



CITY OF  
TUCSON

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION

April 5, 2017

Joan Daniels, Co-Chair  
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**Subject: Response to March 12, 2017 Letter**

Grant Road Coalition members,

Thank you for documenting the issues discussed at our March 10, 2017, meeting in your letter dated March 12, 2017. This communication provides a response to each of the issues raised in that letter. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

**Mitigation:** I looked into the possibility of removing the amenities from the detention basin location. If we removed the amenities from this area, the money saved would be redirected back into the RTA funds for redistribution. I know of no consideration of project tradeoffs at this time. If tradeoffs for consideration are identified, the process would be to present them to the Grant Road Task Force and then, of course, would be happy to meet with the Coalition or other groups that request a meeting.

The basin design was part of the public process, in that, it was presented to the Grant Road Task Force at public meetings for review and comment. Any significant change to the basin or roadway design would at a minimum require review by the Task Force.

**Hampton Closure:** See attachment labeled Hampton Closure. As illustrated in the attachment, the City is constructing a chicane median island to prevent traffic exiting the Walgreen's and the Sausage Deli from going southbound on Hampton. Northbound traffic traveling from the neighborhood to Grant Road is unhampered. The partial closure is per the meeting held on April 11, 2016, with the former City of Tucson Project Manager for the Grant Road Improvement Project and neighborhood representatives.

**Bike and Pedestrian Safety:** Your letter referenced adding elements at the Park Avenue and Grant Road intersection that would provide enhanced safety similar to the treatment at Mountain Avenue. The City's bicycle coordinator and traffic engineer met to discuss the volumes and safety issues at Park/Grant, and what could be done to increase safety. They agreed that traffic volumes currently and into the future warrant enhanced treatments. Therefore, a treatment will be applied at Park/Grant similar to that at Mountain/Grant.

**Maintenance of Remnants:** The City has a three-year plan to establish and maintain newly planted vegetation and remove litter from areas within the City of Tucson's right of way. During the first year, our contractor will be required to be out once a week, and then in years two and three, the contractor is required to be out once every two weeks. There may be an opportunity for the Jefferson Park

Neighborhood Green/Clean committees to be involved in the maintenance of the vacant areas outside of the City's right of way. If the latter is of interest, an agreement would need to be established between the City and the neighborhood since it would involve private citizens being on City owned property outside City right of way.

**Post Construction Noise Study:** City of Tucson will perform one post Phase 2 construction noise study. Results of this post construction noise study will be compared with the results of the Phase 2 pre-construction noise study (November 2015) to determine if there are any significant discrepancies.

**No Overlay:** Consistent with the *Grant Road Community Character & Vitality Corridor Vision: Oracle Road to Swan Road*, approved by Mayor and Council on September 9, 2015 (Resolution #22455), there is no proposal for an overlay in the Central Segments. The proposed land use approach for the Central Segments is addressed, on pg. 41 of the Corridor Vision under the title, "Central Portion Segments: 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Campbell Avenue & Campbell Avenue to Tucson Boulevard", as follows:

*Following the widening of Grant Road, pursue land uses and/or buffers that are:*

- 1. In keeping with existing zoning, neighborhood/area plans, and existing uses.*
- 2. Compatible with, and enhance, surrounding properties.*

**No Sale of Remnant Parcels:** Per the conversations held with the Coalition and neighborhoods, the City of Tucson is committed to retaining the Phase 2 remnant parcels remaining in the Central Segments from 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue to Santa Rita Avenue until after the construction efforts are completed, and dependent on the result of the submitted Tucson Heritage Park and Health Trail grant proposal. This decision is related to the larger requirement by the RTA to resell remnant properties purchased with RTA sales tax funds.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at [David.Burbank@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:David.Burbank@tucsonaz.gov) (preferred method) or 520.837.6619.

Sincerely,



David Burbank, P.E., C.P.M.  
Project Manager

DB/db/rw

Attachments: Phase 2 Construction Plan Sheet depicting the partial closure of Hampton Place at Grant Road using a chicane

Image of a Chicane