proposed 4-lane roadway. Discussion followed that focused on possibilities of a 2-lane roadway. A motion was made by John Sedwick for the committee to continue reviewing alignment alternatives for a 4-lane roadway only.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>

<p>Seconded by Joseph Maher. Motion passed with 7 votes yes and 4 opposed.</p> <p>Mike Barton presented concepts, variations and criteria for proposed roadway and path alignments. Cost and impact are major considerations.</p>	
<p>8. Presentation of Alignment Alternative Selection Process</p> <p>Joan Beckim explained that more time needs to be spent discussing the proposed alignments and concepts in detailed discussion. Presented proposed grading system of good, fair and poor. The Downtown Links team will contact each DLCAC member individually to set up meetings to discuss the alignments and concepts further.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>
<p>9. Call to Audience</p> <p>Audience member commented that he approved of the license plate study. Suggested if data is correct, alignment may need to be more complex than what was reviewed. HDR should spend time looking at projected bicycle and pedestrian transit.</p> <p>Audience member asked what percentage of traffic enters from Broadway.</p> <p>Audience member wondered why modeling did not show traffic entering from Broadway.</p> <p>Audience member commented that the observation traffic studies probably cover a much larger area. Need to see bigger picture.</p> <p>Audience member commented that a strategic plan might ignore the neighborhoods and that the committee should shake up the City Council when they need to.</p> <p>Audience member suggested that the process that is being followed now would end up the same as the 4th Avenue alignment.</p> <p>Audience member commented on urban and land use challenge.</p>	<p><u>NO ACTION REQUIRED</u></p>
<p>10. ADJOURNMENT 7:45 p.m.</p>	