

Summary

Doolen Middle School Student Council Conversations-in-a-Bag January 24, 2008

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

- Grant Rd. is busy. Grant Rd. and Country Club Rd. gets congested when people are dropping kids off at Doolen Middle School.
- There are a lot of pedestrians on Grant Rd. They need more room. The sidewalks are “squished and ugly.”
- There are a lot of accidents on Grant Rd. The fire department is down the street. (Students hear emergency vehicles coming and going during their classes.)
- There are no crosswalks at Camilla Blvd. and the Boys and Girls Club.
- Traffic gets backed up at Grant Rd. and Alvernon Way.
- The sidewalks are inconsistent. There should be one sidewalk all the way along Grant Rd.
- The Boys and Girls Club is a gathering place for kids.
- Students from Catalina High School and Palo Verde High School gather at the Jack in the Box located in the area of Dodge Blvd.

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

- The Hamburger Stand.
- Robert’s Restaurant and Bobo’s.
- Keep the houses and residences.
- Torques Café.
- Gas stations.
- The French Quarter.
- Doolen Middle School.
- Fry’s and Wal-Mart.
- Burger King, Taco Bell, Eegee’s.
- Keep neighborhoods that have been revitalized with parks or other public gathering spaces.

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

- There needs to be more frequent crosswalks.
- Grant Rd. is dark – it needs more lights.
- Bus pullouts are needed at Doolen Middle School.

- Grant Rd. needs a bike lane. Students ride their bikes to & from home.
- Make the buildings look prettier and safer (crime area).
- Use landscape buffering.
- Use rubberized asphalt.
- Make space for different and future types of transit.
- Make more parking for Doolen Middle School.
- Put an overpass or underpass at Doolen Middle School.
- Don't make Grant Rd. so boring. Put some curves in it.
- Make frontage roads like those along Campbell Ave.

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

HOPES —

- That Grant Rd. will be beautiful when it is done.
- People movers, escalators.
- Pedestrian refuge areas.
- More art along Grant Rd. Changeable art panels like those on the Broadway Blvd. underpass.
- Thunderbird (the Doolen mascot) statues around the Doolen Middle School area. A Thunderbird overpass.
- Better access to Doolen Middle School.
- A safe school zone.

FEARS —

- That the road will be too wide.
- Roundabouts will be used as a form of traffic calming. Roundabouts aren't good in busy areas. They slow down traffic, make it more congested, and unsafe.

Mobility and Access:

- Safe speeds.
- Better connection around Doolen Middle School.
- There needs to be better access to Doolen Middle School from Grant Rd.
- Make a pick up/drop off lane for Doolen Middle School.

Character and Vitality:

- Need for more medical places, small clinics.
- Enhance the youthful character around Doolen Middle School.
- Make the area around the Boys and Girls Club more kid-friendly and safe.
- Grant Rd. is very international. There are people from all over the world that live along Grant Rd.
- Use a police bike patrol to keep areas safe.
- Keep similar businesses grouped together.
- More coffee shops.

Aesthetics and Environment:

- Benches.
- Solar-powered streetlights.
- Better bus stops, more shade, drinking fountains, etc.
- Community benches. Individual benches that represent the surrounding community.
- Have people in the community donate benches to use along Grant Rd. and to be made into art.
- More trash cans along Grant Rd.
- When relocating properties make them more "green", environmentally-friendly.
- Put recycling cans with trash cans along Grant Rd.
- Make some of the opportunity areas into something like a town square with vendors.
- Bury the utilities. This will allow for more space for trees.
- Fix flooding! Use water harvesting.

Priorities:

- Crosswalks.
- Bike lanes/sidewalks.
- Beautification/landscaping.
- Environmentally-friendly.
- More parking.
- Redo the front gate of Doolen Middle School.
- Put a Thunderbird statue in front of Doolen Middle School.
- Keep the Hamburger Stand.
- Make a bridge/underpass at Doolen Middle School.
- Bus pullouts.
- Pickup/drop-off lane.
- Keep Bobo's.
- Make a separate bike lane.
- More destinations and parks.
- Keep the Doolen Middle School students safe.
- Make the traffic along Grant Rd. move faster, especially in front of Doolen Middle School.
- Drinking fountains along Grant Rd.
- Access to Doolen Middle School.
- Coffee shops.
- Solar-powered streetlights.