

From: Jennifer Irvine <jenniferirvine@elpasoco.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:31 PM
To: Nina Ruiz <NinaRuiz@elpasoco.com>; Elizabeth Nijkamp <ElizabethNijkamp@elpasoco.com>; Craig Dossey <craigdossey@elpasoco.com>
Cc: Gilbert LaForce <GilbertLaForce@elpasoco.com>; Jennifer Irvine <jenniferirvine@elpasoco.com>
Subject: FW: Furrow Road

From: Jennifer Irvine <jenniferirvine@elpasoco.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 9:29 PM
To: Mark Spowart <mdspowart@gmail.com>
Cc: Jennifer Irvine <jenniferirvine@elpasoco.com>
Subject: Furrow Road

Mark:

Thank you and your group for taking the time to meet with me to discuss Furrow Road and concerns regarding impacts of Grandwood development. I also received a copy of the petition. As promised, this is a very brief follow up to our conversation on the phone earlier this week-this email does not document our entire conversation but the intent is to document the efforts my office will be undertaking.

-I understand the position of the your group that although it is preferred that the extension not happen it is understood that it is needed to support the growth in the area and that you wanted to ensure that safety measures were addressed.

-Furrow Road is a major collector. The County will be adding striping to the road. Twelve foot lanes are a requirement but I felt that eleven foot lanes can be supported. The shoulders will continue to allow for bike and pedestrian access consistent with County criteria. The County will be working to complete the striping in a single phase.

-The County will hire a licensed professional engineer to undertake an engineering evaluation (road safety audit) of Furrow Road to document the need for and provide recommendations for appropriate site specific safety improvements. A stakeholder group will be included in the effort.

-The most significant traffic impact in the Grandwood Traffic Impact Study is from the future connection of Gleneagle to Furrow at Higby and future traffic impacts will be considered in the County sponsored evaluation.

- Physical improvements are not the only consideration and the County will look to employ identified countermeasures that integrate education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency services (the "4Es"). While individual disciplines can be successful a combination of strategies from different focus areas is often most effective for solving a particular problems. Often the tendency is to jump to only physical alterations as potential focus areas to improving roadway safety. Whenever possible, a 4E approach should be the first step in assessing how to improve roadway safety. This is consistent with the County's Local Road Safety Plan effort that is underway.

-Because this is a new evaluation that is not yet underway, there is not dedicated funding for constructing improvements on Furrow Road at this time and required funding estimate for any identified project would be included with the study. Future funding sources would have to be determined for any proposed physical improvements.

-Four way stops between Highway 105 and Higby do not appear to be warranted but compact roundabouts can be considered during the evaluation among other countermeasures.
-The County is working to convey Higby Road right-of-way ownership and maintenance to Town of Monument/TriView Metro District. I understand that a design effort is underway for Higby and there are future improvements planned along the corridor which may include a proposed roundabout at Higby/Furrow. The County is supporting these planning efforts for future improvements to Higby.
-I understood that you would be speaking at upcoming public hearings (but would not be in favor or against) and would be documenting your group's concerns about Furrow and would also be prepared to speak to our partnership in the efforts mentioned above.

I look forward to continuing to work with you.

Warmest Regards, Jennifer

Jennifer E. Irvine P.E., MPA

County Engineer

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