

On 26 September the Montecito Association (MA) Transportation Committee met to discuss:

1. Suitability of a 3-way stop sign at the corner of Sheffield Rd and Highway 192
2. Status of Roundabouts on Olive Mill and San Ysidro at north Jameson

In attendance was Supervisor Das Williams to engage the Committee and MA membership in our discussion of those two topics and offer his ideas and recommendations.

Committee Chair Aaron Budgor presented an overview of each item, as described in attached Powerpoint presentation.

Committee agreed that since the view-obstructing fence was on Valley Club property, and that there is no data of any accident ever occurring at this intersection, that it would probably be hopeless to convince Caltrans to place a 3-way stop sign at this location. Some incredulity for stated Valley Club position that it could not move fence to improve westbound oncoming traffic visibility on Highway 192 due to golf course configuration was expressed and it was recommended that a site visit by Transportation Committee be requested of Valley Club General Manager. We would ask Tom Bollay to conduct an independent engineering assessment to determine whether fence could be moved subject to golf course configuration. In addition, there was agreement that Letters to the Editor by MA members - not Board - in local papers might sway Valley Club to reevaluate its refusal to move the fence.

Das Williams stated that the Roundabout Study for Olive Mill and San Ysidro would be finished no sooner than the end of 2018. He recommended that MA and Hedgerow neighbors let the study process play out. Traffic data will be collected during conduct of study that can then be used to better understand whether San Ysidro roundabout is truly needed, or whether other solutions exist that provide congestion remediation. These could include use of traffic cop (being evaluated by Mission Canyon Community Plan); and potential to stagger major construction and school hours outside of rush hours. Anything that cuts down traffic counts should be considered. Williams also contended that roundabout construction would need to begin prior to 101 construction, since he believes that money to build roundabouts would not be available post-101 construction. He mentioned that City of Carpinteria exacted costs of parallel project improvements as part of 101 approval plan. As a result, fixing the big traffic congestion problems before beginning work on roundabouts is not his preferred order. Williams also believes that 101 construction for Phase 4 is ahead of schedule and might begin, assuming resources are found, as early as 2022.

Community attendees also mentioned that San Ysidro has high pedestrian usage and there was some belief that a roundabout there would be dangerous. Issue that Caltrans will be final arbiter of design was shot down by Williams. He countered that County is final permitting authority, and that design and its suitability for San Ysidro would also be considered during Roundabout Study.

At conclusion of meeting it was agreed that no MA letter need be written to Supervisor Williams for either topic addressed that evening. No purpose for the first issue; and premature for the second issue until sufficient data encompassing more than the 2 2-hour traffic collections addressed in the Intersection Control Evaluation (ICE) study is collected.