

# Public Comment in Regard to the AZ Canal Multiuse Path from Chaparral Road to the Indian Bend Wash Path

*The following comments were received at the May 20, 2014 Public Meeting. All references to names and addresses have been removed. This document represents only the comments that were received. A separate document has been created to address Frequently Asked Questions.*

## **Comment 1**

I recommend landscape improvements on the east side of the canal to complement the west side improvement-soft improvements only no pavement.

## **Comment 2**

The bridge at Silverado Golf course does not seem necessary.

## **Comment 3**

Looks good. I can't wait for the bridge at Jackrabbit. I've been wanting one for years.

## **Comment 4**

With increased recreational traffic it will be important:

- 1) To draw traffic/parking to the Silverado dirt lot for excess parking.
- 2) Increase no parking on Lincoln approaching cattletrack.
- 3) Increase no parking on cattletrack.
- 4) Enforce both 2/3.

## **Comment 5**

The design of The Golf Course Bridge is much more attractive than the Jackrabbit Bridge. The Jackrabbit Bridge is much more visible and will be used more than The Golf Course bridge. The designs should be switched-It makes much more sense to put the better design in the most visible place!

## **Comment 6**

This is a start. I hope there will be future funding to improve the east side of the canal going north. I'd like to see benches, trash bins and recycling bins on either canal side. These items can be made I am sure to blend in with the desert colors. Residents living along the east side of the canal (we live on that side as well) use the canal path & the areas sloping from the path as their personal trash dump.

**Comment 7**

This project is a poor use of \$1.9 million in transportation sales tax funds. Until 10+ years ago those funds were restricted to roadway improvements. Since then transportation improvement funds have been diverted to subsidize bus service which could arguable help roadways by removing drivers off the roads. This project will have no impact on roadway traffic and is not a good use of our limited transportation improvement funds.

**Comment 8**

I AM SO SORRY TO SEE THIS PROJECT MOVING FORWARD. IT IS A HUGE WASTE OF MONEY. \$1.9 MILLION COULD BE USED SOME PLACE ELSE. IT IS NOT AN IMPROVEMENT. IT IS TAKING A BEAUTIFUL NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND STICKING A 10-FOOT-WIDE CONCRETE PATH ON THE CANAL BANK. PLEASE RECONSIDER.

**Comment 9**

This project will serve our community by granting improved access to a world class trail system. It increases quality of life, fitness and economic vitality. I especially like the traffic control enhancements and public art. This is what makes Scottsdale a great city. Thank you.

**Comment 10**

WEST SIDE GOOD JOB!

**Comment 11**

Great job-one suggestion-doggy waste stations with it would include bags & waste cans.

**Comment 12**

This will be a great project! We so need the connections between downtown & the IBW path, and between the two parts of Jackrabbit Road. I'm glad to see you're recommending HAWK signals-just don't program them with long wait times. Make sure any new trees do not get too big, so they don't block the already-narrow path on the west side. The public art looks fun, too.

**Comment 13**

Thank you. Great Info.

**Comment 14**

I can't wait for the bridge at Jackrabbit! I suggested it to Reed more than ten years ago. Looking forward to seeing the whole project finished. Don't forget to paint stripes on the path for visibility at night. Next project you need is to connect the canal paths on E & W side of Scottsdale Road at the Camelback intersection. It is currently unsafe for cyclists to cross both streets!

**Comment 15**

It all looks great. I have been in Scottsdale two years. The artwork is a signature of the community. The artwork on jackrabbit Bridge is very important and I hope that it can be included!!

**Comment 16**

Want artistic shade structure back at canal & Indian Bend Wash.

**Comment 17**

We do not need a bridge at Silverado. It is a waste of money. Use the money to lengthen the trail S. of Chaparral. Make sure the HAWK pedestrian street crossing light goes on when you push the walk button light. The poles in the middle of the path should be cut down to approx. 3'. The path should be 12' wide not 10' or 8' wide.

**Comment 18**

Nice Project! I would like to make sure that the new trees will not be planted in front of my gates.

**Comment 19**

- 1) Signs of stencils, cross streets, unusual trees, etc. don't want to get lost if riding further, can tell g.kids about trees.
- 2) Lower bollards-so handlebars don't hit, balance worse when going slow.
- 3) Thank you SRP, City of Scottsdale, Scottsdale Public Art, and all the rest!!

**Comment 20**

Really excited for improvement at canal-when will the east side see some improvement.

**Comment 21**

I think the project is very well thought out. Residents need to make left turn on to Chaparral Rd. where Hawk is located.

***The following comments were sent to the City in regard to the AZ Canal Project during the months of May, June & July 2014. All references to names and addresses have been removed. This document represents only the comments that were received. A separate document has been created to addresses Frequently Asked Questions.***

**Comment #22**

Three people suggested that we have markers identifying plants and animals. Also markers indicating location to streets and other points of interest.

**Comment #23**

We need more vegetation on the west side north of EPCOR property to block vehicles from driving off the canal onto private property.

#### **Comment #24**

There are some existing connections between the canal and streets and parking areas north of McDonald that need to be maintained.

#### **Comment #25**

I regret that I'll miss you're your update presentation on 5/20 since we'll be out of town, but I have one question/suggestion for you to review. I am not sure whether the plans call for lighting along the canal path, but if they do let me observe that I really like the lights used along the path between McDowell and Thomas and wouldn't mind seeing the same ones between Chaparral and Lincoln.

#### **Comment #26**

Nice to chat with you at the open house Tuesday night on the Chaparral/Indian Bend canal path project. I was disappointed to hear that Jody Pinto's bridge design has been replaced by a rather pedestrian bridge design. I bike this section six mornings a week and run into many guests of the city staying at nearby resorts and hotels. I feel that this section of trail in the heart of the city needs special attention to meet the standards in art and design already established by the city of Scottsdale. Please reconsider this bridge design as I feel it is very important to "make them remember".

#### **Comment #27**

Please DO NOT PAVE the canal path between Chaparral Road and Indian Bend (Case #28-DR-2014). A multi-use path is NOT SAFE for pedestrians. The bikes whiz by at fast speeds and create a danger to pedestrians.

As a local resident, I have experienced this problem on the multi-use path that already exists along the Indian Bend wash. Bikes frequently run me off the path. In fact, the term "multi-use" is a misnomer. The path is for bikes only, to the exclusion of pedestrians.

Please maintain the gravel surface of the canal path. Walking on gravel is preferable to pedestrians because it is easier on our knees. We enjoy using the canal path because it is gravel and not concrete.

We also use it because the path is quiet and peaceful. A concrete path will attract high-speed cyclists who will ruin the tranquility of the path.

You are making a big mistake by paving the canal path with concrete. You are destroying the reasons why local residents enjoy using it. Paving the path is NOT an improvement.

Please find a better use for our taxpayer dollars.

### **Comment #28**

I live on Cattle Track and walk the canal between McDonald and Silverado daily most of the year. I attended several of the public presentations. The access to the canal through the Silverado golf course parking lot has been a concern to me from the beginning. For months now, I have been thinking about other possible solutions as I walk. I believe my proposal is one worth serious consideration. I cannot think of any disadvantages to it other than irritating the developer who was required to put in a path around the condominium project just north of the golf clubhouse.

I believe the plan for access to the canal through the Silverado golf course parking lot is poor. It requires the removal of lights and mature trees currently in the parking lot. It requires those going from Indian Bend to the canal path to cross a street just prior to the clubhouse, which all golf traffic must use. It is also the main reason the expensive Silverado bridge is needed over the wash. All canal users who cross this bridge will find themselves in the "overflow parking" area, where they may have to deal with motor vehicles.

I believe a better solution would be to provide access from Indian Bend Road via the Indian Bend wash, just below the 18th tee of the golf course. Yes, a protective wall would be required to protect users from errant golf shots, but this would be much less expensive than reconfiguring the clubhouse parking lot and building the Silverado bridge at the currently proposed access point. The 18th hole is a short par 3 with an elevated tee, which means most shots will be very high and nowhere close to a path below.) I believe users would also be safer gaining access near the 18th tee than by crossing the clubhouse street, the regular parking lot, and the overflow parking lot.

This less expensive solution might also provide enough savings to extend the concrete path along the canal from Lincoln northward instead of diverting canal users to the existing asphalt path. This has its own advantages. First, it eliminates the other reason for the Silverado bridge. Second, users are more likely to stay on the path if it is concrete and continues along the canal. I suspect many would continue on the dirt along the canal rather than make two 90 degree turns to get on an asphalt path that is in poor condition. Third, it would be safer because those using the asphalt path as well as users arriving from Indian Bend would not need to go through the overflow parking area. Fourth, the people who live in the 7600 Lincoln community would be happy not to have canal users directly on the other side of the wall from their homes.

### **Comment #29**

A pedestrian bridge please at Lincoln Road for access to the canal path and more.

Thank you for considering this

**Comment #30**

Please evaluate using a pedestrian bridge over Chapparel Rd instead of the one over the canal at Jackrabbit as a greater overall safety consideration.

**Comment #31**

1. I'd prefer the pathway remain dirt
2. There is already a "multiuse", concrete paved pathway that parallels Hayden Road. It runs up to Indian Bend with tunneled access at major crossroads. Your able to use that pathway without having to risk your life to cross streets that have major traffic!
3. Having 25 SEGMENTED miles of concrete without making it possible to cross the major intersections, without having to dismount lacks a clear understanding of how the current dirt pathways are used.
4. And the dirt. . . god loves the dirt! It's easier on runners/walkers. It's way more fun on a bike than concrete. IF THIS IS GOING TO HAPPEN REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE CITIZENS OF SCOTTSDALE THINK?

**Comment #32**

My major concern is to keep the path location on the West side of the canal as it runs alongside Cabrillo Square; and I do not want any "ART" in my backyard.

**Comment #33**

We strongly oppose the request for design approval of the 10-foot wide multi-use pathway proposed for the two miles along the west side of the Arizona Canal between Chaparral Road and the Indian Bend Wash.

We are 20 year residents of the community of 7600 Lincoln which is adjacent to this area. The very redeeming factor of the area in question is the wonderful rural setting for residents and visitors alike. Folks enjoy walking, jogging, bicycling and just savoring the view of the mountains in the east, the many varieties of birds we see and hear along the way - the very ambience of the setting as it is now. There is enough concrete and asphalt in the Valley and we do not need more!

It is a "multi-use pathway" at the present time.

**Comment #34**

Please DO NOT PAVE the canal path (Case #28-DR-2014). A multi-use path is NOT SAFE for pedestrians. The bikes whizz by at fast speeds and create a danger to pedestrians. I experience this problem on the path near the Indian Bend wash. Bikes frequently run me off the path. The term "multi-use path" does not reflect reality. The path is for bikes only, to the exclusion of pedestrians.

In addition, pedestrians need a GRAVEL path because it is easier on our knees. We go to the canal path because it is gravel and not concrete.

We also go because the path is quiet and peaceful. A concrete path will attract high-speed cyclists who ruin the tranquil quality of the path.

You are making a big mistake by paving the canal path with concrete. You are destroying the reasons why residents enjoy using it. Paving the path is NOT an improvement.

Please use your taxpayer funding for a better purpose. If you want to add more desert landscaping, that is great. Otherwise, find a way to spend the money on our local schools. Give them back their art classes and PE classes. Don't waste our precious tax dollars.

**Comment #35**

I was unable to attend the May 20th meeting and can only rely on the on-line documents. The jackrabbit bridge now seems to be similar to the McDonald bridge instead of a more artful design. At least, it will be functional. No measurements are given in the on-line document. The McDonald bridge is too narrow for bikes to safely pass in opposite directions. Also, the bollards are too high (they rise to handlebar level) and too close to the bridge for safe easy bike passage. The bollards should be one foot shorter and one foot farther away from the bridge entrance. While this may let a few more illegal vehicles use the bridge (Segways and motorcycles, for example), the main concern is keeping cars and trucks off of the bridge. Thanks for your time.

**Comment #36**

Not putting in at least low level Malibu lights is a big mistake