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April 12, 2020

Lynn Jacobs,
PE PTOE Transportation Engineer
Transportation Division Department of Community and Neighborhoods

Dear Lynn,

It is my pleasure to submit this letter on behalf of the Glendale Community Council. After our review and public feedback gathering, we would like to express our enthusiastic support for the resurfacing 1700 South from Redwood Road to 2700 West. We appreciate the opportunity to review the plan and to comment on the importance of investing in the Glendale community.

Included with this letter is a detailed review and response to resurfacing and requests from our community for incorporation in city planning exercises. Our feedback is based on the successful community mapping exercise that our community has been engaging in since last year (Salt Lake County Health Department, 2020) and our outreach to residents in the area.

We hope that you find our comments and suggestions helpful. We would love to see the project invest in a way that ties the Western edge of our neighborhood together with the neighborhoods to the East.

Thank you,

Turner C. Bitton
Chair, Glendale Community Council
chair@glendaleutah.org
(801) 564-3860



Overview

In order to make our comments and feedback easier to digest, we have organized this letter in a format that is visual. We hope that this makes it easier to review and understand our comments. I would be more than happy to further explain or expand upon any of the contents of this letter, please feel free to contact me if you would like me to do so.

Comments on Existing Surfacing

As we have spoken with residents about the proposed resurfacing, several common themes arose during the course of our outreach. Residents expressed a desire for the resurfacing and redesign to be done in a way that makes the area feel as if it is part of the Glendale neighborhood. Many residents expressed fear of the current street design and requested that the area be made more pedestrian and cyclist friendly.

While the area is considered largely industrial and commercial, several residents expressed that members of their family or they themselves work in the area. Several residents also expressed a desire to have the area reflect the fact that several businesses in the area are part of the neighborhood. Below are our suggestions and requests for the resurfacing.



Requests for Resurfacing and Redesign

Request 1: Improve Bicycle Lanes



Figure 1: A view of 1700 South looking West. Shared bicycle lanes are barely visible.



Figure 2: A view of 900 South at 450 West showing clearly marked bicycle lanes that reduce conflict between vehicles and cyclists.

Residents specifically expressed a desire for 1700 South to protect cyclists and pedestrians better. These residents expressed that they like to frequent the businesses in the area, specifically Uinta Brewing and Salt Flats Brewing and that they do not feel safe riding a bike or walking there.

Cyclists in particular expressed that the existing shared lanes for cycling made them feel unsafe and in competition with large trucks, delivery vans, and vehicle traffic in general.

We request painted bike lanes similar to those on 900 South that better protect cyclists. 900 South is a similarly industrial and commercial area and yet the street design represents the feel of being part of a neighborhood.



Request 2: Painted Crosswalk at Fremont Drive and 1700 South

Residents expressed that the lack of a painted crosswalk at Fremont Drive and 1700 South leaves them vulnerable and afraid of crossing the street. One resident who works in the area takes public transit to the bus stop located on the North Side of 1700 South, directly across from Fremont Drive. She commutes at a time when there is often poor lighting and has had multiple experiences where she was almost hit by a car. We request a painted crosswalk in the area to make it safer for residents to cross directly from the bus stop to Fremont Drive.



Figure 3: A view of 1700 South and Industrial Road showing a lack of a safe crosswalk for pedestrians.

We also request a painted crosswalk at 1700 South and Industrial road to facilitate safe crossing from the bus stop

The combination of these two crosswalks would make the area more accessible to pedestrian and cyclist traffic. It would also serve to make public transit more accessible in the area.

Closing

Thank you for the opportunity to review the plan. We sincerely appreciate the hard work and dedication of all the staff who work so hard to make Salt Lake City the great place it is. We would love to extend our sincere gratitude to each of you.

Glendale Community Council
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