

Summary

Blenman-Elm Neighborhood Conversation, November 8, 2007

Question 1: What do we already know about Grant Rd.?

- Dangerous for pedestrians and bicycles.
- Lots of historic structures.
- Major east/west arterial.
- It has drainage problems.
- People live on it.
- Bad traffic.
- The west-end is ugly.
- Traffic bottlenecks – on and off I-10.
- Buses and businesses along Grant Rd.
- Very few sidewalks.

Question 2: What characteristics along Grant Rd. should be preserved?

- Historic buildings and houses.
- Small businesses.
- Access to schools.
- Eclectic character/not super planned.
- Older vegetation.

Question 5: What characteristics along Grant Rd. should be changed?

- Trailer parks; example: 3339 E. Grant Rd.
- Bottlenecks; examples, Grant Rd. intersections at Dodge Blvd., Alvernon Way, 1st Ave., Stone Ave., Campbell Ave.
- The pedestrian and bicycle “war zone”.
- Needs vegetation between curb and sidewalk.
- Pullouts for buses and more buses.
- Less traffic.
- Character to match neighborhoods.
- Pedestrian-scale small businesses.
- Cut-through traffic.

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

FEARS —

- Not enough land will be taken to do a good job on redevelopment.
- Loss of businesses — that's character.
- The end of the project at Swan Rd./its transition.
- On Tucson Blvd./Speedway Blvd. — crossing two lanes to one lane.
- Not being able to cross the roadway.
- Loss of homes (including the trailer parks/affordable housing).
- [It would be] something similar to Aviation Hwy.
- Cut through traffic during construction.
- Getting on to or off Grant Rd., turning left.
- Three lanes either way is not enough.
- Construction duration.

HOPES —

- Small business incubator.
- Landscaping/green space.
- Place for people, not just cars.
- A dedicated bike path.
- Slower speeds.
- Sheltered bus pullouts.
- Open space, a five-mile park.
- More trees.
- Public transit other than buses.
- Eclectic character.
- Public art in character with neighborhoods and lighting — shielded, with function but not ugly.
- Pedestrian/bike path separate from roadway.