



**Date:** September 11, 2007

**To:** Members and Observers of the Transit on the Move Community Liaison Group (CLG)

**From:** Shellie Ginn – City of Tucson Department of Transportation Project Manager

**Subject:** Project Update

Dear Community Liaison Group Member,

The following is an update on the City of Tucson Major Transit Investment Study for September 2007:

Environmental Assessment (EA): The project team is working to advance the Draft EA so that it can be completed at the end of September instead of October. The goal is to get the Draft EA to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as soon as possible to expedite their review before public circulation.

Conceptual Engineering: The project team is continuing to coordinate conceptual design issues with other projects, including the Rio Nuevo cultural plaza, Santa Cruz bridge, Cushing Street underpass, Downtown Links, and the University of Arizona 2<sup>nd</sup> Street improvements.

Small Starts: The project team is starting to put together a Small Starts application for FTA that includes categories such as transit supportive land use, local financial commitment, and travel demand forecasting. The latter is the most complicated as it requires detailed review by FTA before approval.

Vehicles: The project team is working to develop a detailed plan and schedule for modern streetcar vehicle procurement, design, and delivery. It is anticipated that the City of Tucson will release an RFP for vehicles in early 2008.

Transit Oriented Development (TOD): TOD plans and a market feasibility analysis are being completed for the University and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue areas. The next TOD workshop will be held in October.

New Website Features: The project website has been updated with new information and a few new pages. There is now a Transit Oriented Development page and a Media Center page where you can download modern streetcar renderings, photos and the simulation video as well as media releases.

Next CLG Meeting: It is anticipated that the next CLG meeting will be in November. The focus of the meeting will be a review of the Draft EA. We will notify you as soon as this date has been scheduled.

In the meantime, feel free to direct any questions or comments to Joan Beckim or Angela Stith at (520) 624-5656 or email them at [information@tucsontransitstudy.com](mailto:information@tucsontransitstudy.com).

Thank you again for your participation in the City of Tucson Major Transit Investment Study.

Shellie Ginn

City of Tucson Department of Transportation Project Manager