



Cortaro Road/Magee Road:  
Thornydale Road to Oracle Road  
Community Advisory Committee Meeting



Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting  
Monday, June 22, 2009  
6 to 7:30 p.m.  
St. Mark's United Methodist Church

CAC Members Present at Meeting:

- George Ballesteros
- Robert Barr
- Kathryn Culver
- Kathy Gatto
- Steven Kresal
- William Scott
- Steve Sisson
- Tom Unger
- Bernie Wiegandt

CAC Members Not in Attendance:

- Molly Frazer
- Dennis Hansen
- David Jacobs
- John Whitehill-Ward
- David Williams

Attending from Project Team:

- Pima County Department of Transportation (PCDOT): Rick Ellis, Julie Simon
- Pima County: Jacqui Andrade
- AECOM: Bill Schlesinger
- EcoPlan: Mike Dawson
- Gordley Design Group: Barb Alley, Angie Brown

Materials Distributed:

- Agenda
- June 1 CAC Meeting Minutes
- Draft Environmental Assessment (EA)

Bill Schlesinger, AECOM, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the CAC meeting. Bill stated that the purpose of this meeting was for the CAC members and asked the public to hold their questions until the CAC part of the meeting was adjourned. Bernie Wiegandt, CAC Co-chair, started the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves and whom they represent.

Bill said there would be a slightly different format for tonight's meeting. He stated that a brief overview of the EA was given by Mike Dawson, EcoPlan, at the June 1 CAC meeting, and tonight, he would be going over the document in more detail in preparation for the CAC to draft their recommendation letter.

Bill gave some general directions on what needed to be included in the CAC recommendation letter, and said Mike would give an explanation of how to read the document. The CAC members would be more than welcome to stay and start drafting the letter, which is due on Wednesday, June 24, to Julie Simon, PCDOT Community Relations.

Mike explained to the CAC in detail how to read the EA.

Rick Ellis, PCDOT, reinforced that the team would be available for whatever the CAC members would need from them. He said they are happy to sit in on the meetings as the committee is writing their letter, or to just stop in as a resource. Rick also said the letter should stick to the recommendations the committee has on the roadway. The letter is not the place to ask questions. Rick said by the time the letter is written, all questions should be answered, although the CAC members and PCDOT may not agree on certain areas.

Q: What is the CAC members' role once the letter is written?

A: Per the Pima County Ordinance, the CAC members' responsibility is technically over once the letter goes to the BOS; however, the team would like the members to stay active and engaged, as decisions will need to be made moving forward toward final design.

There were discussions between the CAC members and the project team to further clarify the responsibility of the committee in writing their letter.

CAC members brought up the following concerns:

- What kind of lights, if any, will there be along the corridor?
- A desire for the S-Curve configuration at the intersection of Magee Road and La Cholla Boulevard.
- A request to keep noise to a minimum – rubberized asphalt will be used throughout the entire corridor.

The CAC members discussed vacation schedules and set up a meeting for Monday, June 29, to start working on the recommendation letter. Bill asked Gordley Design Group to find a meeting facility for the committee and mail the EA to members not in attendance at this evening's meeting.

Bill thanked the CAC members for giving of their time and efforts by sitting on the committee.

Bill asked if there were questions from the general public. Questions were as follows:

Q: Why isn't the section toward I-10 being done sooner since there is more traffic than other areas along the corridor?

A: The corridor is broken up into phases and the project is mandated by the phase schedule. In addition, funding has to be available; that section of the roadway is not in the initial phase of this project.

Q: What grade of asphalt will be used?

A: Grade A.

Q: Will property values decrease?

A: There have been many studies on this subject on other roadways, and to date, all studies have been inconclusive. Some areas will increase in value, and some areas will decrease in value. Therefore, to date, there has not been any published definitive information on property values.

Q: When will the EA be available for the public to view?

A: Around the first part of August there will be copies posted at the libraries in the area, as well as availability online.

Q: Will there be sidewalks?

A: Yes. On the south side of the roadway there will be concrete sidewalks, which will meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. On the north side of the roadway, there will be walking trails of some sort that will not be paved, or meet ADA requirements. The team hasn't decided upon the actual materials that would be used on the south side.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.