Pending 26 ½ Road Project

I went down to Grand Junction's transportation department on June 20th to find out about the pending project on 26 ½ Road. Here is what I found out.

Project Extent:

The city is planning on improving 26 ½ road from Horizon Drive north to beyond H road. They currently do not have all the funding they need for the total project but have enough for the first phase from Horizon to G road. This phase does not include the G road intersection. The city is continuing to look for funding for the remainder of the project.

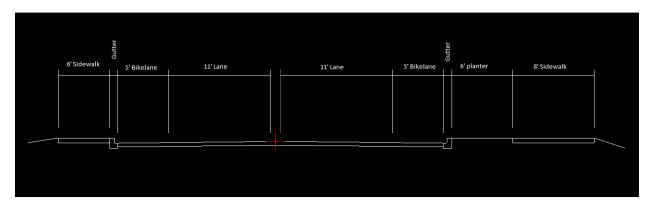
Design

Phase 1

Phase 1 is in final design, however all the design details have not been fully worked out. Design may change but it is not likely.

Going north from Horizon to F½ road to just south of the irrigation canal. 26½ road would transition down to a 3-lane road (two travel lanes and a turn lane) with 5' bike lanes on either side and curb and gutter. The turn lane would essentially be for turning onto F½ road. On the west side there would be a 6' sidewalk adjacent to the curb. On the east side, going from the curb outward, there would be a 6' planter strip and a detached 8' sidewalk and another planter strip out to the right of way.

From F ½ road, north to G road would be two 11' travel lanes, the 5' bike lanes, curb and gutter, the adjacent sidewalk on the west side and the detached sidewalk on the east side.



This would be the roadway section in front of the Cherryhill Subdivision. The city is looking to use the full width of the right of way for the project. Since the right sidewalk is wider and detached compared to the left the centerline of the road will need to be moved to

the west. The city may opt to use the 6' strip between the curb and sidewalk for the placement of the current drainage ditch. Our cinderblock walls will remain, and it is possible that the sidewalk will be cast against them. Our plants, currently in front of the walls, will be removed along with the irrigation we have for them. Future plantings within the ROW will be the responsibility of the city although the HOA may opt to help maintain them.

Phase two.

The City is continuing to look for funding of this phase and the design is not finalized.

The intersection of F ½ and G is not yet determined. It may either be a signalized intersection or a roundabout. North of G road the design would be like that south of G road. At the highway overpass it looks like bikes and pedestrians would be moved over to the east side and cross the freeway on their own dedicated bridge.

Schedule

Within the next few months, the first phase of the project will have a open house meeting to discuss the project and present the final design to the public. Look for information in the mail or from the HOA.

The first phase of the project is expected to start construction in a year or so.

The city's project engineer for this project is Lisa Forshaug.

Jim Perkins