

Please provide comments on the simulation of the 5th Street, Farmer to College, design concept.

MISSION PALMS COMMENTS (1-3 and 4-5 duplicate names/emails)

- 1*** Yesterday .. Tuesday 9/12 at two separate times we had semi drivers who are very familiar with Tempe get stuck on Myrtle trying to exit on 5th street as they have done multiple times in the past... we had to assist them in backing up on Myrtle to the rear of the hotel so that they could laboriously turn around and exit at 3rd street.
- 2*** TMP security 2nd shift has noted and conveyed to me that the amount of traffic exiting and cutting through our rear lot is extremely excessive along with the speed at which they are traveling and is very concerned with the safety of our staff and pedestrians walking in the area... He has stated that not only are they exiting the garage and going north but there is a steady stream of traffic from 5th street cutting through to avoid the back up at the 5th and Mill traffic light..
- 3*** In Just two days, since the set up of 5th street, the traffic coming through the back of Tempe Mission palms has increased DRAMATICALLY. The vast majority are City Of Tempe Employees and police officers (Both Patrol cars and officers) going to and from work to gain access to the garage,,, This is private property and these vehicles cause ongoing damage through regular wear and tear to our parking lots.
- 4#** I am very concerned about the traffic. Busses already have quite a difficult time turning, let alone if there is only two lanes. If there is some type of accident you will have no where to go. Also, there are so many students on 5th I am worried that someone will get killed crossing the road. We need the turn lane to keep traffic flowing correctly. I'm all for making it look pretty, but I think that if you just re surface the street as is and maybe add some trees on the sidewalk you would be much better off.
- 5#** The designs are very pretty, but a bit impractical. We have a business right on 5th street and on many occasions we arrange for Tour Busses. There would be absolutely no way these buses could turn into our property near Myrtle if the street is changed. More on street parking is not the answer. We have several areas to park in. It would be a better flow of traffic with the center lane.

Do you have any additional comments that you want us to consider with respect to the proposed 5th Street design concept?

Also... Tempe police department garage users are still using Tempe Mission Palms property to access garage from the north...Both in the AM and the PM shift change or exit..

Today at 7:45 AM traffic on 5th street at the transportation center was completely stopped with a city bus trying to maneuver to head east on 5th street.

Keep 5th the way it is....re-surface it....add trees but do not remove the center turn lane.

I think the road needs to be re-surfaced, but this project seems way more than we need. Smooth transitions into businesses and even the bus terminal off of 5th street will not be improved if the center lane is gone and new on street parking is added. We have a lot of traffic for the police station and hotel that cutting down on this would cause more problems.

- 6** I formally and personally state that I am against this project. Working at the Tempe Mission Palms hotel and being a part of such a great business I'm confused as to why the city has decided to make this decision. These decisions will all around impact multiple businesses in the area who agree Tempe does not need to become more of a congested area. none.
- 7** I understand the city's aspiration of trying to come up with a design that would be more appealing to pedestrians and bicycle traffic, and this may be a great idea where there is established public transportation consistent throughout the city/region i.e. major European capital cities. However, without this infrastructure and given that 6 months out of the year weather doesn't permit much pedestrian traffic, I don't see a point of this study. The sooner the cordons come off the better.
The area cordoned off is en route several businesses, i.e. a major conference center that on any given day can host up to a 1000 people that all need to get meeting facilities, currently there is no left turning lane to the property heading east on 5th Street. Additionally vendors delivering goods to local business are going to be limited navigating through the artificial narrow turn lanes, i.e. semis delivering food, beverages...
Overall, I would sum up the project as having good intent on paper. In my opinion, I believe it should never be permanently implemented.
- 8** As the Purchasing and Receiving Manager at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel, this will cause a major effect on our deliveries. Some of the deliveries require large trucks and they need to travel on Myrtle to get in or out. We also have MANY buses that provide transportation for our guests and they also need Myrtle to travel in and out. Please really think about the pros and cons of this issue before jumping in and doing it.
- 9** when coming down 5th street, first we have to wait for the train to pass, then let busses out, then let pedestrians pass, once we are past the walk way, cars are turning into the public parking lot on the left under the residence Inn building, stopping ALL traffic again, for those of us trying to get into the parking garage off Myrtle street. The two lanes will not work in this area. Daily you have people trying to get to the court house, they have no clue where to park, so they slow down and stop around the courthouse, again stopping all traffic. We have motor coaches coming in on Myrtle for our guests that have off site events, this current street set up, is making it almost impossible for them to turn onto Myrtle to pick up guests.
- 10** This simulation is just facilitating flustered, impatient drivers to cut through the north side of the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel resulting in more accidents in an area that already faces challenges with accessibility. Please do not turn 5th Street into another congested Rio Salado.

11 Good Morning, I am writing to let you know my thoughts on the test phase of this project. Why? Why are we constricting traffic on a street that is already constricted? We are already in a heavy traffic area. This doesn't seem like a good idea to me. I drive in and out of Tempe every day from the 101 to University to 5th street to get to work at Tempe Mission Palms and I already feel the affects of the traffic on the street. Thousands of people come into this city and we are considering restricting the road? It is already a nightmare on 5th. What we should do is make the road wider with multiple lanes in each direction, not narrower. Can't we beautify the street with out restricting the access??? Other reasons why we should not do this: 1. LOSS of BUSINESS to Tempe Mission Palms Hotel. We are already competing with the surrounding competitive market in Tempe. When talking with Clients, it is already challenging sometimes in talking about parking. Adding this project to the mix will strongly hurt us! We will LOOSE Clients due to Construction (however long this takes) and to the surrounding area access when the project is finished. Clients want ease, uncongested areas for their Guests, meetings and events. We are a VERY busy hotel! 2. Our Parking Garage is off Myrtle where valet runs cars and employees park. Valet and employee access will be slowed down. 3.. We have busses and large trucks delivering guests and additional items to the ballroom via Myrtle. This is the only area where busses and trucks can turn around. Where would these busses go if we move on with this project? We will loose business from this. Side ballroom access is a SELLING POINT for Clients. Easy access, less labor, less costs for Clients. 4. We also add additional Valet services off Myrtle avenue. When we have large events we provide additional valet on Myrtle avenue so that Guests can valet right to the ballroom doors. When we do events in the Valet Area, we move Valet to Myrtle avenue. Again, valet on Myrtle is a SELLING POINT for Clients. 5. How is it even possible that you not be able to turn right from 5th to Mill? This is a major route and access point to the freeway, light rail, and Scottsdale area. Bad move. 6. The entire project will slow down everything in this area. We WILL lose business.

12 I work at Tempe Mission Palms hotel as the Guest Services Manager. In that role, I'm responsible for our guests arrival and departure experience as well as all parking on property. I believe that the proposed lane changes to 5th Street will impair the ability of enter and depart out property. During the test this month, westbound traffic often backed up past our driveway and without the turn lane, made it virtually impossible to enter our property. The evening of the ASU football game was even worse. The volume of traffic on 5th St. makes a left turn lane between Mill and College a need not an option. The street and the areas along the street can be improved without the need to remove the left turn lane.

All of the above reasons are just a starting point as to why this is not a good idea. Overall, the hotel will lose business from this project when we are already being affected by the surrounding competitive market. Thank you.

OTHER COMMENTS

- 13** This is just more absolutely pointless money being spent on a project that is not necessary whatsoever. Why fix what's not broken. 5th street is perfectly fine just the way it is. You're always screwing all the business owner on Mill Ave with this pointless light rail down Mill Ave. Most of us will be lucky to stay in business long enough to see the light rail accomplish absolutely nothing. Now you want to tear up 5th street and cause more headaches? How are businesses supposed to get people in their doors if the entire area is torn up and under construction for basically 2 straight years. So unnecessary.
- 14** The traffic has been extremely backed up, especially as buses have been stopping to let people on/off.
- 15** I work downtown Tempe and I think this is a bad idea and has caused traffic congestion that is not needed. Westbound on 5th at Mill, when someone needs to turn right and the slow pedestrians clog the crosswalk, anybody that needs to get through the light westbound is stuck waiting for the right turn vehicles, and may not make the light. Mill & College needs right turn lanes if this idea is to proceed. The cities money can be better spent.
- 16** This streetscape design concept is a bad idea, as is being proven by the traffic study, as well as the reasons stated below. Elimination of the center turn lane is proving to cause problems getting on the Forest in the morning as well as getting on to 5th Street in the evening, where I and many others turn left off of and onto 5th Street. One can easily surmise that this will cause slow-downs and backups along 5th Street as cars attempt to turn left onto Forest, and along Forest as cars attempt to get into the westbound traffic on 5th Street, particularly during the higher traffic events such as football games. If the intent is to eliminate the left turn at Forest altogether, this will cause greater backup at Veterans Way at College, which will congest that intersection even more. Attempting to eliminate the center lane turning left off Forest onto 5th Street is also a bad idea, since it will cause safety concerns (vehicle crashes), pedestrian hazards at the crosswalk, plus backups along Forest during peak hours. Eliminating the left turn here would send Forest traffic eastbound, which would further congest the Veterans Way eastbound traffic and backing up the light at 6th Street, an already slow exit out of the city center. University needs no additional congestion, so sending Forest Ave traffic south is also a bad idea. Also, the constriction of 5th Street at mill (westbound) is greatly slowing down traffic at that intersection, since vehicles intending to turn right (northbound) on Mill have to wait before changing lanes. Another bad idea.

This street has enough issues with traffic due to ASU students and faculty.

In short, leave well enough alone, Tempe. Not since Mill Ave was reduced to a single lane each way - with enormous waste in oversized parallel parking spaces, and the backwards notion of traffic "calming" by way of ill-timed traffic signals - have I seen a more ill-conceived and unnecessary traffic change proposed. If you want to keep business in the city center, access to and out of the downtown needs to be easier and more streamlined, not more convoluted, hazardous, and time-consuming. I'm all for some additional landscaping, medians, pedestrian safety, and the like, but please do so with greater regard to existing traffic conditions.

17 I am not sure if this would be a part of the design concept but would someone please consider putting a left turn signal at the corner of 5th Street and Mill ave. in both directions? It is a disaster during rush hour as everyone in the opposite direction is turning right. I have not seen an accident as of yet but I think there is one waiting in the wings
. Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

18 Please plant native trees, not palm trees. For one they would provide more shade. Two, it's better for the habitat.

19 As a worker in Tempe, who takes the light rail to the 3rd street station and either rides down Ash to University or walks on Maple, these improvements would have a direct impact on my stress level during three Tempe portion of my commute. The lack of crosswalks at 5th and Maple is ridiculous. There needs to be speed control along 5th street and the lack of shade on the north side of 5th is deathly!
I love this plan, thank you!

20 I like the design. A safer walkable/bikeable downtown is great for our community.

21 Heading west on 5th Street to pass through the intersection at Mill is very frustrating as you are in the same lane as vehicles that are turning right, and since there's always pedestrians, bicycles, skateboards, etc. crossing the intersection, it's hard for vehicles to turn right, and if you just want to go straight through the intersection, you are stuck behind all of the above issues. It's a very congested intersection as it is, so please keep the traffic going straight moving!

Protected bike lanes would be nice. Maybe even signage saying no biking on the sidewalk (so unsafe and I see it every day).

The plan accessible in the PowerPoint does not show a solution for the all important intersection at Forest and 5th. Is that not a part of this streetscape? Currently active transportation users have to dodge traffic in order to cross to the Tempe Transit Center. There needs to be a HAWK Signal or a street light art this very busy intersection. Especially if people actually end up occupying the development at Forest and University!

#1. Bike safety

Another aspect of keeping Mill and 5th Street traffic flowing is when there is any activity at the stadium or the arena, frequently Veteran's Way is blocked and that puts a lot of extra traffic going the other way to get around the situation.