South Mountain Transportation Corridor Study
Citizen Advisory Team

April 27, 2006

Mr. Victor Mendez
Director
Arizona Department of Transportation
205 South 17th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Mendez:

In November 2001, the Arizona Department of Transportation formed a Citizen Advisory Team (CAT) to examine the issues and alternatives for the South Mountain Transportation Corridor Environmental Impact Statement. As members of this group, we were asked to communicate with citizens in our communities, neighborhood groups and stakeholder organizations to advise ADOT on how best to communicate with citizens in this area. We were also asked to provide feedback regarding the technical and environmental issues associated with the alternatives developed and evaluated with this project.

After 39 meetings over the last 4 ½ years and numerous presentations we completed an evaluation process to determine which Westside alternative we would prefer if a build option is ultimately chosen. Our group will be discussing whether or not the freeway should be built later this year.

The criteria we used to determine a preferred Westside alternative included:

- Alternative Modes/Multi-Modal
- Design Obsolescence
- Noise
- Ecological
- Visual
- Community Cohesion
- Displacement
- Design and Operations
- Project Cost
- Quality of Life
- Air Quality

On April 27, 2006, the members of the South Mountain CAT reached a decision to recommend the W101 as the preferred alternative for the Westside.

Using a computer assisted decision making process; W101 scored the highest as indicated on the attached graph. Although W101 was not the unanimous preference of the group, it was the team's recommendation.

However, we express concern with the impacts to the communities surrounding the W101 corridor. We want to continue to work with ADOT to discuss the three W101 options in order to minimize these impacts as much as possible

Our next process will be to evaluate the Eastside alternative(s) and a final recommendation of build or no-build for the South Mountain Freeway.

Sincerely,

David Hafferty - City of Tolleson

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