

Summary

Mid Town Neighborhood Conversation, October 16, 2007

Question 1: What do we already know about Grant Road?

- Medical businesses located between Craycroft Rd. and Rosemont Blvd. (beyond the Grant Rd. study area)
- It's an eyesore.
- Current levels of pollution affect pedestrians.
- It's a traffic and pedestrian mess on Alvernon Way and Grant Rd. by Fry's.
- There has been an increase in traffic on Alvernon Way where lights are poorly timed.
- Many hazards with pedestrian and bus traffic (slow downs).
- It floods.

Question 2: What characteristics along Grant Road should be preserved?

- Nothing.
- Save "The Shelter"/bar.
- Grant Road Lumber.
- Las Margaritas – formerly Pancho's.
- Doolen Middle School, Bookman's.
- Housing along Grant Rd., Mountain Ave. to Park Ave. (historic on South Side).
- Preserve "dark skies."

Question 5: What characteristics along Grant Road should be changed?

- Underground utilities.
- Improved side street signs.
- Improved lighting/visibility for signs on Grant Rd.
- Utilize clean bus shuttle.
- Plan for future streetcar use.
- Safer pedestrian crosswalks, accessibility for the disabled.
- Pedestrian safety (North of Grant Rd. to Pima St.).
- Bus cut-outs and bike paths added.
- Prevent neighborhood cut-through with something like at Tucson High School.

- Look at the character of the Road with unique “nodes” such as at Alvernon Way with Tucson Botanical Gardens, an environmental node.
- More plantings to counteract pollution.
- A turning lane (right into Fry’s at Alvernon Way).
- Covered bus shelters with solar power lights (emphasis from several on solar powered lighting in the area).
- Under or over roadway pedestrian walkway/bridge.

Question 6: What do we fear and hope for along Grant Road?

FEARS —

- Impact on neighborhoods during construction — need to prevent cut-through traffic.
- Noise impact (during construction and after) — idea: “porous slats” as used in Berlin, Germany.
- Alternative routes.
- It will look like Campbell Ave.: “a big, open, concrete thing.”

HOPES —

- The possibility of a lovely thoroughfare with planted trees.
- More lighting that is sky friendly.
- How to make six lanes “cozy” — idea use arches and vegetation.