

August 5, 2016

Lucinda Andreani
Interim Director

Dear Kachina Village Resident,

Mike Lopker
Deputy Director

The Kachina Trail Road Improvement Project is progressing through the engineering process and there are a number of important updates to share with you. A project open house will be held to review in more detail the project plans. The project open house will be held:

Scott Tkach, PE
County Engineer

Wednesday, August 24, 2016
6:00 – 8:00pm
Highlands Fire Station 23
3350 S. Old Munds Highway

Carl Fuller
Road Maintenance
Superintendent

Byron Browning
Fleet Services Manager

As a brief reminder, the Kachina Trail Road Improvement Project involves the section of Kachina Trail from the intersection of Kachina Blvd. to the bridge near Ancient Trail. The improvements planned for this section of the roadway include removal of the median and paving improvements including 12-foot travel lanes and 5-foot paved shoulders, which will support multi-modal use (bicycles and pedestrians). We apologize that one of the prior County communications may have indicated that the improvements extended to Kwa Ovi, which is not the case. Although most of the cost of the project is being funded by Coconino County's Proposition 403 funds, the project is also partially funded through a federal grant. As a federally funded project, ADOT is responsible for the roadway engineering and project management.

Minerva Ramirez-Lopez
Administrative Senior
Manager

Allie Stender
Program Manager

Ron Hollamon
Solid Waste Manager

Marc Della Rocca
Community Relations
Manager

As the engineering has progressed and discussions have taken place with all the utilities serving Kachina Village, it has become clear that the project now has a broader goal of not only addressing the condition of the deteriorating roadway, but also the aging utilities in this same corridor, some of which are in conflict with the proposed road reconstruction. Most of the utilities in this area were installed during the initial construction of the development, which is now almost 50 years ago, and many now exist under the roadway. Given this situation, and weighing the cost and impact to the community, it makes sense for the agencies to work together to address all the aging utility infrastructure and the degraded road condition in this corridor now rather than separate projects over the next several years.

With the need to address all the aging infrastructure, the timeline for the project will be modified to ensure that the project is still completed by next summer (2017). The utilities will be replaced and relocated this fall so that the road reconstruction can proceed next spring as originally planned. The utilities will mostly be relocated to

(Over)

the east side of the roadway. Several property owners on the east side of the road have donated public utility easements. Thank you to those that provided the easements. These easements will be used for new APS, CenturyLink and Suddenlink facilities.

With regard to replacing the aging sewer and electrical lines in this corridor, both will require trenching into the park area. These utilities have existed in this area for many years preceding the park designation, and importantly the area is not in the designated wetlands. The County and its consultants will develop and manage the execution of a restoration plan for all disturbed areas in the park. The work within the park area is tentatively scheduled to take place later this fall, which will reduce impacts and allow for over-wintering the reseeding (native seed) of all disturbed areas.

Traffic control during the relocation and reconstruction of the utilities will be managed by the contractor and overseen by the County. The current plan for the utility relocations portion of the project (this fall) is to shift two way traffic to the west side of the road while constructing the majority of the utility relocations in the eastern portion of the road. This will allow for traffic to flow in both directions and support the contractor with completing the utility relocations this fall. There may be times when it is necessary to close one lane to allow for construction traffic, but these are expected to be very minor delays. During the project, construction and traffic control information will be posted on the project's web page at www.coconino.az.gov/KachinaTrailProject. Information also will be regularly updated and available on Facebook by "Liking" *Coconino County Roads*.

Upgrading infrastructure in an older, developed area is quite a complex endeavor, but a very necessary endeavor to ensure the long-term reliability of the utilities and integrity of the new roadway. I encourage you to attend the project open house so you can learn more about the details of the project's plans and ask specific questions. There will be tables set up at the open house with info on the various aspects of the project. If you are unable to attend the open house, then please visit the web page noted above where we will place highlights of the information shared at the open house.

Thank you in advance for your patience. We know that construction is disruptive, but we believe the significant level of investment in this important Kachina Village corridor is crucial for current residents and future generations.

Sincerely,



Lucinda Andreani
Interim Director, Public Works