



**Kolb Road:
Sabino Canyon to
Sunrise Drive
Community Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 29, 2017**

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Paul Bennett welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself as the project manager from Pima County Transportation Department (PCDOT) for the Kolb Road project. Paul introduced the other staff from PCDOT including: Rick Ellis, Beth Abramovitz, Carol Brichta, and Shara Canez. Other introductions followed including project design consultants from PSOMAS: Kevin Thornton, Alejandro Angel, and Matt Ashby. The members of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in attendance introduced themselves, along with the area along Kolb Road they were representing. A table of CAC members is below, with their contact information, area represented, other specific activities associated with the CAC, and their attendance.

Name	Email	Area Represented	Other	March 29 2017
Pamela Schuster	psshuster7283@gmail.com	Quail Canyon	Art Committee	
Marjorie Blaine	spikeb62@msn.com		Vice Chair	X
Thomas Helfrich	tjh1252@gmail.com			X
Ken Gerhart	Kgerhart5@q.com	Summit Ridge		X
Thomas Trimmer	tdtrimmer@gmail.com	Sunrise Presidio		X
Gerald W. Meyer	gwmeyer1@comcast.net	Villa At Sabino Canyon		X
Mary Veres	mary@veresnet.org	Quail Canyon	Chair	X
Jerry DeGrazia	jdegrazia@comcast.net	Kolb Road	Art Committee	X
Michael Bowman	michaleb@ranchosahuarita.com	Rancho Sahuarita		
Julie Arter	runnerjca@comcast.net	Kolb Road	Art Committee	X
Diane Sayre	desayre@aol.com	Quail Canyon		X
Bill Yohey	Yohbi99@outlook.com	Pinnacle Canyon Condo		X
Brian Gross	Brianegross@earthlink.net	Canyon Wood Est.		X
David Burrows	DavidBurrows.L&S@gmail.com	Kolb Road		X

II. PROJECT PRESENTATION

Paul reviewed the topics to be discussed and ground rules to be followed for meeting, (CAC questions and input, followed by audience questions and input). The meeting's purpose was to provide an update on the status of the project, a review and discussion of alignment possibilities based on comments from the January 31st meeting, and review traffic concerns that had been identified within the northern most segment of the project.

Project Status – Project efforts continue, with the next field activities to be that of Geotechnical Analysis, which will involve drilling along the roadway at several locations to obtain soil samples. There should not be any significant traffic impacts from these efforts and the work should occur in May/June, once approvals have been received from ADOT.

Roadway Configuration/Sidewalk Alternatives – Based on prior meeting comments additional review of the sidewalk location was made. Kevin Thornton of PSOMAS presented two potential alternatives for sidewalk/pedestrian pathway locations along Kolb.

The first was to provide a sidewalk on the west side only from Sabino Canyon to Sunrise Drive as was discussed at the prior meeting. While this would provide continuity for pedestrians along the corridor, it would not provide connectivity to the east side residents and could be problematic, requiring additional retaining walls, steeper driveways, drainage issues, and concerns at the Snyder intersection.

Kevin then commented that another possibility was reviewed, placing sidewalks on both sides. However, this possibility would further increase overall project costs, so a review of a mixture of these two suggestions was made.

The second alternative was then presented, that being more of a hybrid between the first and second possibility. This would provide a sidewalk on the east side from Sabino Canyon to Sunrise Drive, there would be a sidewalk on the west side from Gate Ridge Road to Sunrise Drive, and some type of pathway on the west side – running between Sabino Canyon and Snyder. This suggestion garnered support based on costs, drainage, continuity and Snyder tie-in concerns. Three comments were made relative to this alternative – could the path between Sabino and Snyder be 1 - separated from the roadway and 2 - possibly asphalt. There was also a concern with pedestrians crossing from east to west at the north end of the project.

The design team will review the second alternative and also provide cross sections at various locations along Kolb for the CAC to review.

Roadway Traffic Concerns – The next portion of the meeting was led by Alejandro Angel of PSOMAS, with the focus being on traffic volumes and safety. He reviewed the daily volume counts for the Sabino Canyon to Snyder segment and the Snyder Road to Sunrise Drive segment. Additionally, he provided the crash data (type and frequency) for both of these segments of roadway.

At the northern end of the project (Territory Drive to Sunrise Drive), there have been a higher than average number of accidents that have occurred at the mid-block exit (between Territory Drive and Sunrise Drive) onto Kolb. Alejandro reviewed the traffic volumes and the potential solutions that could be made to address this safety issue, along with projected outcomes based on each of the potential solutions.

The first alternative would be to widen shoulders and install additional lighting. This effort is predicted to provide some improvement in overall crash rate.

A second alternative would build upon the first and extend the median and limit the turning movements from the mid-block exit to only allow for right turns (southbound). Again this effort is predicted to provide some improvements in overall crash rate, but would also increase delays for those exiting Territory Drive to turn northbound onto Kolb Road.

A third alternative was then presented that would further extend the median to Territory Drive, and for that intersection a single lane roundabout would be installed (instead of a signal since the intersection is too close to the Sunrise Drive intersection, which is already signalized). This configuration would provide improvements in overall crash rate and minimize the delays at the Kolb Road and Territory Drive intersection. Additionally, based on the design of the roundabout, pedestrian crossings would be easier to complete (crossing only one lane at a time), and the roundabout could fit into the existing right of way.

There was significant discussion regarding the third alternative and the potential for this to also provide speed reduction as Kolb Road approaches Territory Drive and the higher density shopping area. When the CAC was asked if they would support this as an alternative, many of the CAC members raised their hands and voiced their support of the concept and commented that people will need some education regarding how to negotiate the roundabout, but that it should work well. They also suggested advance signs to let people know of the upcoming roundabout.

Another traffic issue of concern is with the northbound merge lanes, just to the north of the Sabino Canyon intersection. The design team is aware of this concern and will have recommendations regarding possible solutions as the project design moves forward.

A copy of the meeting presentation has also been posted on the project website <http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=255052>.

III. NEXT STEPS

The next meeting will be scheduled towards the end of May that will allow for a discussion and review of the noise modeling, along with a review the materials that are used in developing the DCR.

IV. PROJECT SCHEDULE

The project is still scheduled to have design completed late summer 2018, start construction spring 2019, and be completed summer 2020.

V. PUBLIC ART

It was announced that the Art Selection Committee members would be seeing an email containing submittal evaluations that need to be reviewed and that a time for an in-person follow up discussion of these evaluations would be scheduled in April.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

A tentative schedule for upcoming meetings is listed below, based on discussions with the CAC and the timing of the development of various project materials.

May 2017 - CAC - Basics associated with Design Concept Report (DCR) & Noise Study
July 2017 – CAC for Final DCR/Noise Study and Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report (EAMR) Basics
September/October 2017 – CAC & EAMR BACKGROUND
November/December 2017– CAC – FINALIZE EAMR - PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE
February 2018 – BOS MEETING – APPROVE EAMR

VII. QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION DURING MEETING

Other questions were asked during the meeting by CAC members and members of the at-large audience. These have been summarized below.

QUESTION: What are the differences with Snyder between the two options discussed?

ANSWER: *There are not differences, as the suggestion is to eliminate the cross walk along the west and north sides of the Kolb/Snyder intersection to aid in the vertical curve and roadway tie in for the west leg of Snyder.*

QUESTION: Are there any private property acquisitions for either of the two options?

ANSWER: *None are anticipated.*

QUESTION: Where would the sidewalk on the east side be in relationship to the existing edge of pavement?

ANSWER: *It appears that the east side sidewalk would be within approximately 1' – 3' of the east edge of pavement.*

QUESTION: There is a concern with both water and the dirt/rock debris that both crosses and is found on the roadway during and after storm events. How will this be handled?

ANSWER: *The design of the roadway will address the need for appropriate drainage, curbing, and swales (where there is no curbing) to address the concerns with the water, dirt and rock materials washing onto the roadway during storm events.*

QUESTION: How and when will the noise issues associated with the roadway be addressed?

ANSWER: *With an alignment identified from this meeting, the next steps will be to model the roadway (horizontally/vertically) and to start the noise analysis process. At the next meeting we will review this process.*

QUESTION: There was a concern about the hill to the south of the proposed roundabout and being able to stop if traffic is backed up. How might this concern be handled?

ANSWER: *There will be an analysis of the sight distance for northbound traffic to determine if adjustments in the hill/slope as Kolb Road approaches Territory need to be made.*

QUESTION: There was a question about the bike lane configuration and the proposed roundabout.

ANSWER: *The project designers are aware of this potential concern and will look to provide design that allows for bicycles to either travel thru the roundabout adjacent to the flow of traffic or via the pedestrian facilities.*

QUESTION: Will a proposed roundabout slow down traffic at Gate Ridge Road?

ANSWER: *It is anticipated that the roundabout would not create issues that impact Gate Ridge Road.*

QUESTION: Is the Design Team working with the Fire Station?

ANSWER: *Yes, we will be working with the Fire Station personnel. Two representatives of the station were in attendance at the meeting.*

QUESTION: How will wildlife be treated?

ANSWER: *Wildlife and other environmental factors/issues will be reviewed, addressed and commented on as part of the Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report, which will be assembled over the next few months as the project continues thru its design process.*

QUESTION: Can we get a copy of the noise study from the Sabino Canyon Road/Kolb Road Intersection (south end of this project)?

ANSWER: *We will see if we can identify and provide a copy of the report associated with Sabino Canyon Road/Kolb Road Intersection project from 1998.*

QUESTION: Why are we doing the project?

ANSWER: *While the project is not increasing capacity, it will improve traffic safety, road/pavement enhancement, pedestrian/bicycle connectivity, and drainage improvements.*

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