

Meeting Notes Broadway Road Action Team February 11, 2009

Members Present: Ted Lehman, Ruben Valenzuela, Ted Raper, Paul Morris, Brian Farling, Steve Tseffos, Shari Samuelson-Wesley, Patty Tolson Gonzalez (alternate), Ernie Nickels, Tom Martin, Eric Richardson

Members Absent: William Harris (alternate), Ernest Kurschat, Dara Foias

City Staff Present: Sue Taaffe, Robert Yabes, Eric Iwersen, Shelly Seyler

Guests Present: Kimberly Martin, Jeanette Nickels, Terry Gruver, Coral Balcazar, Jennifer Love, John Arnold

Agenda Item 1 – Introductions

The Action Team, City staff and consultants introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 2 -- Ground Rules

City staff reviewed the ground rules for the meeting. Tom Martin was elected Chair and Ted Lehman was elected Vice-Chair.

Agenda Item 3 -- Project Description and Boundary

Staff identified the project boundary as Broadway Road between Mill Avenue and Rural Road. A tentative public meeting timeline was also presented.

Agenda Item 4 – Project Goals and Objectives

Staff reviewed the project goals which include:

- Reducing traffic noise
- Protect community character
- Address safety concerns
- Provide bike lanes
- Provide eight foot sidewalk
- Retain Broadway Lane
- Improve streetscape
- Discourage neighborhood cut-through traffic
- Coordinate with other related projects

Agenda Item 5 – Background Materials – Previous Work

Staff presented a PowerPoint presentation from 2001 which highlighted process, project findings and previous consultant recommendations.

Agenda Item 6 – Project Schedule

Staff presented a tentative project schedule. The tentative schedule is as follows:

- Feb. 2009 – Aug. 2009: Action Team Meets and Public Meeting occur

- Aug. 2009 – Jan. 2010: Final design occurs and federal obligation process is completed
- Feb. 2010 – Feb. 2011: Construction occurs

Agenda Item 7 – Other Related Projects

Other streetscape projects in the area that may affect Broadway Road as identified by staff include:

- Apache Blvd.
- College Ave.
- Daley Park

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

The following discussion ensued:

- Tom: What are the project limitations as to what we can and can't do? Staff response: Any modifications to Broadway Road that have a negative impact on the neighborhoods must be avoided.
- Tom: Where is the majority of the traffic coming from? Staff Response: The consultant will be conducting a traffic study to determine problem areas.
- Ernie: Stated that the previous consultant had recommended removing one lane of traffic.
- Ruben: Is the frontage road on the northwest corner of Broadway and College necessary? Staff response: The frontage road will be closed as part of the College Avenue project.
- Steve: Is the two lane eastbound and two lane westbound option is a possibility? Staff response: Modeling has not been completed. The consultant will test this scenario.
- Ted Raper and Shari: Is maintaining Broadway Lane a project requirement? Staff response: Yes.
- Ted Raper: Is it possible to remove the third lane of traffic and create a bus pullout on the north side of the street to create a quiet area? Staff response: That can be studied.
- Ted Raper: Is the turn lane required? Staff response: It helps to move traffic. If the turn lane were removed, traffic would back up along Broadway and vehicles would then begin to cut through neighborhoods.
- Tom: If the only way to add sidewalk is to remove a lane of traffic, then what right of way is available? Staff response: Staff provided a map of the right of way. Money is not allocated in the budget to purchase additional right of way.
- Eric: Stated that he would give up a portion of his property along Broadway Road if the city would rezone his property for commercial use.
- Steve: This idea was considered in 1986 and failed. However, it may be time to revisit this idea.
- Steve: Getting out of driveways on the south side of Broadway is dangerous.
- Ted Lehman: Properties south of Broadway Road may not like the idea of properties being zoned commercial.
- Ruben: Stated that in 1986, the city considered buying the properties on the south side of the street and turning it into a green belt.
- Steve: Why is the speed limit on that section of Broadway 40 mph? The section to the east is 45 so as vehicles are traveling westbound, they are essentially traveling upwards of 50 mph. Staff response: A speed study will be conducted to determine if lowering the speed limit is warranted.
- Ruben: How soon will cost estimates be available, and what can we get for \$3.3 million? Staff response: A cost estimate will be provided after completion of the proposed design alternatives.
- Ted Raper: Since Broadway road is six lanes wide, what space do we have to work with? Staff response: The consultants will make a presentation at the next meeting regarding this issue.
- Tom: How many people are using Broadway Road as a cut-through? Staff response: IN 2001, it was about 11 percent.
- Ted Raper: Do bike lanes have to be on both sides of the street? Staff response: Yes.
- Patty: What would be the impact of just one mile of bike lanes as it would be inconsistent? Staff response: The bike lanes could connect to the bike lanes on College Avenue.

- Paul: Can we narrow the lanes on the arterials? Staff response: Arterials must be no less than 11 feet per lane.
- Steve: Stated that Broadway Road will never be fixed. However, you can protect the neighborhoods from Broadway Road.
- Tom: Stated that Mill Avenue was narrowed and now he does not use it. It's great.
- Ernie: Stated that he would like a wall built.
- Ernie: Suggested turning the property entrances on the south side of Broadway toward the alley.
- Steve: Stated that a city grant could be used for Ernie's suggestion.
- Steve: Stated that the wall on Rural Road stabilized property values.
- Steve: Suggested rubberized asphalt on Broadway Road.
- Ted Lehman: The regional contacts and partners should be included in the process.
- Ted Lehman: A half mile of bike lanes does not make sense. Staff response: The grant requires that bike lanes be added.
- Brian: What are the requirements with regard to adding alternative modes to the project? Staff response: Bike lanes could be added to Broadway Lane. Bus and pedestrian improvements are required.

Agenda Item 9 – Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on March 3 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Don Cassano Community Room located at 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe. *The next meeting has been changed to April 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Don Cassano Community Room located at 200 E. Fifth Street, Tempe.