



Friday, March 11, 2005

### **Bike lane construction will start next week**

By Philip Franchine

Construction on the multi-purpose lanes on Continental Road from Abrego Drive to White House Canyon Road should start next week, Pima County officials said.

County Transportation Engineering Manager Rick Ellis told the Traffic and Arroyos Committee of the Green Valley Community Coordinating Council on Wednesday that preliminary work could start as soon as Wednesday, March 16.

Materials should be put in place starting then and construction work should start by Friday, March 18, Deputy Transportation Director Nanette Jenkins said Wednesday.

### **Open for Bike Fair**

The construction work should take two to three weeks, weather permitting, and the bike lanes should be open for traffic before the April 23 Bike Fair, Jenkins said.

The work will require that some barricades be put along Continental, and delays are expected, but there will be no road closures, Jenkins said.

Because the shoulders already have been graded, construction workers can focus mostly on paving. Of the two bridges in the project area, one has ample room for bike lanes and a smaller one will mean a tighter squeeze but can accommodate bike lanes with the repainting of lane lines, Jenkins said.

Jenkins credited Supervisor Ray Carroll, R-District 4, with moving the project up the county Transportation Department's list and noted that the project was requested by community members around the time that the Camino del Sol bike lane project was being completed.

A ribbon-cutting with Carroll and other officials is likely to be scheduled in April, Jenkins said.

Bill Adamson and Jim Jordan, among others in Green Valley "have not let up on us" in terms of mobilizing public support and lobbying officials, and county bike staffer Matt Zoll also helped move the project forward, Jenkins said.

Carroll credited Adamson with being the "squeakiest wheel."

## **La Posada donation**

In addition, La Posada contributed \$25,000 toward the estimated \$150,000 cost of the project, and that helped move the project forward, Jenkins said.

The project will almost completely connect existing bike lanes west of Interstate 19 on Continental to the La Posada health-care campus, although there is a gap under I-19, which is the jurisdiction of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). Jenkins said she expected that community members would ask ADOT to arrange for bike lanes under I-19.

[pfranchise@gvnews.com](mailto:pfranchise@gvnews.com) | 625-5511 x 118