



1st Avenue Citizens' Corridor Planning Task Force

Thursday, September 17, 2026, 5:45 p.m.

Donna R. Liggins Recreation Center

2160 N. 6th Avenue

Tucson, AZ 85705



LEGAL ACTION REPORT

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Karl Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:48 p.m. The quorum was established through roll call.

PRESENT	ABSENT
Ruben Robles	Mindy Gutzmer
Dave Boston	Caroline Bartelme
Maxine Dunkelman	Marci Caballero-Reynolds
Kathleen (Susan) O'Brien	A.M. Rivers
Nancy Reid	
Karl Peterson	
Melissa (Mimi) Noshay-Petro	

2. Approval of June 18, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Karl Peterson asked the members of the 1st Avenue Citizens' Corridor Planning Task Force (1ACCPTF) if they had an opportunity to review the minutes from the previous meeting on June 18, 2026. All 1ACCPTF members reviewed the minutes, and Ruben Robles made a motion to accept, seconded by Mimi Noshay-Petro. All approved.

3. Call to the Audience

No comments were received during the Call to the Audience.

4. Update Phase III Outreach Effort and Preliminary Summary Report

HDR Project Manager, Brent Kirkman provided a summary of the most recent community outreach for Phase III:

Outreach Summary:

- An in-person open house event was held on August 5, 2026. There were between 50 and 60 attendees and feedback gathered at this event was almost exclusively positive. 
- The online public meeting was held online from August 5 – September 5, 2026. As of this meeting, there were a total of 170 views, 112 total users and 112 engaged sessions.
- The team attended two Rillito Heirloom Farmers Markets on Sunday, August 9, 2026, and Sunday, August 23, 2026. We spoke with approximately 20 people on the 9th and about 30 people on the 23rd. Almost all of those we spoke with were very happy to see the proposed improvements.
- The RTA MainStreet professionals visited, called and emailed businesses along the corridor.
- We had several people thank us for making the proposed improvements to 1st Avenue, this seems to be the predominant theme.
- People are happy to see that the city is improving this vital north/south artery.
- There are a lot of comments about the consistent issues around drug use and the unhoused along the corridor, people feel that these factors have made 1st Avenue an unattractive and unsafe corridor.
- There were several comments about bus riders and bus stops. Concerns around drug use and unhoused populations were prevalent. Few comments were expressed around the channelized right-turns, claiming that they are extremely dangerous for cyclists.
- 73% of individuals who commented on the project voted to remove the median at Limberlost Avenue.

Key themes that were seen in the comments left during Phase III were presented.

The final numbers for the Limberlost median alternatives were also presented.

The team added that the Phase III Community Outreach Summary Report is in the works and will be shared with the task force members upon completion.

No action was taken.

5. Recommendation on Removal of Existing Median at Limberlost

HDR Project Engineer Brent Kirkman noted that many members of the community have requested the removal of the median on Limberlost Drive to allow left turns out of the Rillito Crossing Marketplace. A poll was conducted on the topic of removing or keeping the median through the online meeting portal and at the in-person open house. The results were as follows:

- 16 votes for removing the median (73%)
- 6 votes for keeping the median (27%)

A variety of comments on this topic were shared with the task force.

No action was taken.

6. Recommendation to Support DCR and 30% Design

HDR Project Engineer Brent Kirkman and City of Tucson DTM Administrator Patrick Hartley asked the task force to give their final approval of the 30% design. The RTA PAG board will be giving the 30% design final approval at the end of this month.

There was a brief run-through to go over the challenges that were raised in the previous task force meeting. The project team went through each issue and updated the task force on how each of them were resolved and answered further questions. The task force was pleased with the resolutions to prior challenges.

Karl Peterson asked for a motion to accept the 30% design. Mimi Noshay-Petro moved to accept the 30% design, Ruben Robles seconded. Six members approved and one did not approve. The motion passed.

7. Next Steps and Project Phasing

HDR Project Engineer Brent Kirkman and City of Tucson DTM Administrator Patrick Hartley asked task force members to decide between two options: continue with periodic meetings, email updates, and outreach invitations until **concluding** in June 2027, or **dissolve** the group immediately.

There were discussions and questions from the task force members on how much they will be needed going forward. Patrick and Brent explained that most of the work going forward will be refinements on the design. Patrick also noted that if anyone on the task force is interested, the public art portion of the project will have a committee and that he will share information with the group when that begins to see if anyone would be interested in participating.

After discussion, it was decided that they will leave the task force in place and if anything, that warrants a meeting comes up between now and June 2027, the project team will let them know. The project team will also keep the task force members updated with materials as needed between now and June 2027. The task force will conclude in June 2027.

No action was taken.

8. Adjournment

Karl Peterson called for a motion to adjourn. Melissa (Mimi) Noshay-Petro moved to adjourn the meeting; Susan O'Brien seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.