



**VALENCIA ROAD: WADE ROAD TO AJO HIGHWAY
DOT PROJECT # 4RTVWE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING**

Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Lawrence Elementary School
4850 W. Jeffery Road
Tucson, AZ

I. INTRODUCTIONS

The Project Team was introduced, along with those members in attendance from the CAC. A listing of the CAC, Project Team and others in attendance is attached.

II. CAC BACKGROUND & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Project Team reviewed the background/intent of the CAC and also reviewed Community Participation and Mitigation Ordinance contained in the second section of the CAC notebook. A Chairman (Martin Rios) and Vice Chair (Anthony Savoca) were selected.

III. CAC NOTEBOOK and CONTENTS

CAC members were each provided a project CAC notebook. The contents of the notebook were reviewed with the CAC. The notebook includes the CAC related ordinance, visual map of the project with an overlay of the proposed new roadway, a calendar for the next year for meeting and scheduling purposes, a section reserved for the Environmental Assessment and Mitigation Report (EAMR), and handouts representing a visual analysis (future views) of the roadway along Valencia Rd. Note that some notebooks will require updating for all documents at the next meeting.

IV. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT

Paul Bennett provided an overview of the project, which consists of the widening of approximately 2.75 miles of Valencia Rd. from an existing 2 lane roadway to a 4 lane desert parkway between Mark Rd. and Ajo Highway (SR86) in compliance with the RTA Regional Transportation Plan. This effort will complete RTA Project #21, as the first stage of widening Valencia Rd. between Wade Rd. and Mark Rd. is currently being constructed. The cross section of this portion of Valencia Rd. will mirror the earlier section, and consist of a raised median divided roadway, with two travel lanes in each direction, bike lanes, appropriate turning lanes, and pedestrian facilities.

V. DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPT REPORT (DCR)

Mr. Bennett provided a high level review of both the Design Concept Report (DCR) and the Initial Design Plans. These documents were both provided to each of the CAC members in attendance. Specific sections in each document were pointed out to the members in an effort to further familiarize them with the project. They were also told that they could contact us should they have specific questions or would like to review some area in more or additional detail.

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VI. PROJECT SCHEDULE

An update of the project schedule was provided, indicating that the project was in its initial design phase, with the development of the DCR and the EAMR. The timeline was to review and approve the DCR in the next month and then move to the review and approval of the EAMR in the subsequent two months. This would then allow for the completion of these base planning documents by the CAC and their submission to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for final approval in late 2016 or very early 2017. Concurrent to this would be the development of the next stage of roadway plans. Once these efforts are completed, Final Plan Design would be initiated, with a tentative bidding of the project to occur late in 2017 or early 2018, dependent upon utility relocation efforts, which should start occurring during the summer of 2017.

VII. PUBLIC ART INVOLVEMENT

There was a discussion regarding what everyone thought about the prior project's art piece with mixed reviews. An ensuing discussion occurred relative to the requirement for there to be an art component within the project and the need for two volunteers to sit on the artist selection panel. The CAC was also told that the call to artist for this project had occurred and selection of two committee members to sit on the artist selection panel was made (Fran Buerger & Erin Jacobs).

VIII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

A review of efforts for the upcoming CAC meetings was made. A listing of the months and efforts that were discussed follows:

- September – Review/Finalize DCR and Preparation for EAMR
- October – Review Draft EAMR
- November – CAC – Finalize EAMR and Public Open House
- January – BOS meeting – Approve EAMR

Subsequent to review of these, the third Tuesday of each month was chosen for the next three meetings (September 20, October 18, and November 15) at Lawrence Elementary School

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

Several general comments were made regarding the project, with the group in support of seeing the effort move forward.

X. NEXT MEETING

September 20, 2016, Lawrence Elementary School, 6 – 7:30 p.m.