



## **Rancho Santa Fe Association**

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

#### **Staff Report – Request for Board Action**

**Date:** October 3, 2019

**By:** Matt Wellhouser, Patrol Chief

**To:** Board of Directors

**Subject:** Proposed Traffic Turn Restrictions Rancho Santa Fe

---

#### **Background / Discussion:**

Staff was contacted by the County Department of Public Works (DPW) in March 2019 to discuss possible interim solutions to the queuing of traffic along Paseo Delicias/Del Dios and cut-through traffic along side streets such as La Valle Plateada, Lago Lindo, Mimulus, and El Montevideo.

In April 2019, staff again met with DPW regarding this issue and was informed the study of a possible turn restriction plan was the result of settlement of a lawsuit regarding the installation of the Roundabouts. They were tasked with examining an interim alternative to roundabouts. The County is seeking Association input on this proposed plan. As presented the plan limits left and right turn restrictions at the following intersections:

No Right Turn- Paseo Delicias to La Valle Plateada 3-6 pm Mon-Fri

No Right Turn- La Valle Plateada to Paseo Delicias (El Montevideo) 3-6 pm Mon-Fri

No Left Turn- El Montevideo to Paseo Delicias 3-6 pm Mon-Fri

No Right Turn- El Montevideo to Paseo Delicias 6-9 am Mon-Fri

No Left Turn- El Camino Del Norte to Lago Lindo 6-9 am Mon-Fri

No Right Turn- Via De Fortuna to El Montevideo 3-6 pm Mon-Fri

Association staff discussed this plan with the County Traffic Engineers. Chief Wellhouser reiterated the history of the Association and County studies for redirecting or moving cut-through traffic and the results of those studies. The turn restrictions move the pass through commuter traffic to Mobility Element Roads. This will increase the queuing along Paseo Delicias and Del Dios highway and as well as other Ranch roads.

In February 2004 the Association and the County of San Diego affirmed their initial concept of the use of roundabouts to manage traffic along the Paseo Delicias/ Del Dios corridor. Since that time there has been several community meetings, engineering studies, and eventually final plan work on the implementation of roundabouts.

For over 20 years the RSF Association has been exploring ways to reduce or eliminate cut-through commute traffic from local neighborhoods. Roundabouts were selected among other alternatives to manage the traffic flow- primarily during peak commute hours. In May 2015, roundabouts were affirmed as the “best” solution.

All of the ideas that were studied had issues of moving the problem from one place to another or subjected the members of the Association to delays and unrealistic routes to and from their homes. Most of these ideas/studies were discussed over 20 years ago. The studies include turn restrictions, cul-de-sac installation on various roads, manned barriers, a tunnel, speed bumps/tables and traffic signals. We spent many staff hours and tens of thousands of dollars with consultants examining each alternative.

Turn restrictions are not a new idea. Association staff and traffic professionals examined the concept. This idea was reviewed several times over the years. Ultimately, turn restrictions were dropped because of several negative aspects- lack of consistent enforcement; difficulty for residents to reach their homes; traffic will always find another way- thus creating more problems on other streets; and slowing response times for the RSF Patrol.

The turn restrictions currently presented by the County are unrealistic and unenforceable. The restrictions do not allow residents to pass. The Rancho Santa Fe Patrol would not be exempt. This will increase the response times to calls. During peak hours, traffic will back up into the village; along Del Dios and Via De La Valle, and throughout the ranch. Traffic enforcement is the responsibility of the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Because the CHP stretched thin, it is predicted that the CHP will not be able to consistently enforce the turn prohibitions.

The proposed turn restrictions will cause motorists to proceed past the intersection, make a U-turn then make a legal turn to continue on their way- or find an alternative cut through route. Turn restrictions in place along Del Dios Highway and Rancho Santa Fe Road in San Marcos have very limited success.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors oppose this plan.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Unknown

**Attachments:**


Proposed Turn Restriction diagram and notes

### Proposed Turn Restriction Signage

The County of San Diego Department of Public Works Traffic Engineering Section has evaluated concerns from area neighbors regarding cut-through traffic and proposes the following turn restriction signage in the Rancho Santa Fe area to address:

- evening cut-through on La Valle Plateada (signs 1A & 1B)
- evening cut-through on El Mirlo, Via De Fortuna, and El Montevideo (signs 2A & 2B)
- morning cut-through on Lago Lindo and El Montevideo (signs 3A & 3B)



 COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
Department of Public Works

Drawn by: BTB Checked by: KRJ  
Date: 06/17/2019 Recommended by: ZO

Proposed Turn Restriction Signage  
RANCHO SANTA FE  
(THOMAS BROTHER PAGE 1148, 1168)

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Request No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheet 1 of 1 Sheets

Approved by Engineer: \_\_\_\_\_