



Skyline Dr. at Sunrise Dr. Intersection Improvement Project (4SUNTE) Public and Open House Comments Received

1. EB Sunrise to NB Skyline left turn lane storage:
Concern: Queue backs up into the travel lane during peak hours.
Response: The left turn storage on EB Sunrise is outside the scope and footprint of this project. It cannot be lengthened as a part of this project. The concern will be shared with Planning and Traffic Engineering groups.
2. Intersection Lighting:
Concern: The street lights will shine into the neighborhood.
Response: Shields will be installed to fixtures to focus lights on intersection and forward, away from the neighborhood.
3. WB Sunrise traffic cutting into acceleration lane:
Concern: Homeowners have witnessed issues with traffic cutting into acceleration lane from outside through lane heading WB on Skyline. Owners have concerns that situation will be the same with the proposed configuration. Barriers have been requested to prevent early cut over.
Response: Installation of flexible delineators to discourage early cutover traffic into this lane will be investigated.
4. Stop Condition and Queue Backup onto Skyline:
Concern:
 - a. Residents have concerns about queue backing up on Skyline and blocking access to Foothills Drive.
 - b. The stop sign will STOP all westbound traffic on Skyline, backing up vehicles past our access to westbound Skyline onto Sunrise, which is our legal right-of-way. Currently, without a mandatory "Stop", there are times, during the day, when we sit for three to five minutes waiting for a break in the traffic flow to exit onto Skyline, westbound. Exiting our community to go eastbound, up Skyline, would be worse. The above situation would exist, compounded by all the traffic from Sunrise, going northbound, up Skyline.Response: Traffic models did not demonstrate a backup with a stop sign. Current design also has approx. 220' off storage for newly designed right turn. A Yield sign will be evaluated in place of the stop sign. A do not block intersection sign for Foothills Rd will also be reviewed.

Ana M. Olivares, P.E., Director

201 N. Stone Avenue, 4th Floor, Tucson, Arizona 85701-1207 • Phone: 520-724-6410 • Fax: 520-724-6439

Skyline Dr. at Sunrise Dr. Intersection Improvement Project (4SUNTE)
Public and Open House Comments Received

5. Stop condition slowing traffic down:

Concern: A resident expressed concern that the stop condition will create potential accidents as traffic on Sunrise is typically traveling over the speed limit and are oblivious to the slower incoming traffic.

Response: A yield sign will be evaluated in place of the stop sign. The acceleration lane is remaining.

6. Emergency Ingress/Egress:

Concern:

- a. Residents also stated a concern the stop sign will block or prevent emergency vehicle egress and ingress to their community.
- b. This obstruction will affect emergency vehicles, which creates life safety issues. I was told, at the public meeting, that “emergency vehicles can always get through”. Unless cars can move sideways to open up an unobstructed lane, or they develop wings, this simply is not true; bumper to bumper cars have no wiggle-room. As we all know, timing is crucial when dealing with emergency transportation.

Response: Access will be reviewed to ensure the final design will not obstruct emergency vehicle access to the nearby communities.

7. Signal at intersection:

Concern: Multiple residents brought up why a signal is not installed at this intersection and why one is a Campo Abierto which has much less traffic. A signal was requested years ago and denied.

Response: There are specific requirements that need to be met to install a signal at an intersection as a poorly placed signal can negatively impact the traffic flow instead of helping. This intersection does not meet the requirements for a signal.

8. Stop vs Yield condition:

Concern: Residents suggested making this a yield rather than a stop to improve circulation through the intersection.

Response: Installing a yield sign instead of a stop sign will be investigated.

9. Bike Actuated Signal:

Concern: It was suggested a bike actuated signal, similar to a HAWK crossing for pedestrians, be installed to alert vehicles to the approaching bicycle.

Response: This is not feasible as it would require the through bicycles to stop to activate the indicator. Under the rules of the road, the bicycles have right of way over the right turning vehicles.

Skyline Dr. at Sunrise Dr. Intersection Improvement Project (4SUNTE)
Public and Open House Comments Received

10. Maintenance Item:

Concern: Residents said that along Foothills drive there has been illegal dumping and also the neighborhood asked the County to clean up brush and vegetation in the area.

Response: There will be some cleanup of brush prior to construction along Skyline Drive. Any other issues along Foothills Drive are outside the project limits and should be submitted to Pima County DOT when they are observed so they can be corrected.

11. Use of Learning Drive:

Concern: A resident asked why the school gates off the access to Campo Abierto light by way of Learning Drive.

Response: Learning drive is a private roadway owned by the school district and should not be used for cut through traffic.

12. Left Turn Elimination onto EB Sunrise Drive:

Concern: Most Residents agreed eliminating the left turn movement from WB Skyline to EB Sunrise is a good idea. A few are concerned that the left turn elimination will cause accidents as it is necessary to head west, cross two fast moving lanes of traffic and then make a U-turn. It was noted by several residents this is already being done as it is difficult to make a left at the intersection.

Response: The number of vehicles turning left from WB Skyline to EB Sunrise is small compared to all other movements. Eliminating this movement will make the intersection safer.

13. Median Designs:

Concern: Residents would like to see the new median for Skyline be more accommodating for the turn movements to head east up Skyline. It was also requested the proposed median in Sunrise be removed.

Response: The Sunrise median will assist in clearly showing no left from WB Skyline is allowable and will remain. The size, radius and curb lines of the medians will be further evaluated.

14. Landscaping:

Concern: Will landscaping be added?

Response: Landscaping will be added to the area where the existing free flow right turn used to be and in the new median along Skyline. There will be some areas omitted to provide proper visibility to bikes, pedestrians and other vehicles. Rock mulch will be installed only in these areas.

15. Drainage:

Concern: Residents mentioned ponding issues at the tie-in area of EB Skyline with existing Sunrise Drive.

Response: Design team will evaluate eliminating the ponding situation.

Skyline Dr. at Sunrise Dr. Intersection Improvement Project (4SUNTE)
Public and Open House Comments Received

16. Reverse curve:

Concern: Residents asked the purpose of the reverse curve in the new turn lane.

Response: The reverse curve is to encourage vehicles to slow on approach to stop bar and to avoid a costly electrical vault relocation.

17. Vehicles not turning into acceleration lane:

Concern: Resident thinks there may be an issue with motorist waiting at the stop bar for a gap in the existing WB Skyline through lanes so they can get into the nearest left turn lane to the west to make the U-Turn.

Response: Team will look into treatments at the intersection, like the flexible delineators to discourage this illegal maneuver.

18. Stop light:

Concern:

- a. Many residents stated a stop light would alleviate the problem and their concerns. A stop light would eliminate the bicycles needing to cross the traffic lanes.
- b. There is a simple solution: the STOP LIGHT that was installed at the intersection of Sunrise and N. Campo Abierto should be relocated to the Skyline intersection. According to my neighbors, two businesses paid the county for that placement. A STOP LIGHT will alleviate all the above concerns. If it cannot be moved, another should be installed.

Response: The intersection does not meet the requirements for a signal and the project funding is not sufficient for a signal installation.

19. Timing of Notification:

Concern:

- a. Several residents stated the notification and input into the project should have come much sooner in the project.
- b. The community should have been noticed prior to design, soliciting public input, not when the design project is near completion.

Response: It is common for us to have an open house after preliminary design is complete. We want to be able to present the proposed improvements based on a properly engineered solution that meets the needs of the project. We then gather input from the community on the proposed solution. This input is reviewed to determine if changes to the design are warranted.

20. Bicycle Traffic Crossing:

Concern: Lastly, westbound bicycle traffic would not be safely guarded against the traffic attempting to veer from a full stop into the existing westbound traffic on

Skyline Dr. at Sunrise Dr. Intersection Improvement Project (4SUNTE)
Public and Open House Comments Received

Sunrise, in order to make the previously discussed U-Turn onto eastbound Sunrise. The current westbound traffic disregards posted speed limits.

Response: Delineators are considered to eliminate the ability of vehicle to move left before bicycles have crossed the traffic lane.

21. Traffic Counts:

Concern:

- a. Westbound traffic on Skyline, between Swan and Campbell:
 - i. The traffic count presented does not seem to reflect a true accounting of vehicles during the “regular” months of May through September.
 - ii. The traffic count does not reflect the increases caused during the “rush hours” of 7am to 6pm, business days.
 - iii. The count does NOT reflect the additional traffic created by “snow-bird” residents, which is substantially higher.
 - iv. The plan, as it exists, will not remedy the problematic intersection until traffic counts are made accurate and are incorporated into the final plan.
- B. Westbound traffic on Sunrise, between Swan and Campbell, has a direct effect on vehicular traffic around the subject intersection:
 - i. No traffic count was presented. As above, it should reflect the “regular” months of May through September, the “rush hours” of 7am to 6pm, and the increases due to “snow bird” residents.
 - ii. West-bound vehicles routinely travel significantly over the posted speed limit.
 - iii. During the last dozen years, traffic has increased tremendously since the existence of the following commercial developments at all four intersections of Campbell and Skyline.

Response: Traffic counts have been made at various times during the year over multiple years. The traffic counts are believed to be accurate. The counts are average daily traffic (ADT). We have not looked at time of day issues with this project. Traffic counts were not presented for Sunrise between Swan and Campbell as they have no impact to this project design.

22. Access to Public Right of Way:

Concern:

- a. The negative impact on property values, resulting from problematic ingress and egress onto a public right of way.
- b. We believe we have a right to non-obstructed access to our public right of way, especially when the obstruction is “man-made” from previous years when Skyline was diverted and Sunrise was created.

Response: The ingress and egress onto the public right of way will not be impacted by this project.