



TEMPE STREETCAR

SEPTEMBER 2011

OVERVIEW

Following three years of study, METRO received local and regional approval to advance a modern streetcar in Tempe's Mill Avenue corridor. The 2.6-mile Tempe Streetcar project will operate in a one-way loop between Rio Salado Parkway and University Drive, northbound on Mill Avenue and southbound on Ash Avenue. The streetcar will continue to travel north/south on Mill Avenue between University Drive and Southern Avenue. The project will be built using a mix of regional sales tax funds and other federal funds by 2016.

PROJECT STATUS

Over the past eight months, METRO and the City of Tempe have been meeting with a Community Working Group (CWG), consisting of residents and business owners along the proposed route, to define where the tracks will be in the roadway and where the streetcar will stop.

The group, guided by the project's technical team, reviewed and debated various options for streetcar track and stop locations along Mill and Ash Avenues. Their input helped METRO determine a recommended set of stop locations and street configurations that were approved by the Tempe City Council in September. For more information on the CWG, visit <http://www.tempe.gov/tim/TempeStreetcar.htm>.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) and preparation for a federal grant application is also underway. The EA evaluates the project's potential impacts on a variety of community and environmental factors. A Draft EA will be made available for public review this fall.

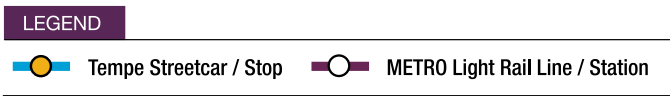
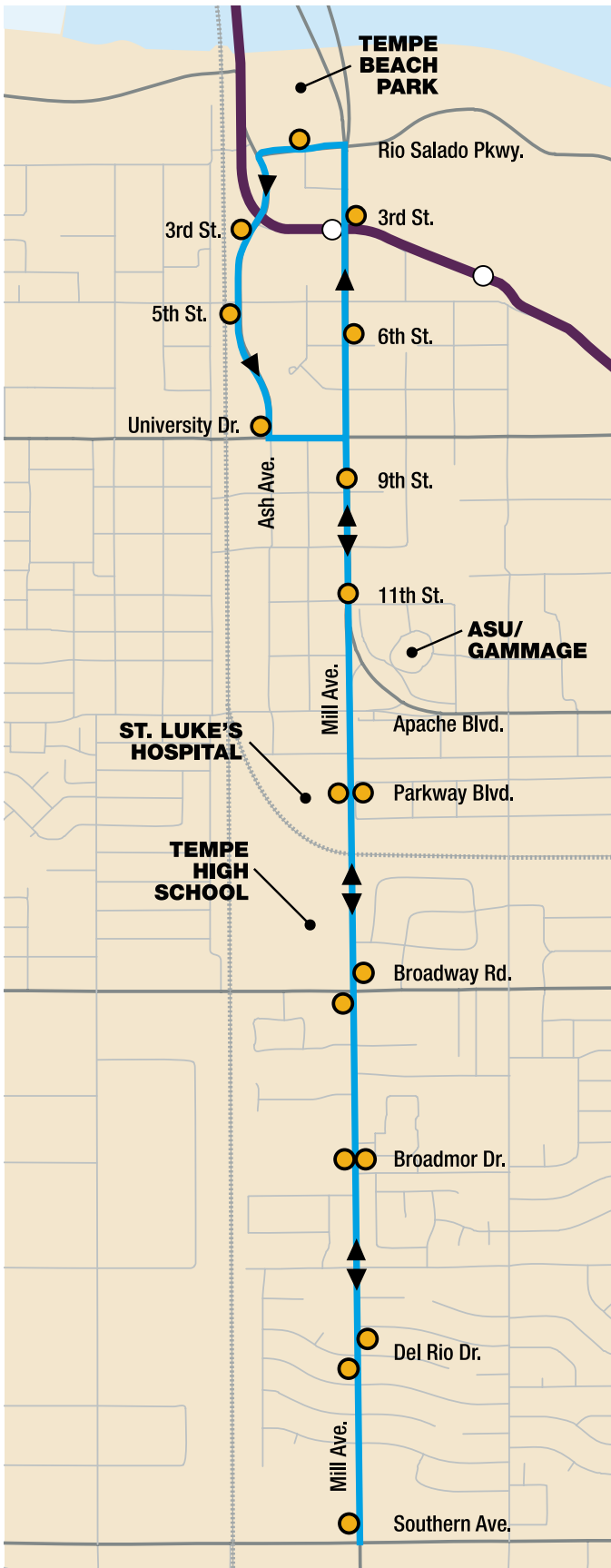


Tempe Streetcar Fast Facts

- 2.6 miles (or 5.2 track miles)
- 13 stop locations
- Five vehicles
- Will operate in mixed traffic
- Approximately \$130 million
 - Regional Proposition 400 funds
 - Federal grant dollars
- Construction anticipated in 2013
- Operations set for 2016

Modern Streetcar Benefits

- Increases transit ridership in the corridor
- Connects neighborhoods to downtown Tempe
- Connects downtown residents to neighborhood services
- Encourages redevelopment of underutilized parcels
- Encourages reinvestment in neighborhoods
- Promotes livable city and green initiatives
- Provides seamless connection to other transit services
- Supports Arizona State University travel demand
- Improves service for special events



STOP LOCATIONS

Stop locations have been determined based on a balance of cost, spacing of stops, access to existing activity centers, development and redevelopment potential, ability to make bus and rail connections, impacts to curbs and parking and safety and security. In addition, staff has worked closely with the CWG to refine stop locations based on upon their feedback.

Examples of Modern Streetcar Stops



Curb-side stop platform
Portland, OR



Stop platform–bike lane/shared through lane
Portland, OR



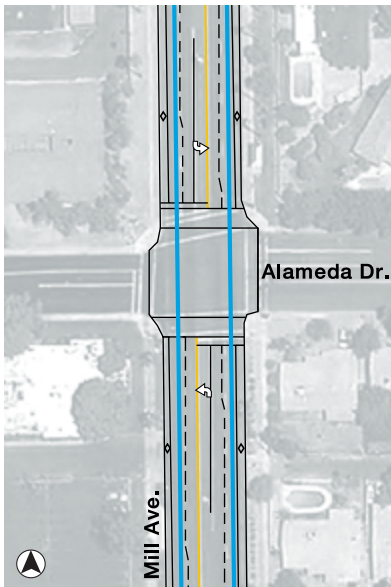
Curb-side stop platform
Portland, OR

STREET CONFIGURATION

The CWG, working in coordination with METRO and City of Tempe staff, determined that the streetcar operation will maintain the current traffic configuration and minimize traffic and on-street parking impacts along Mill and Ash avenues in the downtown area.

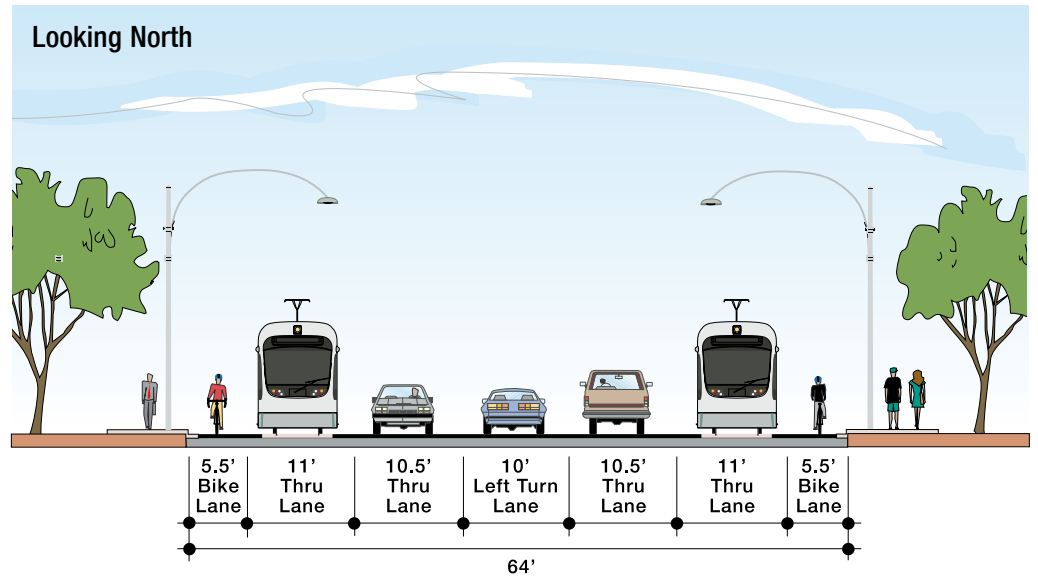
Mill Avenue

Southern Ave. to 13th St. – Right lane running



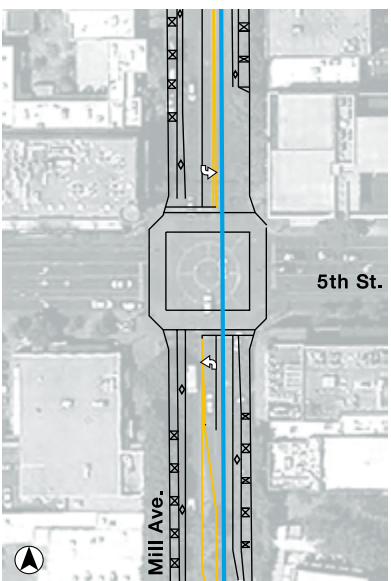
LEGEND

- Tempe Streetcar
- Centerline
- Lane Striping
- ◇ Bike Lane Symbol



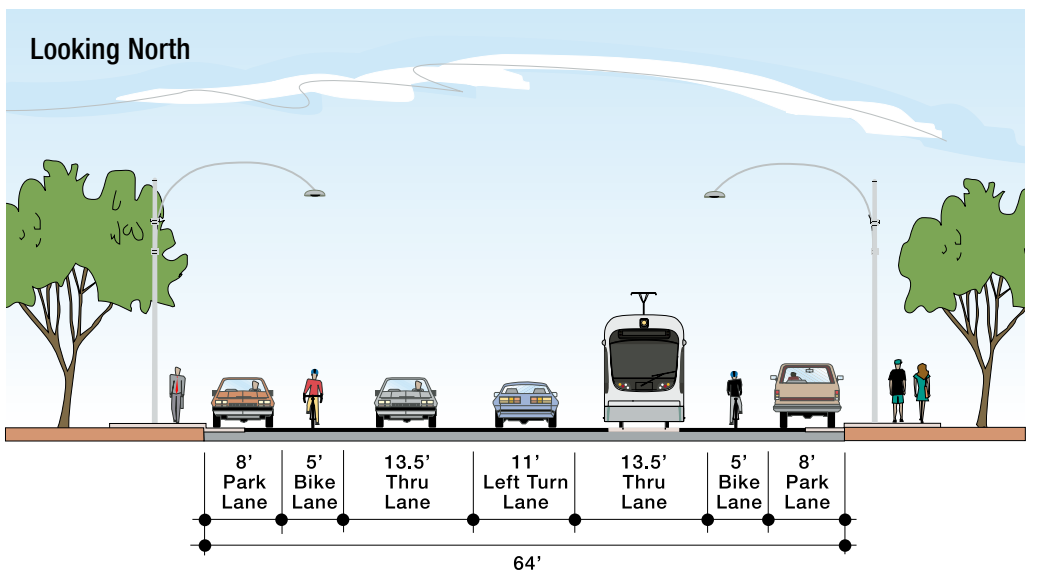
Note: Lane widths are approximate.

University Dr. to Rio Salado Pkwy. – Shared through lane

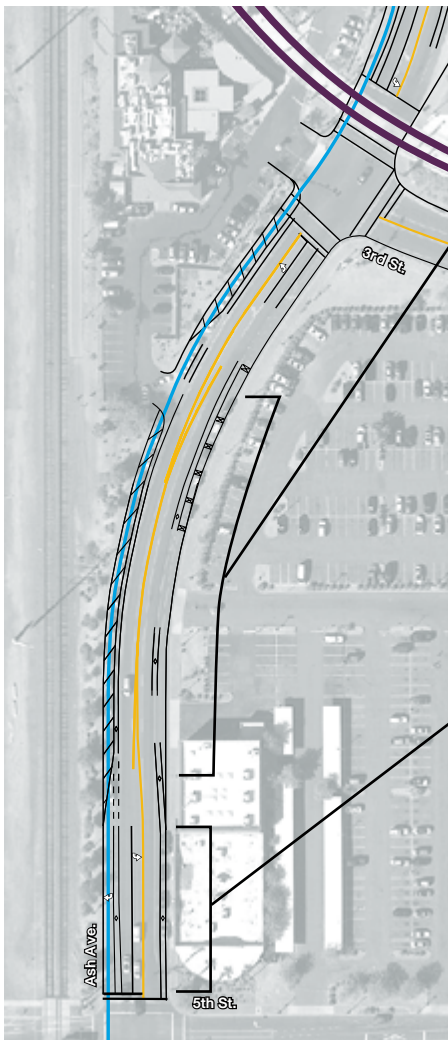


LEGEND

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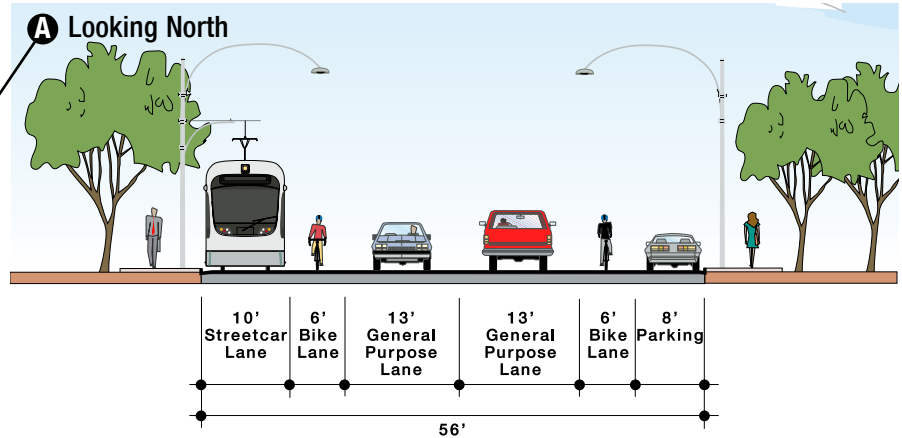


LEGEND

- METRO Light Rail Line
- Tempe Streetcar
- Lane Striping
- Centerline
- ◇ Bike Lane Symbol
- Parking Space Buffer

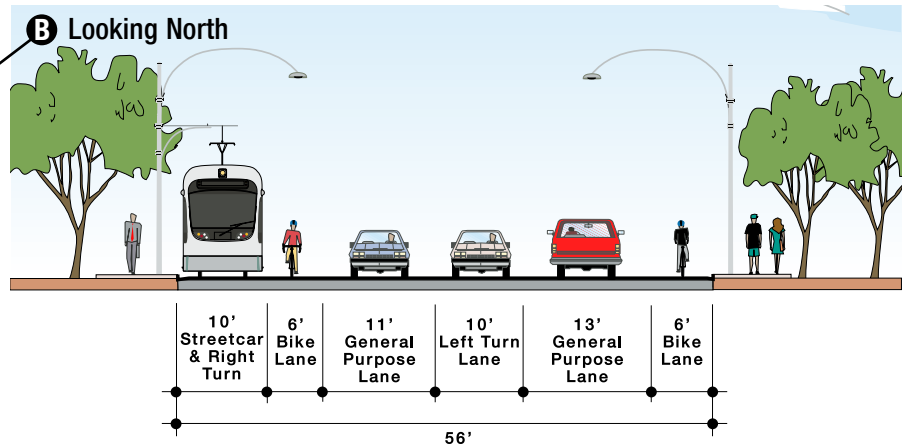
Ash Avenue

Rio Salado Pkwy. to University Dr. – Curb lane without left turn lane



Note: Lane widths are approximate.

Rio Salado Pkwy. to University Dr. – Curb lane with left turn lane



Note: Lane widths are approximate.

NEXT STEPS

Design of the Tempe Streetcar is anticipated to begin in 2012. As we move into the design phase, METRO will conduct public meetings at key design milestones intended to provide the community with the opportunity to provide additional input and receive an update on the project's overall progress. This effort will also include a series of meetings, including one-on-one stakeholder meetings.

Tempe Streetcar Project Schedule

	2007	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	2016
Community Outreach	[Bar spanning 2007-2016]									
Alternatives Analysis	[Bar spanning 2007-2010]									
Locally Preferred Alternative Approved				[Bar]						
Project Definition					[Bar]					
Environmental Assessment					[Bar]					
Design						[Bar]				
Pre-construction							[Bar]			
Construction								[Bar]		
Pre-operation/Start Up										[Bar]

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information or to be added to the Tempe Streetcar mailing list, please contact **Carla Kahn** at 602-744-5552 or ckahn@metrolightrail.org

Additional information and updates can be found at www.metrolightrail.org/tempestreetcar

To receive information in alternative formats call 602-253-5000/TTY 602-251-2039.

Para recibir esta información en formatos alternativos favor de llamar al 602-253-5000/TTY 602-251-2039.