

Summary

Mountain and 1st Neighborhood Conversation, October 18, 2007

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

- My neighborhood area is walkable.
- Lots of people speed.
- Hazardous to bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Historic homes (1920s bungalows).
- It's ugly, particularly I-10 to 1st Ave.
- Lack of bus pullouts lead to congestion.
- On Campbell Ave./Grant Rd. there is a 10 min. walk between bus stops.
- Grant deserves a straight, East to West, across bus route.
- Flooding.
- Hard to walk it.
- East of Campbell Ave. businesses are unique and diverse.
- Air quality will deteriorate with more traffic (and there will be a rumored wider 1st Ave. to take foothills traffic to and from the airport).
- It's hot.
- Mountain Ave. traffic backs up between Glenn St. and Grant Rd.

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

- Schools – Jefferson Park Elementary School, Doolen Middle School, Catalina High School.
- The access road for Catalina Vista.
- Funky business character.
- Walkability in neighborhoods to businesses, restaurants.
- Current zoning.

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

- Need to change lane size to more narrow and slow traffic.
- Funding should be directed to help neighborhoods develop connectivity as bicycle and pedestrian corridors.
- Connect bike path to the North [on Mountain Ave. or 1st Ave.?] and toward the small park.

- Get rid of billboards as signage; add landscaping for noise walls to prohibit graffiti and improve aesthetics.
- Need more light between Campbell Ave. and Swan Rd.
- Every bus stop should have a pullout.
- Designate right turn lanes at intersections.
- Put bus stops closer to intersections.
- Use new technologies – solar lighting, water harvesting, drip irrigation = make it green.
- Need more sidewalks.
- Catalina Vista road access could be part of a bicycle corridor/urban trail similar to Lambert Ln. in Oro Valley.
- More safe pedestrian crossings.
- Use rubberized asphalt.
- Eliminate traffic signal at Dodge Blvd. (it's not synchronized) BUT will need to add a safe pedestrian crossing for Catalina High School students.
- Need good landscaping – shade, trees, shrubs (all with low water use), to reduce heat of the roadway.
- Increase bus frequency on #1 route and extend bus schedule.
- Add mini-buses.
- Acknowledge that the area is more urban – so cluster businesses, support pedestrian walkability, mixed use, landscaping and clearly marked crosswalks.

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

FEARS –

- We continue to create an environmentally unsustainable infrastructure.
- Incompatibility of wider road and bicyclists.
- Worsening air quality and noise impact.
- Grant Rd. could become a barrier between neighborhoods on the South.
- Is there enough money to do it?
- Global warming has impact yet we're fostering the burning of more fossil fuels.

HOPES –

- Build a facility [roadway] for more bikes and foster a healthier community.
- More bicycle corridors.
- Fewer cars on Mountain Ave. – students can ride bikes to the University of Arizona (UA).
- We could use more alternative vehicles such as electric cars.
- That we will use Grant Rd. as much as we are (won't lose services and businesses that we like and use).