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GRANT ROAD CORRIDOR PLANNING TASK FORCE Virtual Meeting – Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the GRANT ROAD CORRIDOR PLANNING TASK FORCE and to the general public that the GRANT ROAD CORRIDOR PLANNING TASK FORCE will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public.

To join the Grant Road Corridor Planning Task Force Virtual Zoom Meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3830746681> Meeting ID: 383 074 6681 Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833

For members of the public that wish to address the commission during the **Call to the Audience**, we ask that you please email your request to Leticia Flores/Joan Landers at information@grantroad.info or call 520-885-9009. The email should include your full name, mailing address, phone number, and the topic you would like to address. Also, please specify if you would like to be added to our email distribution list for future notifications and updates. **Please call or send your email no later than 10:00 a.m. Thursday, September 30, 2021.**

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish Quorum – Joan Landers, Meeting Facilitator, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and quorum was established.

Present		Absent	
Alice Roe	David Sunderman	Andrew Jones	Jim Murphy
Deirdre W. Brosnihan	James Hogan	John Wakefield	Roy A. Garcia Sr.
John Anderson	Linda Marie Small	Susan Alexander	
Moon Joe Yee	Sarah Studd		
Shannon McBride-Olson			

2. Introduction of New Task Force Members – All Task Force members introduced themselves and who they represent. Sarah Studd introduced herself to the Task Force and the Grant Road Team as the newest member representing Neighborhoods along Grant Road.

3. Approval of June 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Joan Landers asked the Task Force members if they had an opportunity to review the minutes from the previous meeting on June 15, 2021. Task Force member James Hogan motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Task Force member Alice Roe seconded the motion. All Task Force members reached a Consensus Decision and approved the June 15, 2021 meeting minutes by roll call. 9-0

4. Phase 3 & 4 Public Art Update – Woods Fairchild, Public Art Projects Manager for the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona, and Joe O’Connell, Artist with Creative Machines, provided an update on the approved public art for Phase 3 & 4 that will be located at Grant Road and Dodge Boulevard. Ms. Woods discussed the process and policy used in selecting a panel to select an artist for all art projects. Mr. O’Connell shared images and talked about the public art he designed for the selected location. The artwork designed is a leaping red coyote centered in a retention basin facing Grant Road that would collect stormwater for the surrounding landscaping. He said the artwork is about 20’ tall and about 25’ long from ears to tail. The Task Force members enjoyed the images and said they liked the design. Discussion was held. No action was taken.

5. Phase 3 & 4 Update – Rick Pargas, Project Manager with HDR Engineering, Inc., Bob Roggenthen, Project Manager with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation & Mobility (DTM), and Alex Stoicof, Landscape Architect with Wheat Design Group, shared a presentation and provided updates on City-owned parcels, utility relocation, construction timeframe, and landscaping for Phase 3 & 4. Discussion was held. No action was taken.

Mr. Pargas briefly provided information the Phase 3 & 4 project for new members. The key features he mentioned were: the roadway would be widened to 6 lanes (3 in each direction), there will be a raised median (17’ wide), bike lanes with 2’ buffers, sidewalks on both sides of Grant Road (5’ to 8’ wide), and landscaping opportunities (where possible). Mr. Pargas said the project will start at Palo Verde and will continue to Venice Place. He mentioned an indirect left turn would be installed at Grant and Alvernon. Mr. Pargas also provided a status on acquisitions and said they are on-going and he anticipates they will be complete by Summer of 2022. Demolitions and relocations are also on-going.

Mr. Roggenthen provided an update on the city-owned parcels. He said the expectations for the city-owned parcels would be to be used as “staging” areas for the construction portion of the project. Once the project is complete, the city will keep and maintain the parcels. Any overlays or rezoning of these parcels would need to be addressed

Mr. Pargas provided a schedule update. He said the design is 100% complete. Therefore, the next step is utility relocation which are on-going. CenturyLink has been installing manholes and conduit and anticipate that work to be completed in October 2021. Next will be the installation of fiber cables in the conduits with an anticipated completion date of January 2022. Southwest Gas is relocating their gas lines and anticipate completion in November 2021. Tucson Electric Power will start the relocation of the powerlines in October 2021 with an anticipated completion date of March 2022. Mr. Pargas mentioned that project bidding is contingent on utility relocation and anticipates advertising in Spring 2022. The anticipated construction start date is Summer 2022 with an 18-24 month duration (tentative).

Ms. Stoicof shared images and talked about the landscaping opportunities within the project. She shared 4 different landscape design goals which consisted of continuity of corridor aesthetics, pedestrian friendly spaces with shade, rainwater harvesting, and desert adapted plant materials.

- a. City-owned Parcels Update**
- b. Utility Relocation**
- c. Construction Timeframe**
- d. Landscaping**

The team members introduced themselves to the Task Force members.

There were technical difficulties with the Zoom platform but quorum was maintained. All Task Force members were able to log back in except for Jim Hogan.

6. Call to the Audience (15 min) – One member of the public addressed the Task Force and expressed their concern. No action was taken.

- **Ronni Kotwica (President – Palo Verde Neighborhood Association)** – Ms. Kotwica mentioned retention basins and Stabilized DG.

This is the time when any member of the public may address the Grant Road Corridor Task Force Members. Due to time constraints, the total time allocated for this is 15 minutes. Individuals are allowed three (3) minutes each. Due to Open Meeting Law, Task Force Members cannot discuss topics that are not on the agenda. Items brought up by the public may be considered as an agenda item for a future meeting.

7. Next Steps – Joan Landers, Meeting Facilitator, mentioned that future Task Force meetings would be scheduled as project information became available. Phase 5 & 6 updates will be on the next Task Force meeting agenda including the funding element. Possible Open House would also be discussed.

8. Roundtable – Each member of the Task Force had an opportunity to make a comment or pass.

- **TF member Alice Roe** thanked the Team for working on this project and said she is pleased with the artwork that will be installed at Grant and Dodge. Ms. Roe also asked if there has been any updates on the dispensary. Mr. Roggenthen said they are waiting on the plans for Phase 5 & 6 to see if there is available funding. Then the issue would need to be taken to the Ward offices.
- **TF member David Sunderman** asked if the 30% design plans would be bid and completed by the end of the 20-year program. Mr. Roggenthen said it is questionable before the program ends. At this point there is not enough funding for the entire program. RTA minutes would have more insight. Program might have to be extended.
- **TF member John Anderson** mentioned the empty parcels and suggested small vegetation be planted for rainwater harvesting and weed control. Mr. Roggenthen said he would look into it.
- **TF member Sarah Studd** echoed John Anderson's comment and suggestion.

9. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

The Regional Transportation Authority, a political subdivision of the state and independently governed, has invested more than \$1.3 billion in transportation projects and services to improve mobility, safety, economic vitality and quality of life in the region. The RTA collects a half-cent excise (sales) tax from its special taxing district within Pima County to fund its 20-year regional transportation plan. The plan and tax were approved by voters in May 2006. The Grant Road Improvement Project is part of the RTA plan and is managed by the City of Tucson. For more information, visit www.RTAmobility.com.