

Downtown Tempe Streetscape Improvements

Mill Avenue

University Drive – Rio Salado Parkway

Merchants Meeting

Dec. 10, 2024



Project Overview and Progress



Project Scope

- Sidewalk and ADA improvements
- Expanded pedestrian space
- New sidewalk pavers
- Historic markers
- Infrastructure upgrades to electric and irrigation
- New bus shelters
- New trees

Project Area





Project Progress

Phase 1: Intersection of Mill Avenue and University Drive.

- Upgrades to traffic signal infrastructure, sidewalk ramps.
 - Paver pattern on north side will be the same pattern installed on intersections at Seventh, Sixth, etc.
- Replaced pavers in roadway with asphalt.





Project Progress

Concrete bands will separate sidewalk and patios.

Photos from Pita Jungle Patio at University Drive and Mill Avenue





Project Progress

Phase 2: University Drive to Seventh Street

- ADA improvements
- Streetlight pole foundation upgrades
- Sidewalk brick replacement with new brick between “bump outs”.
 - Work began on “building-side” of sidewalk on the east side on 12/9

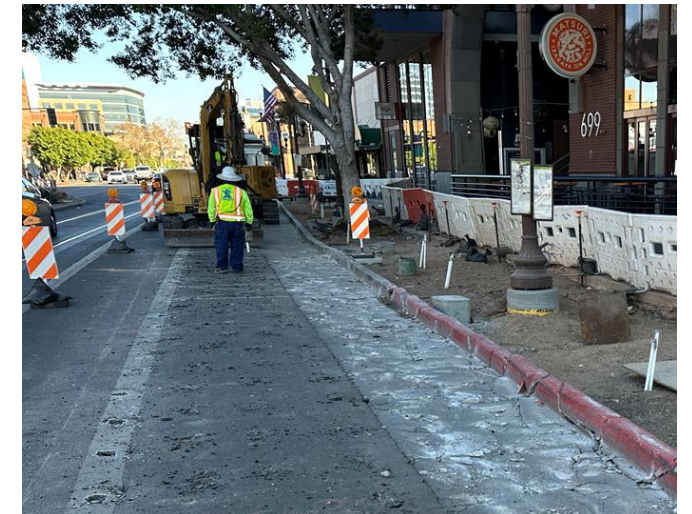




Project Progress

Phase 3: Seventh Street to Sixth Street

- Sidewalk brick removal, grading, and ADA improvements between “bump outs”.
- Utility infrastructure upgrades.
- Hardscape/landscape upgrades.



Schedule



Schedule

- Construction began April 2024.
- Phase 1: Work completed at the intersection of Mill Avenue and University Drive on Aug. 7, 2024.
- Phase 2: Work between University Drive and Seventh Street began Aug. 26, 2024, expected completion February 2025.
- Phase 3: Work between Seventh Street and Sixth Street began in Mid-October, 2024, expected completion March 2025.
- Work north of Sixth Street will begin after Phase 2 is completed in February.
- Total improvements from University Drive to Rio Salado Parkway along Mill Avenue completion date approximately Fall 2026.



Project Work Hours

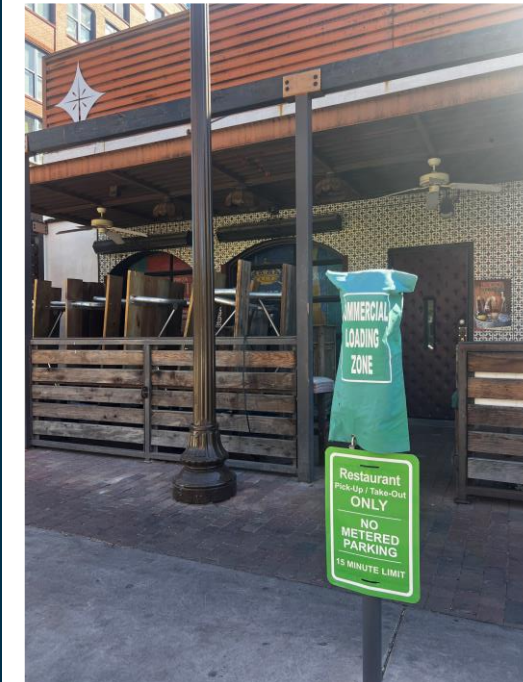
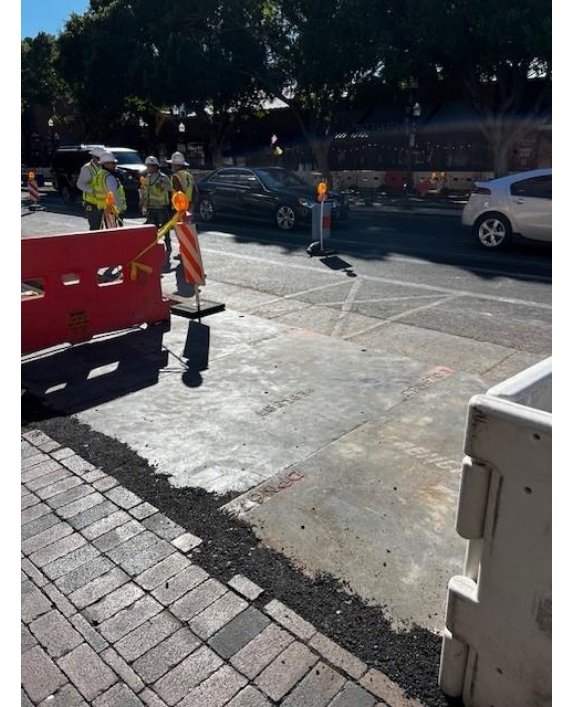
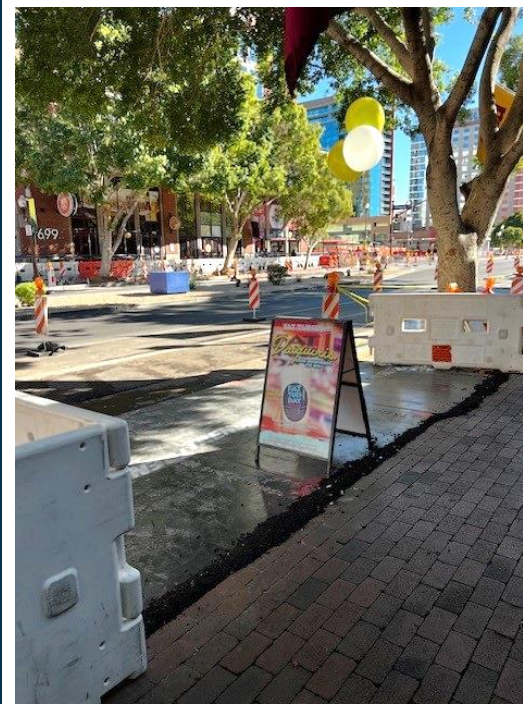
- Current work hours are 7 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday-Friday
 - For work on the “curb-side” of the sidewalk and within sidewalk ramps.
- The City of Tempe has approved working extended hours in an effort to accelerate operations.
- Construction on the “building-side” of the sidewalk, and traffic signal conduit installation across Mill Ave will be completed during non-business hours at night, Monday-Friday
 - Night shift work will be staggered with day shift work as construction progresses

Communication and Information



Communication

- Mid-block safety access coordinated with necessary businesses.
- Short term food/retail pick-up reserved on Sixth and Seventh Streets close to Mill Avenue.





- Regular updates coordinated through DTA @downtowntempe and City of Tempe @tempegov
- Targeted communications with directly impacted businesses
 - One-on-one meetings for business frontage work
 - Advance notice for significant restrictions
 - Pedestrian Signage



Communication and Information



- Key project contacts
- **Achen-Gardner:**
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Ben Plis, Asst. Project Manager, Bplis@achen.com, 480-940-1300
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- **DTA:**
Ally Dykstra, allyson@downtowntempe.com, 480-355-6061
- **City of Tempe:**
Josh Warren, Construction Project Coordinator,
Joshua_warren@tempe.gov, 480-350-8203
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services, shauna_warner@tempe.gov
480-350-8883



Next Steps

- Next Steps
 - Ongoing dialogue with businesses/merchants
 - Careful coordination with patios, business access
 - Virtual meetings every second Tuesday at 2 p.m.
 - Jan. 14
 - Feb. 11
 - March 11
 - April 8

Questions?

