



*La Cañada Drive: River Road to Ina Road
Improvement Project
(4LCRRI - South Segment)*



Meeting Summary

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2009, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Tucson Chinese Cultural Center
1288 W. River Road
Tucson, AZ 85704

CAC Members Present at Meeting:

Dan Bartch
Jim McElhiney
Lori Franz
Sam Ray
Steve Sedor
Kirk Strang
Lila Wadsworth

CAC Members Not in Attendance:

Maria Duarte
Gail Gault
John Kaur
Linda Kelly
Denise O'Hagin
Joseph O'Hagin
Ryan Olson
Noel Robinson
Ruben Sibayan
Mary Sibayan

Attending from Project Team:

Pima County Department of Transportation (PCDOT): Priscilla Cornelio, Jonathan Crowe, Rick Ellis, Annabelle Quihuis
Pima County Board of Supervisors (BOS) District 1 Office: Jacqui Andrade
HDR Engineering: Mike Bertram
Gordley Design Group: Paki Rico, Barb Alley, Jan Gordley

Materials Distributed:

Agenda
Draft Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report (EAMR)
Executive Summary
School Safety Fact Sheet
Project Fact Sheet

Summary

Mike Bertram welcomed everyone to the CAC meeting and went over the materials that were handed out to the members. He said that the purpose of the meeting was to distribute the draft EAMR. The other materials handed out to the members were the agenda, which included key dates for the project moving forward, the executive summary, so the members could take notes on it if necessary, the draft EAMRs for all CAC members and an updated 2009 fact sheet. Mike also brought two copies of the appendices for members to keep. Mike told the CAC that the appendices could be found on the CD located in the front cover of the draft EAMR.

Mike went over the important dates that could be found on the backside of the agenda, and those key dates are as follows:

- May 7: Present the draft EAMR to the CAC members
- May 14: Present the draft EAMR to the public at a Public Meeting
- May 22: Comment forms from public meeting will be due
 - This schedule is necessary in order to have time to compile the comment summary to be included into the EAMR.
- May 29: CAC Recommendation Letter due
- July 7: BOS hearing

The EAMR is a technical document. In the front of the EAMR is an executive summary that gives an overview of what is in the document. Mike said that it was the responsibility of the CAC to read over the executive summary, but Mike would walk them through the summary this evening and explain the components and organization of the EAMR.

The summary begins by stating the improvements consist of 2.7 miles of roadway widening from River Road to Ina Road. Mike went through the entire summary to help ensure the members had a clear understanding of what was in the document. Members asked questions and took notes as they made their way through the summary. Mike referred others at the meeting to www.roadprojects.pima.gov/lacanada for viewing the entire draft EAMR, including the executive summary.

At the conclusion of the discussion on the executive summary, Mike took questions from the CAC.

Q: What about the possibility of increased truck traffic when the improvements are completed?

A: PCDOT will do a traffic trucking survey should traffic mixtures change. That said, trucks are free to use the roadway.

Mike said the next step for the CAC would be to write their Recommendation Letter. He then introduced Annabelle Quihuis, PCDOT, to spend a few minutes talking to the CAC about the process.

Annabelle explained what the BOS would be looking for. She said the BOS wants to know if comments and questions were addressed. She said the CAC Co-Chairs usually start the draft with input from other CAC members. The CAC can set up their own meetings, with the help of the team, in order to finish the draft Recommendation Letter. Annabelle stressed that the team would be available and provide whatever they may need as the CAC members work their way through the letter. Once the draft letter has been completed, signatures of the CAC must be obtained. The letter will then go to Annabelle, who will provide it to PCDOT to review. If necessary, PCDOT will address any concerns or issues prior to the

CAC's Recommendation Letter being forwarded to the BOS. The notice of the public hearing will be advertised, along with notifications mailed to residents and businesses one-half mile out along the project area. The EAMR will be posted on the project Web site, as well as be available at two libraries for public viewing. The Co-Chairs and any interested CAC members usually attend the public hearing.

Annabelle reiterated that the team was here to help the CAC in any way. She also said that there was a template that they could use to help them write their letter; however, she encouraged them to write their own letter in their own format.

Mike gave some last minute tips to the members on how to use the EAMR, and again, offered his help throughout the process.

Questions from the public:

Q: Is there a required length the letter needs to be?

A: Mike said there are no restrictions on how long or short the letter has to be. Each letter is different for each project.

Mike let the CAC members know that a meeting room had been reserved for the CAC after this meeting for the members to start working on their letter. Mike, again, offered to help in any way he could.

The meeting was adjourned.