

Appendix B1

Public Scoping Memo



Memorandum

TO: Netra Khatri, City Engineer

FROM: David Loya, Community Development Director and Environmental Coordinator

DATE: July 30, 2021

SUBJECT: Old Arcata Road Rehabilitation and Pedestrian/Bikeway Improvements
Environmental Impact Report Public Scoping Meeting



The City of Arcata hosted a public scoping meeting for the Old Arcata Road Rehabilitation and Pedestrian/Bikeway Improvements Project (Project) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on July 1, 2021, pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15083. Though not required, the City included public scoping due to the level of interest in the project to ensure ample access to the decision making process on the project. To this end, the scoping was designed to solicit input on the proposed project and alternatives to evaluate in the Draft EIR. In addition, the City shared with attendees of the scoping meeting the procedural steps in evaluating the project with an EIR, as well as information on continued opportunities for participation.

Notice of the scoping meeting was broadly advertised (Attachment A). The event was noticed on the City's website. All interested parties that have shared their email with the City received an emailed notice of the meeting. All parties who commented on the draft Initial Study and submitted comment by email received a notice by email. In total, approximately 227 emailed notices went out. The notices were sent approximately one week in advance of the meeting.

The meeting, which ran from 4:30 p.m. to about 6:00 p.m., was held at the D Street Neighborhood Center at 1301 D Street, Arcata, CA. Approximately 30 people were in attendance, all of whom were able to provide input during the approximate one and a half hour meeting. Individuals were informed that the list would be used to expand the interested parties list if they provided email contact information.

The scoping meeting was staffed by Netra Khatri, Director of Engineering, David Loya, Community Development Director, and Josh Wolf, Civil Engineer, who is the project's consulting engineer with GHD. Staff and the consulting engineer provided information on the project and facilitated the meeting. Mr. Loya recorded public comment in writing.

Staff used a tiled, color, aerial image of the project to explain project elements. In addition, a draft rendering of the proposed alternative intersection at Old Arcata Road and Jacoby Creek Road

(Attachment B) was provided to the public at the meeting. The public were informed that this was a conceptual design for the alternatives analysis, which may be modified to include additional traffic calming measures prior to release of the Draft EIR.

The purpose of the meeting was to capture comments on the proposed project and project alternatives, as well as other suggestions for alternatives. The comments were recorded in writing in the field, summarizing the main point the commenter made. When a comment was reinforced by another commenter, City Staff put a check mark next to the prior comment to record the duplicated comment. The following summarize the comments in no particular order. The comments have been grouped into those addressing the proposed project, those addressing the alternative, those addressing a new alternative, and those that are not germane to environmental analysis.

In addition to the public comment received at the meeting, a small number of people prepared written comment on the scoping (Attachment C). Since the project has generated several written public comments, and because the timing of the scoping meeting, only items identified as related to scoping that were delivered to the City prior to drafting the Scoping Memo were included here. All other correspondence will be included elsewhere in the record as appropriate.

Proposed Project Comments

- Several comments addressed the roundabout feature of the project. Comments included the following:
 - Consider removing some lights – especially at roundabout. Is there a need for so many lights?
 - Lights shining into abutting windows at roundabout (2 checks).
 - Commenters were concerned about noise impacts. Some stated the roundabout would increase noise. Some suggested they would decrease noise.
 - Support for roundabout intersection (3 checks)
 - Opposed to roundabout – they are unsafe. Support T (2 checks)
 - Roundabouts are safer, quieter
 - Ensure dark sky compliant street lights and less light pollution
 - Several commenters indicated that roundabouts are inherently dangerous.
- Project inconsistent with General Plan
 - A comment was made that the project is inconsistent with the Arcata General Plan. The speaker stated that Old Arcata Road is deemed a historic resource.
- One commenter indicated she was a historian and had expertise on the matter of historic impacts. She stated that historic impact is largely subjective and a matter of opinion. The commenter stated the roundabout is not an impact on historic resources.
- One commenter indicated she measured the distance from the roundabout to the Jacoby School House, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, and that the distance of the proposed roundabout would negatively impact the resource.
- Project will include bike/pedestrian safety.

- Commenter was concerned that the current road condition and configuration are not safe for users of the road. They wanted to ensure the project would address these concerns.

Proposed Alternatives Comments

- Support for the T-intersection alternative.
 - Several commenters voiced support for the T-intersection alternative. The commenter described the benefits of the alternative multiple times. In particular, the commenter connected the T-intersection with a reduction in impacts to historic resources. Several other commenters also supported the T-intersection for a variety of reasons that did not relate to CEQA.

New Alternatives

- Add traffic controls on straight stretch of Old Arcata Road/Install speed humps
 - At least two commenters asked that additional road diet measures be added to the long straight stretch of road. This suggestion was in response to concerns over drivers' excessive speed on the long, straight portion of road. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.
- Add speed camera – ticket them (alternative to roundabout)
 - As an alternative to a roundabout, one commenter suggested a speed camera be installed near the intersection of Jacoby Creek Road. The commenter suggested that this would satisfy the pedestrian and bike safety goals for the project. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.

Topics Unrelated to CEQA

- Is the roadbed moving east two feet?
 - During the initial phase of the meeting, staff provided an overview of the project. At some locations the project involves shifting the centerline of the road approximately two feet to the east. The existing roadbed will accommodate this shift. Several individuals were confused about how the road centerline could shift two feet east without moving the roadbed. Staff explained that the road prism is not being relocated, but that the road surface would relocate on top of the existing roadbed. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.
- Can the police enforce existing laws? The speed limits should be enforced as posted and there should be more enforcement presence.
 - The enforcement of speed limits is not a project or CEQA issue. The Arcata Police Department has been notified that residents are concerned about levels of enforcement.
- Need parking not green spaces (do not remove parking).

- Several commenters were concerned that unsanctioned parking in the County and City right of way will not be available in the future. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.
- Can the PG&E poles be moved?
 - In response to the information that the road centerline is shifting within the existing right of way and on the existing roadbed, in part to accommodate the existing locations of PG&E power poles, some suggested working with PG&E to move the poles. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public and will be addressed during design phase.
- What about loss of parking? Especially on residential sites?
 - Several commenters were concerned that unsanctioned parking in the County and City right of way will not be available in the future. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.
- Add parking to west side of OAR?
 - Several commenters were concerned that unsanctioned parking in the County and City right of way will not be available in the future. This comment does not address a CEQA issue, but it is an element of project design that has been of interest to the public.

David Loya

From: Delo Freitas
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:23 PM
To: David Loya; Netra Khatri
Subject: Old Arcata Road Public Scoping Meeting of preparation of Environmental Impact Report-July 1, 2021
Attachments: location map.pdf

Hello,

This email is to notify you of the City of Arcata's planned scoping meeting for the Old Arcata Road Improvements Project on Thursday, July 1st from 4:30-5:30 PM. A scoping meeting is an opportunity to review potential environmental impacts of a proposed project and record concerns from both partnering agencies and the broader community, to inform the environmental analysis prepared for the project's Environmental Impact Report.

We will meet in the City parking lot at the "D Street" Community Center, located at 1301 D St, Arcata, CA 95521 (see attached location map). If you are unable to make the site visit but would like to submit comment to the City, please submit written comments to me for inclusion in the administrative record and cc comdev@cityofarcata.org.

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated by the City of Arcata Community Development Department as Lead Agency and is available on the City's website at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/720/Old-Arcata-Road-Design-Project>.

The City accepted comments on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration from January 20th until 5 p.m. February 22nd, consistent with Section 15105 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed Mitigation Negative Declaration (MND) and associated mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) contained draft mitigation for impacts in the following subject areas:

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention/Hydrology and Water Quality
- Aesthetics
- Biological Resources
- Wetlands/Waters of the United States
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Soil Contamination/Hazardous Materials
- Transportation

Agency Comments Received to Date

Various partnering, responsible and trustee agencies (Local Area Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, Caltrans District 1, Humboldt County Planning-Public Works, California Coastal Commission, US Army Corps of Engineers, CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Jacoby Creek School) have been involved in ongoing project coordination and were sent the draft Initial Study and Notice of Coastal Development Permit for review and comment. To date the City has received three formal comments from agency partners (County of Humboldt, Blue Lake Rancheria, and Jacoby Creek School). The project will require ongoing coordination with all partner agencies.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns and we hope to see you soon.



CITY OF ARCATA

Parcel Finder Web Application

Web AppBuilder for ArcGIS

RF 1:1,128

1 inch = 94 feet



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Date Created 6/24/2021

Created By

Situs Address Points
Cities

Cities

Trail Head

AMWS Sign-Map Locations

Directional Map

AMWS Icons

Dog Bags and Trash Can	Interpretive Sign	Interpretive Center
Dog Poop Bag Dispenser	Parking	Trail Head
Bathroom	Viewing Station	City Trails
Boat Launch		



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Cati Gallardo
Communications Specialist, City of Arcata
cgallardo@cityofarcata.org
707-825-2104

JOIN US ON THURSDAY, JULY 1 FOR A SCOPING MEETING ON THE OLD ARCATA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

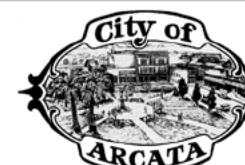
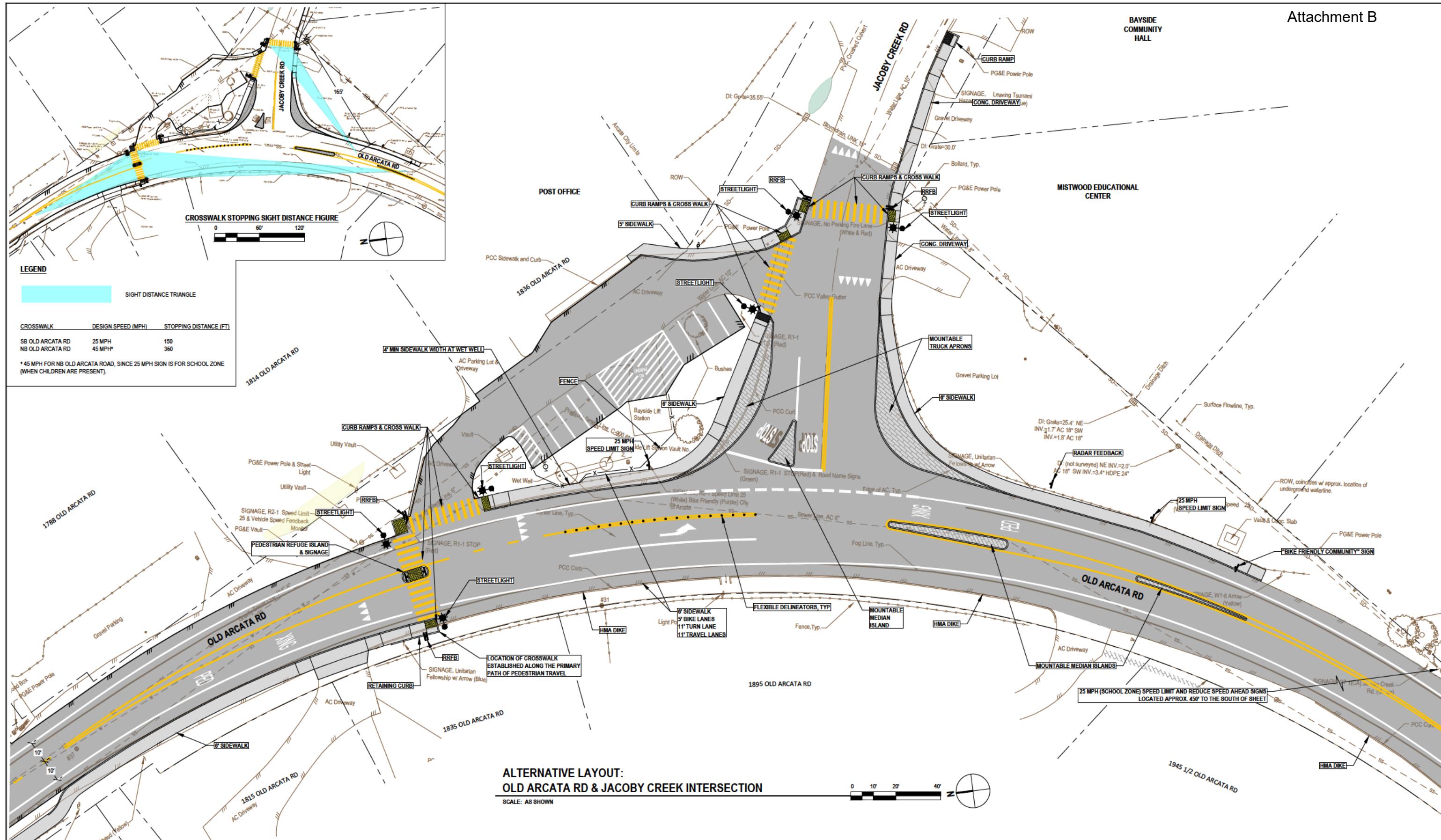
Arcata, CA, June 25, 2021 – The City of Arcata will host an in-person scoping meeting to discuss the Old Arcata Road Improvements Project on Thursday, July 1 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to give community members the opportunity to review potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. Information gathered at the meeting will be included in the environmental analysis prepared for this project's Environmental Impact Report, and any concerns related to this project from residents and the broader community will be recorded.

The meeting will be held outside in the parking lot at the D Street Community Center, located at 1301 D Street in Arcata. Participants should plan to bring a face covering and follow all COVID-19 health and safety protocols in place.

Those unable to attend the scoping meeting who would like to submit written public comment to be included in the administrative record are asked to email Senior Planner Delo Freitas at dfreitas@cityofarcata.org and comdev@cityofarcata.org, with "Old Arcata Road Improvements Project" in the subject line.

For more information, please call (707) 822-5955, and for more information on City of Arcata projects, visit cityofarcata.org.



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original size sheet
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Drawn O.GODE	Designer J.WOLF	Client CITY OF ARCATA
Drafting Check J.WOLF	Design Check D.CAISSE	Project OLD ARCATA ROAD REHABILITATION & PEDESTRIAN/BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS
Project Manager J.WOLF	Date	Title ALTERNATIVE LAYOUT:
		Project No. 11159130
This document shall not be used for construction unless signed and sealed for construction.	Scale AS SHOWN	Original Size ANSI D

From: [David Loya](#)
To: [Delo Freitas](#)
Subject: FW: INTERSECTION ALTERNATIVE #1 Old Arcata Rd. Improvement Project
Date: Friday, July 02, 2021 4:41:25 PM

From: Kathleen Stanton [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 4:05 PM
To: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>; Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>; Karen Diemer <kdiemer@cityofarcata.org>; Brett Watson <bwatson@cityofarcata.org>; Emily Goldstein <egoldstein@cityofarcata.org>; Stacy Atkins-Salazar <satkinssalazar@cityofarcata.org>; Sarah Schaefer <sschaefer@cityofarcata.org>
Subject: INTERSECTION ALTERNATIVE #1 Old Arcata Rd. Improvement Project

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7/1/21

To: David Loya, Community Development Director
Netra Khatri, City Engineer
City of Arcata

From: Bayside Cares

Re: INTERSECTION Alternative #1
Old Arcata Rd. Improvement Project
(SHN 2017 Report)

We neighbors generally support this Intersection Alternative #1 instead of a Roundabout, however, we would like to see some changes to this Alternative that include the following:

1. Remove the “Islands with Raised Curbs” & create a Left Turn Lane into the Post Office.
2. Keep the Post Office Driveway/Roadway a two-way street.
3. Keep the Postal Box where it is.
4. Remove the Sidewalk to Nowhere around the Pump House.
5. Remove the Chain Link Fence around the Pump House & simply vegetate.
6. Move the crosswalk out of the Intersection and up Jacoby Creek Road to where the Mistwood School would like a crosswalk between the Temperance Hall and the old Grange.
7. Remove the “Sidewalk with Curb” in front of the Temperance Hall.
8. Replace the damaged chain link fence with a split rail fence or the like.
9. Install a 15 MPH speed sign where the existing 25 MPH speed sign is on the Old Arcata Rd. South of the intersection to remind drivers that Mistwood School is there and that this is a SCHOOL ZONE.
10. Establish a 35 MPH speed limit on the County portion of Old Arcata Rd. between Graham Rd. & the Intersection with speed humps & LED speed signs.

From: [David Loya](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]; [Jason Holder](#); [Netra Khatri](#); [Delo Freitas](#)
Date: Thursday, July 01, 2021 10:13:33 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Absolutely, Chris. I intended to, but it was unclear from my email. This confirms you, and Jason, will be added to the list. Shall I also include Ms. Auwarter, as she has been cc'd to this email?

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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From: Chris Hamer [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 6:32 AM
To: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>
Cc: Jenny Auwarter [REDACTED] >
Subject: Fwd: Old Arcata Road Roundabout Project: Initial Scoping Comments re Draft EIR

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David,

Please include me as well, as requested in the letter on Jason Holder's letterhead, which I also signed

Chris Hamer
Stokes Hamer Kirk & Eads, LLP
[REDACTED]

From: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>
Date: June 30, 2021 at 4:57:45 PM PDT
To: Jason Holder [REDACTED], Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>
Cc: Chris Hamer [REDACTED]
mark.arsenault@dot.ca.gov, Natalie.lindquist@parks.ca.gov,
darrell.cardiff@dot.ca.gov, bbronkall@co.humboldt.ca.us,
[REDACTED] manarcat [REDACTED], Delo Freitas
<dfreitas@cityofarcata.org>
Subject: RE: Old Arcata Road Roundabout Project: Initial Scoping Comments re Draft EIR

Thank you, Jason.

I will add you to the interested parties list, and include you on all notices.

Regards,

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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<image002.png>

From: Jason Holder [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 4:18 PM
To: Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>; David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>
Cc: Chris Hamer [REDACTED] mark.arsenault@dot.ca.gov; natalie.lindquist@parks.ca.gov; darrell.cardiff@dot.ca.gov; bbronkall@co.humboldt.ca.us; [REDACTED]
Subject: Old Arcata Road Roundabout Project: Initial Scoping Comments re Draft EIR

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Dear Mr. Khatri and Mr. Loya,

Please see the attached letter submitted on behalf of Bayside Cares. A hard copy will follow by mail. Thank you for considering these comments.

As requested in the letter, please add both me and my co-counsel, Chris Hamer (cc'd), to the notice list for this Project.

Regards,
-Jason

--
Jason W. Holder
Holder Law Group

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To: the Arcata City Council

Re: Road Improvements in the Village of Bayside,
Aesthetics, environmental and safety considerations
Bayside, July 1 2021
From: C. I. Schencke Inkeles, [REDACTED]

Many years ago I was coming down the steep hill on Union Street and heading home on Old Arcata Road to Bayside. I had my young son and his friend in the car. We had been to a sports event at HSU. **And there was the new round-about! I was so happy to not have to turn left against fast moving traffic in both directions... in fact I was so excited, that to the kids' astonishment, I took an extra victory lap around the circle.**

Fast forward 20 years: As a senior I have taken the AARP class for older people a couple of times. (AARP Driver Safety Course – save \$ 90 on insurance. marturedriver.aarp.com) This is a course that deals especially with driving difficulties of seniors. Car insurance companies encourage you to take it by giving a discount on your insurance. **It states that turning left on a street with two-way traffic is the most hazardous thing for older people to do.** The course says to avoid it as much as possible, and to make several right turns instead. (not an option at the many legged crossing of Old Arcata Road and Jacoby Creek Road) **A round-about is the superior solution.** And for pedestrians, especially kids, crossing a street, dealing only with traffic coming from one side - **making an in between landing on the round-about -** before crossing to other side of the street - is so clearly safer.

Environmentally beneficial aspects of roundabouts versus stop signs or traffic lights. Most importantly it is not necessary to stop and start. **Stopping and starting uses more fuel, creates more exhaust and adds more wear and tear on your vehicle.** It also creates **more noise.** A round-about is also beneficial in that it **covers a large amount of black asphalt with plants thus reducing the heat created by roads.** A tree and wildflowers also adds beauty, and might attract bees!

It is also much safer for bicyclist to ride on a road with well marked bicycling lanes, and roundabouts are helpful in that they slow traffic. More cycling leads to fewer car trips and this reduces emissions, and noise.

When we moved to Bayside in 1991, the traffic on Old Arcata road was fast and the crossings poorly defined. The whole road was shabby looking the way it is now from Buttermilk Lane to Jacoby Creek Road. There were no sidewalks. We were so pleased with the traffic mitigation that was done about 20 years ago. It is so much safer and so much more attractive. We have been waiting an amazingly long time for a similar treatment in the heart of Bayside. It is difficult to see anything attractive about the present road and intersections. **All the people in the lovely old village of Bayside deserve a safe, attractive and environmentally sound road.**

Respectfully,

Claire Iris Schencke Inkeles

From: [David Loya](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Delo Freitas](#); [Netra Khatri](#)
Subject: RE: Old Arcata Road Project
Date: Tuesday, July 06, 2021 8:57:16 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Hi Gordon.

I fully respect your concern. While we were prepared to approve the plan at the first hearing, the fair argument that was raised prevented us from doing so. We are expeditiously executing the EIR process and will have a solution as soon as is humanly possible.

Regards,

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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From: Gordon Inkeles [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 8:24 PM
To: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>
Subject: Re: Old Arcata Road Project

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Hi David,

I understand your position.

My ongoing concern with Old Arcata Road as it is now is with the significant risk to the children. Over the years I've volunteered several times as a crossing guard at the school. Not only is the Hyland/Old Arcata Road crossing dangerous but the lack of any sidewalk makes the whole of Old Arcata Road from the school to the Jacoby Creek Road intersection hazardous for the large numbers of children who walk it daily. For the past few years Bayside residents have discussed our concerns about this stretch with city hall staff at the various road improvement meetings however nothing has been done.

When we identified the risk to school kids the city considered steps to mitigate the risk with a roundabout which was widely approved by Bayside residents. However there again nothing has been done. So there is a continuing twofold risk. Most importantly, there is the risk to children but in the event of a personal injury or death the taxpayers have considerable liability exposure. In two months, Jacoby Creek School will reopen.

Currently, there is no sidewalk at all from Jacoby Creek School to the hazardous Jacoby Creek Road intersection—the schoolkids are literally walking in traffic. We have already seen several nasty crashes at this intersection including one where a drunk driver ended up in a back yard. The city has been on notice of this hazard for several years and again, nothing has been done. I walk or bike it daily and know the road well. Its particularly frustrating to see three functioning roundabouts in use on Old Arcata Road (Sunnybrae, Anderson and Indianola) while Bayside, perhaps the densest populated area, has none.

Please keep me closely posted on the progress of this project. And thanks for your efforts on behalf of Bayside residents.

Gordon Inkeles
Bayside

On Jul 2, 2021, at 1:26 PM, David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org> wrote:

Hi Gordon,

I'll include your email into the record on the project.

I fully understand your frustration. We are definitely not starting at square one, however. I was clear yesterday, and I want to reiterate now, the City is evaluating the project with the roundabout at the proposed project. The Environmental Impact Report process requires us to evaluate feasible alternatives as well as the proposed project. The decades of public involvement, and the four recent years developing this specific project scope, are the basis for the proposed project. The vote of support for option 3 you refer to has carried through to the proposed project. And, this is the

project that was identified by the City Council.

I also understand the frustration with the meeting location. But I want to ensure you, your comments were not lost in the freeway roar. I have recorded them and will include them in the scoping memo for the project.

Please feel free to call if you have follow up questions.

Sincerely,

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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[<image003.png>](#)

From: Gordon Inkeles <arcata@me.com>

Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 1:08 PM

To: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>

Cc: Jude Powers [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Friday, July 2, 2021

Dear David Loya,

I left yesterday's meeting in shock. Suddenly, twenty years of painstakingly community feedback on the OAR project including the Bayside community's well established support for Arcata's "option 3" was in question and we were back to square one. Community preferences forged in dozens of meetings were ignored. We were forced to listen shrill tirades on the project and urged to consider "alternatives" to a roundabout for the treacherous Jacoby Creek/OAR intersection. **Every single one of these so called "alternatives" has been found to be far more hazardous than a roundabout by your own people.**

Old Arcata Road already has three successful roundabouts. Nevertheless, citizens of Bayside are now being asked to forgo a roundabout for the only intersection that is used by elementary school children daily. I walk or cycle the road daily and have found no safe way to cross at the Jacoby Creek/Old Arcata road intersection. I have two granddaughters who enjoy the JCS playground. We must cross Old Arcata Road to get there.

I tried to make some of these points at the meeting but most of my remarks were either shouted down or lost in the freeway roar. I recognized only a handful of the naysayers. Who are these people and where do they actually live?

The Old Arcata Road renewal project was painstakingly negotiated over many years by the actual Bayside community. The roundabout came down to three options. Hundreds of community members voted on option three which won by a landslide. Additionally, after presentations by the city at The Bayside Community Hall, the project with option 3 was enthusiastically approved.

Further delays at this point may constitute a cynical attempt to "time out" the funding for the project. It's your responsibility to keep it on track. Bayside residents desperately need this built without further delay to **keep our children safe.**

Sincerely,

Gordon Inkeles

cc Netra Khatri
Jude Power
Iris Schencke
Jim Zoelick
Ed Vaccaro
Harvey and Sue Kelsey
Suzanne Pasztor
Netra Khatri
Harvey and Sue Kelsey

Jim Zoleck

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Delo Freitas](#); [COM DEV](#)
Subject: I support constructing a roundabout at the intersection of Jacoby Cr and Old Arcata Roads.
Date: Thursday, July 01, 2021 5:01:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To City of Arcata staff and City Council:

I could not make the in-person meeting today on the OldArcataRoad/ Bayside road improvements but I would like to provide my vote.

I am in strong favor of constructing a roundabout at the intersection of Jacoby Cr and Old Arcata Roads.

I realize I have just one vote, but I am an informed voter: I am a 36-yr resident of Bayside who lives about 1/3 mile from the candidate roundabout. I am an avid road biker who uses the Jacoby Cr Rd-Old Arcata Rd intersection often. I am a past two-term member of the School Board at Jacoby Creek school. My wife and I raised two children at the below address, who are now adults on their own.

The roundabout is an extremely effective traffic calming device and we could use traffic calming at that intersection. Especially problematic are cars traveling too fast northbound through the intersection with no regards for the intersection or congestion at the post office. Everyone needs to slow down at that intersection and a roundabout (traffic circle) is an excellent traffic calming device. Such roundabouts have worked well elsewhere in Arcata, especially at the base of the Union Street hill across from the CHP office. A roundabout at the intersection of Jacoby Cr Rd and Old Arcata Road will be equally as effective as other roundabouts on Arcata.

Thank you,

Harvey Kelsey
[REDACTED]

From: [David Loya](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Netra Khatri](#); [Andrea Hilton](#); [Josh Wolf](#); [Delo Freitas](#)
Date: RE: Old Arcata Road
Attachments: Thursday, July 01, 2021 10:19:51 AM
[image002.png](#)

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for your email. I will definitely include this in the scoping.

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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From: Lisa B. [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 9:42 AM
To: David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>
Subject: Old Arcata Road

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Hi David. Hope this finds you well. I understand that you are holding a scoping session on the Old Arcata Road project today.

I have reviewed the plans to date. Kevin and I are in support of keeping things much the same

as they are in front of our properties as we know the sidewalk serves so many people well with no curbs and the concrete version as opposed to asphalt. We recognize that there will be some change but we hope the basic design of existing conditions remains the same.

I was a bit concerned in the historic report that the analysis was not clear as to what kinds of impacts they anticipated in front of our historic home and water tower. I think this needs to be spelled out in the new document.

I also am aware of a lot of controversy around the roundabout proposed to be built by the Post Office. While I do like roundabouts, I have concerns about the size of the one proposed. I believe that a smaller footprint to the roundabout could achieve the goal of slowing people down but allow for sensitivity to the historic resources that are present in the area. I absolutely love the small roundabout on West End Road and one similar to that could be presented as an alternative to the one proposed that people are upset about.

I heard that one reason for the larger roundabout was with respect to the road being used as an alternate route in conditions that might occur due to sea level rise. I think we can all agree that if 101 is impassible in a flood event, that so would be Old Arcata Road due to Jacoby Creek spilling over. I do not see that as a reasonable argument for a large roundabout and having lived on this road for 20-plus years, I believe the smaller roundabout could work with the right design so larger trucks could get through it, albeit slowly.

Please accept my comments into the record for this scoping session for the EIR and please forward to any planners with whom this concerns.

Thanks!

Lisa Brown
Arcata

From: [Netra Khatri](#)
To: [David Loya](#)
Cc: [Delo Freitas](#); [Andrea Hilton](#)
Subject: FW: Old Arcata Road Public Scoping Meeting of preparation of Environmental Impact Report-July 1, 2021
Date: Friday, July 02, 2021 8:06:21 AM

Netra Khatri, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Arcata - www.cityofarcata.org
Office: (707) 825-2173
Cell: (707) 267-4287
nkhatri@cityofarcata.org



From: Marc Delany [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 6:43 PM
To: Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>
Cc: Kathleen Stanton [REDACTED]; Kiriki Delany [REDACTED]; Bob Mcpherson [REDACTED]; Susan Mcpherson [REDACTED]; Maggie Gainer [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Old Arcata Road Public Scoping Meeting of preparation of Environmental Impact Report-July 1, 2021

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Hi Netra,

What guidance document or guide are you using? We should coordinate. I use the NEPA Book and ARCTA 2020 General Plan.

On Thu, Jun 24, 2021 at 5:00 PM Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org> wrote:

Hello,

This email is to notify you of the City of Arcata's planned scoping meeting for the Old Arcata Road Improvements Project on Thursday, July 1st from 4:30-5:30 PM. A scoping meeting is an opportunity to review potential environmental impacts of a proposed project and record concerns from both partnering agencies and the broader community, to inform the environmental analysis prepared for the project's Environmental Impact Report.

We will meet in the City parking lot at the "D Street" Community Center, located at 1301 D St, Arcata, CA 95521 (see attached location map). If you are unable to make the site visit

but would like to submit comment to the City, please submit written comments to dfreitas@cityofarcata.org for inclusion in the administrative record and cc comdev@cityofarcata.org.

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated by the City of Arcata Community Development Department as Lead Agency and is available on the City's website at <https://www.cityofarcata.org/720/Old-Arcata-Road-Design-Project>.

The City accepted comments on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration from January 20th until 5 p.m. February 22nd, consistent with Section 15105 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed Mitigation Negative Declaration (MND) and associated mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) contained draft mitigation for impacts in the following subject areas:

- Stormwater Pollution Prevention/Hydrology and Water Quality
- Aesthetics
- Biological Resources
- Wetlands/Waters of the United States
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Soil Contamination/Hazardous Materials
- Transportation

Agency Comments Received to Date

Various partnering, responsible and trustee agencies (Local Area Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, Caltrans District 1, Humboldt County Planning-Public Works, California Coastal Commission, US Army Corps of Engineers, CA Regional Water Quality Control Board, Jacoby Creek School) have been involved in ongoing project coordination and were sent the draft Initial Study and Notice of Coastal Development Permit for review and comment. To date the City has received three formal comments from agency partners (County of Humboldt, Blue Lake Rancheria, and Jacoby Creek School). The project will require ongoing coordination with all partner agencies.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns and we hope to see you soon.

Regards

Netra Khatri, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Arcata - www.cityofarcata.org
Office: (707) 825-2173
Cell: (707) 267-4287
nkhatri@cityofarcata.org



From: [Netra Khatri](#)
To: [David Loya](#); [Delo Freitas](#)
Subject: FW: The City of Arcata response is grossly in error
Date: Tuesday, July 06, 2021 11:52:31 AM

Netra Khatri, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Arcata - www.cityofarcata.org
Office: (707) 825-2173
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nkhatri@cityofarcata.org



From: Marc Delany >
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>
Cc: natalie.lindquist@parks.ca.gov; Wilson, Mike <mike.wilson@co.humboldt.ca.us>; Johnson, May <May.Johnson@sen.ca.gov>; Brett Watson <bwatson@cityofarcata.org>; Stacy Atkins-Salazar <satkinssalazar@cityofarcata.org>
Subject: The City of Arcata response is grossly in error

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Dear Netra,

NEPA requirements for an EIR, including Sect 106 compliance means moving a new Highway in front of **National Landmarked** building (not local) is significant unnecessary impact, particularly, when the county general plan, and Arcata's General Plan 2020 specifically say **all of Old Arcata Road is an Historic Resource**, and this intersection and road will not be changed.

The views north towards the landmark ARE protected, and have been noted as protected in previous environmental reviews 1978 onward, The views of, to and from are to be protected from new development, noise (see Noise Element, Traffic Element, Historic Element etc.) , and light... in addition to the economic impacts in these general plans..

The proposed "sidewalks" at the "roundabout" are sidewalks to nowhere, are in no way ADA compliant, and entirely on county land, under the review of the county's ADA court ordered oversite. Please add these court required reviewers to the contact list for this project's consultation or risk the county's ADA consent decree being violated, or deliberate

concealment

Please correct the record's response. Please read your own General Plan and related Historic Reports.

Thank you

Marc

PS. The overwhelmingly popular and 1st choice after "no project" was Alt 1, which has few if any of the above problems as was clear in SHD Report. This City Council has never received an accurate report to consider. This is actually a new project, not the 2016 proposal, neither of which have had a proper scoping meeting to date.

Comment and Response 23 (GHD Old Arcata Road Rehabilitation
Pedestrian/Bikeway Improvements

<https://www.cityofarcata.org/DocumentCenter/View/10836/Final-Old-Arcata-FISMND-RTC-and-Errata>

"The City acknowledges the referenced school tower is a local landmark; however, the viewshed associated with the school has not been identified as a visual or historic resource. Unsubstantiated statements do not constitute comments regarding environmental impact analysis pursuant to CEQA."

"I do not pretend to understand the moral universe; the arc is a long one, my eye reaches but little ways; I cannot calculate the curve and complete the figure by the experience of sight; I can divine it by conscience. And from what I see I am sure it bends towards justice" - Theodore Parker

"It better" - M. L. Delany

From: [David Loya](#)
To: [Melanie Nannizzi](#)
Cc: [Netra Khatri](#); [Delo Freitas](#); tparisi@jcsk8.org
Subject: RE: Old Arcata Road Project--Jacoby Creek School
Date: Tuesday, July 06, 2021 8:54:32 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you, Melanie.

The School District received an invitation to the Agency Scoping Meeting, and will also receive a formal request to review the project and the Draft Environmental Impact Report when it is prepared. We will include your email below, but would also encourage a formal response to requests for participation.

In addition, if you would like to discuss your concerns/comments with Netra, who may be able to give insight into the proposed project design, please feel free to reach out to him at 707-825-2173.

Also, I wanted to confirm that Tim Parisi is the appropriate point of contact for the school district. I believe we sent the scoping invitation to him.

David Loya (him)
Community Development Director
City of Arcata
p. 707-825-2045
www.cityofarcata.org

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From: Melanie Nannizzi <mnannizzi@jcsk8.org>
Sent: Sunday, July 4, 2021 9:51 AM
To: Netra Khatri <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>; David Loya <dloya@cityofarcata.org>; Tim Parisi

From: [REDACTED]
To: [COM DEV](#)
Subject: Old Arcata Road project
Date: Friday, July 02, 2021 9:37:31 AM

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Hi,

Sorry I missed the meeting! Mad River Union said it was on Thursday! I wholeheartedly support this project since I live on Old Arcata Road just around the curve and across the street from the Bayside Post Office. Going in and out of my drive is so dangerous during busy parts of the day! And it would be great to have the sidewalk!

Please add me to the listserv for this project for any future meetings.

Thank you,
Mary O'Brien
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Delo Freitas](#)
Subject: Fwd: Road Improvements From Sunnybrae To Jacoby Creek Road
Date: Friday, July 09, 2021 5:07:51 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Paul Nicholson** [REDACTED] >
Date: Fri, Jul 9, 2021 at 3:25 PM
Subject: Road Improvements From Sunnybrae To Jacoby Creek Road
To: <nkhatri@cityofarcata.org>, <mdabill@cityofarcata.org>

I heard that I missed the meeting regarding the road improvements. While walking on Jacoby Creek Road, a husband and wife stopped me and asked my opinion of the proposed plan. I said I was in favor of it and then they told me I missed the meeting discussing this. They said there was loud opposition to it and it was so aggressive, they decided not to speak. They said others felt the same way.

I know one of the people who spoke against the plan and have worked with her on several occasions. She helped me pass Measure F, which was to support the tax increase for properly funding the Arcata Fire Department. I will need her in the future so I do not want to burn any bridges with her but I am willing if you need me to speak in favor of the project. If not, I would prefer to remain anonymous at this time. People I have talked with are very much in favor but they too have not been vocal and are concerned about the aggressive anti project people.

Here are my reasons I am in favor of the project. Please correct me if I am wrong on any points. The speed limit from the Bayside Cutoff to Jacoby Creek Road is 45. People are going 45 when they round the corner heading toward Sunnybrae. The roundabout would decrease the speed to 25 automatically.

The roundabout would be closer to the school at the corner and I have heard people complain about the increased noise from people going to gun their engines as they leave the roundabout. Standing at the location while talking with the husband and wife, we saw almost everyone gunning their engines past the school. The roundabout would cause traffic to slow so people would be coasting, not gunning their engines. The traffic on Jacoby Creek Road needs to slow down because it goes in excess of 50 mph continually. The traffic sign just past the Bayside Community Hall says 35 and people need to slow down. The roundabout would do just that. Cars come so fast around the corner, you have to sprint across the street to go to the Post Office. I have done it many times as I walk from my home to the Post Office almost every day.

Today I watched the traffic coming from the Bayside Cutoff and driving towards Jacoby Creek School. Many were still speeding as they drove toward the school. The roundabout would cause people to be doing closer to the 25mph speed limit.

I have heard one the the improvements would be to fill in the drains across from the Bayside Community Hall so additional parking would be available. When there is a large event now, people park 1/2 in the lane and 1/2 off the side of the road, which is extremely dangerous for people to drive by with the possibility of people exiting their cars or when cars have to drive into the oncoming lane because the road is blocked.

I was at the Post Office one day and saw a person coming from Sunnybrae. He cut through the Post Office parking lot at about 20 mph to get to Jacoby Creek Road. One thing that needs to be installed is a speed bump in the parking lot to discourage people from doing this. It was shocking how fast this car was going through the lot.

So many students ride their bikes and walk to Jacoby Creek. There are no clear lanes for them to travel in that are safe. I understand this project addresses this matter.

Another important point is this improvement is necessary should something happen on highway 101. Something as simple as a traffic accident or major like tide change closing the road for hours at a time. It is better to prepare for this now.

If you need more people who are in favor of the project to contact you, please let me know. They are afraid of the tough responses they saw but would probably be willing to write an email of support if needed. I can be reached at my email, [REDACTED] or cell, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] If you want to discuss this with me, please feel free to contact me any time.

Paul Nicholson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]