

**MIRA MESA COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

Mira Mesa Senior Center, 8460 Mira Mesa Blvd.  
7:00 PM, Tuesday, 16 Feb 2010

**7:02 p.m. Call to Order**

In attendance: Pat O'Donohoe; Michael Linton; Mark Kornheiser; Joe Frichtel; Bruce Brown; Rich Ragus; Linda Geldner; Bari Vaz; John Horst; Erwin Rose; Ian Firth; Phil Lisotta; Sandy Smith (13).

1. Adopt draft agenda – Action Item

- a. Added 5(c): Scripps West. Motion made/seconded by Bruce Brown/Bari Vaz. Approved via voice vote.

2. Approval of Minutes: Jan 2010 – Action items

- a. Motion to approve minutes made/seconded by Bruce Brown/Sandy Smith: Motion carried 9/0/4.

3. Staff Reports - Information items

- a. MCAS Miramar – Juan Lias

Reported on the ongoing training at Miramar.

Draft EIS for Joint Strike Fighter basing will be available for public review in mid-May. Presentation will be made to the Planning Commission in May.

In February or March construction will start on the Miramar Ft. Rosecrans extension. Internments may start August 2010. Veteran's Administration will be responsible for the facility. The primary entrance will likely be on Nobel Drive.

- b. Council District 5 Update – John Ly

John reported on Councilman DeMaio's opposition to pay raises for City Council. He also reported on Councilman DeMaio's support of adding a new Council District along with permanent adoption of the strong mayor form of city government as long as the addition of the new Council District does not add to the budget.

John reported on a recent audit of the City Water Department concerning bonus payments. The Water Department had reported performance criteria for awarding the bonus payments, however the audit did not support the reported performance criteria.

- c. City Planning- Dan Monroe

No information

- d. I-15 Public Information Officer- Kara Palmer

Reported on closures and lane adjustments on I-15. See Appendix 1 for notes and CalTrans update.

#### 4. Public Comment and Announcements – Information items

- a. Non- Agenda Public Comment – 3 minutes per speaker

Michael Schwartz: Expressed interest in lighting at Maddox Park. Information on upcoming cell phone standards, including lighting, was mentioned.

Sandy Smith/Bari Vaz: Reported on upcoming demonstration at Mira Mesa Mall, 10-12am Sat. morning concerning abandoned shopping carts in the neighborhood.

Emily Richards: Spoke against the upcoming construction of Salk Elementary school as unnecessary due to declining enrollment in local elementary schools.

Jason Brock: Spoke on the matter of vernal pools in the area where Salk Elementary is planned. Mr. Brock is interested in seeing that vernal pools in the neighborhood get proper attention. Mr. Brock informed the group of a website he maintains to advocate for these issues: <http://www.awakecommunity.info>

- b. Announcements- 2 minutes per speaker

Linda Geldner: See Appendix 2.

Joe Frichtel: Will be retiring and will have a party February 23 at Callahans Pub & Brewery.

#### 5. Old Business

- a. Hillary DAR subcommittee – Bari Vaz will present the subcommittee recommendations for discussion this month and a vote next month (March.)

Draft report incorporated here as Appendix 3 and can be viewed at [http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/Hillary\\_DAR\\_Page.htm](http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org/Hillary_DAR_Page.htm) reviewing contributions and input provided over the past 6 months for the DAR.

Public Comments:

Jeff Stevens: Wants to know if CalTrans can pay for mitigation steps recommended.

CalTrans: Defined budget of \$2.5M (from CalTrans) for these mitigation steps.

Traffic circles appear to be the most expensive of the options.

Siavash Pazargadi: Senior Traffic Engineer for the City. The City is working with CalTrans to address the mitigation requests. City Traffic/CalTrans will make a joint presentation at the next (March) meeting.

Jim Federhart: (Mobile home park representative): Owner of Mobile Home Park seems positively inclined to helping with right of way at Hillery to make the left turn lane adjustments feasible.

- b. Regular meeting date and time: First question is whether the committee wishes to change our meeting date from the 3rd Monday of each month with Jan and Feb on the 3rd Tuesday because of Monday holidays.

Motion was made/seconded to keep third Monday of each month Bruce Brown/Joe Frichtel: Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Scripps West (Information Only): Rich Ragus updated the group. CEQA certification is close to complete. City comments are pending. The project will come to the group once that milestone is reached. It is expected to come to the group in the March or April meeting.

## 6. New Business

- a. AT&T at Camino Ruiz Park Project #167236 – Shelly Kilbourne presented the cell phone antenna to be installed in this project. A CUP recommendation vote is planned for the March 2010 meeting. Ms. Kilbourne Provided drawings on the light standard, monotree, etc.
- b. California Proton Treatment Center, Project 203654 – Presentation by Mike Colarusso. Substantial Conformance Review in process. Recommendation vote will be scheduled for March 2010 meeting. Mr. Colarusso presented land use, architecture of the building and related medical technology. Project will be put on the agenda for the March 2010 meeting.
- c. Westview Parkway SDG&E/OneSource Laydown Facility: Mike Smith from OneSource, the lessee for the property, presented their prior lack of awareness as to permit requirements. Mr. Smith indicated that the land has been leased since late 2005 as an equipment staging point for the SDG&E Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) initiative.

Ahmad Solomon from SDG&E mentioned that they believed this use was allowed. When SDG&E found that a Neighborhood Use Permit (NUP) was required, they contacted OneSource to see that the process was followed. OneSource has prepared an NUP application to cover the time remaining on their lease, and has begun looking for another site once the lease expires.

7. Reports (information items):

a. Report of Chair/correspondence – Linda Geldner See Appendix 2

b. Facilities Benefit Assessment (FBA)- Bruce Brown

FBA subcommittee will begin meeting in May 2010.

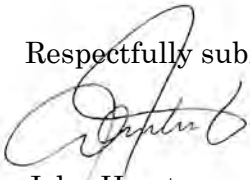
c. CPC- Linda Geldner See Appendix 2

d. Los Peñasquitos Canyon Citizen's Advisory Committee Report – Pam Stevens

Most trails are open. Some trails are still closed due to rain. The Advisory Committee is active with resource management plan at other preserves adjacent to Los Peñasquitos. March 18<sup>th</sup> 2010 is the next meeting at the Ranch House.

9:25 p.m. Motion to adjourn made/seconded by Bruce Brown/Joe Frichtel. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John Horst  
Secretary, Mira Mesa Community Planning Group

## **Appendix 1: CalTrans Updates**

## Upcoming Closures/Traffic Shifts: I-15 Express Lanes South Segment

### **U3S – SR-56/Ted Williams Parkway to just north of Mira Mesa Blvd.**

- We do not have any foreseen extended ramp closures in the immediate future. Some work will still require some regularly nighttime closures.
- Traffic should be shifted to the outside of the freeway likely in late spring/early summer 2010.

### **U2S – Just north of Mira Mesa Blvd to Miramar Road**

- **Traffic recently shifted to the outside of the SB General Purpose Lanes in early Feb.**
- **Upcoming weekend closure of the SB on-ramp from WB Mira Mesa Blvd.**
  - Closed from 10pm on Friday, Feb. 19, and reopening at Monday, Feb. 22 at 5 am, weather permitting.
  - This temporary closure is necessary to allow crews to realign the ramp and add a second lane at the meter. Two recommended detours will be provided and detour signs will be posted to direct motorists around the closure.
  - **Recommended Detours:**
    - **From Westbound Mira Mesa Blvd. to Southbound I-15:** Travel west on Mira Mesa Blvd., turn left onto Black Mountain Rd., turn left onto Carroll Canyon Rd., turn right onto southbound I-15 on-ramp.
    - **From Scripps Ranch Blvd. To Southbound I-15:** Travel south on Scripps Ranch Blvd., and follow it as it turns into Carroll Canyon Rd., Turn left onto southbound I-15 on-ramp.
- **Upcoming southbound nighttime full freeway closure at Carroll Canyon Road**
  - Planned closure for Monday, 2/22, and Tuesday 2/23 nights from 11pm to 5am.
  - Needed to place falsework (temporary bridge support) at Carroll Canyon Road bridge to continue rebuilding the south side of the bridge.
    - **Detour:** Southbound motorists will exit to the southbound off-ramp to Carroll Canyon Road, and then travel straight through the intersection to the southbound on-ramp to I-15.

### **U1S – Miramar Road to SR-163/SR-52**

- **1 night closure of southbound SR-15 from SR-15/SR-163 split to SR-52 tonight**
  - Scheduled to occur tonight, Tuesday, Feb. 16, weather permitting.
  - Necessary to restripe freeway lanes.
    - **Detour:** Motorists traveling south on I-15 will be detoured to south on SR-163 to west on SR-52 to south on Convoy Street to east on SR-52 onto southbound I-15. Detour signs will be in place to direct motorists.
- **Upcoming 2 weekend closure (nights only) of southbound I-15 general purpose lanes from just south of Miramar Road to past the split**
  - Fri/Sat 2/26-27 and Fri/Sat 3/6-7
  - On Friday nights, the closure will begin at 10:30 and will reopen at 6:30 the following morning. On Saturday nights, the closure will begin at 10:30 and will reopen at 7:30 the following morning.
  - Needed to install overhead signage
    - **Detour:** All southbound general purpose lane traffic will be detoured into the Express Lanes just south of Miramar Road using a temporary on-ramp. Traffic to exit back into general purpose lanes just after the split on either I-15 or SR-163.
  - Concurrently, the southbound on-ramp from Miramar Road, and the southbound on and off-ramps to and from Miramar Way will also be closed during this closure. Detour signs will be posted to direct motorists.

### **Construction Outlook (NOT NECESSARY TO SAY - REPEAT FROM LAST MONTH):**

Construction in the Miramar area is primarily focused on work in the median to add the two new Express Lanes.

Both Poway Road/Rancho Penasquitos Blvd. Bridge and Carroll Canyon Road Bridge are on track for completion in 2011. The north side of Poway Road/Rancho Penasquitos Blvd Bridge should be finished in early spring 2010 and the demolition and reconstruction on the south side of the bridge should begin in spring/early summer 2010. Reconstruction of the south side of Carroll Canyon Road bridge should be complete mid-2010 and construction on the north side should begin shortly thereafter.

## Mira Mesa Boulevard Construction Advisory #3

### Temporary Closure: Southbound On-Ramp from Westbound Mira Mesa Boulevard

Please be advised that the southbound on-ramp from westbound Mira Mesa Boulevard will be closed Friday, February 19 at 10 p.m. and will reopen on Monday, February 22 at 5 a.m. for the weekday commute.

This temporary closure is necessary to allow crews to realign the ramp and add back a second lane at the meter. Two recommended detours will be provided and detour signs will be posted to direct motorists around the closure. Please see the map below for detailed detour instructions.

This work is part of constructing the South Segment of the I-15 Express Lanes project. The South Segment will cost approximately \$412 million. Once completed in 2012, there will be four express lanes in the median of the freeway at Mira Mesa Boulevard.

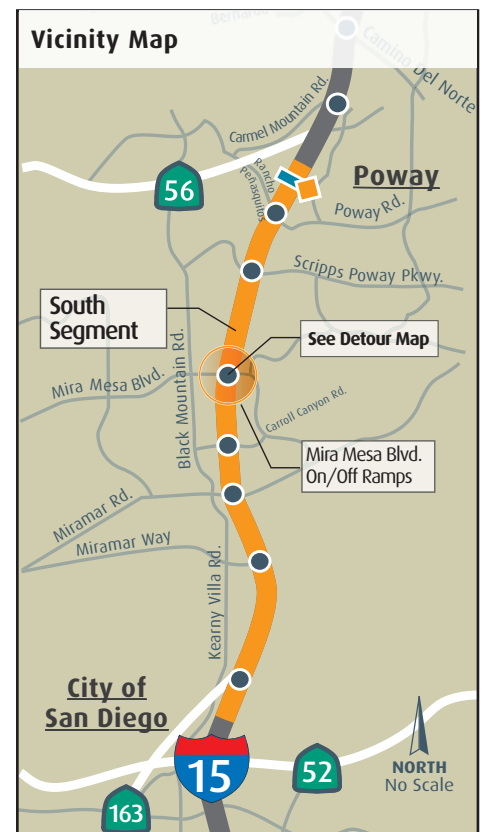
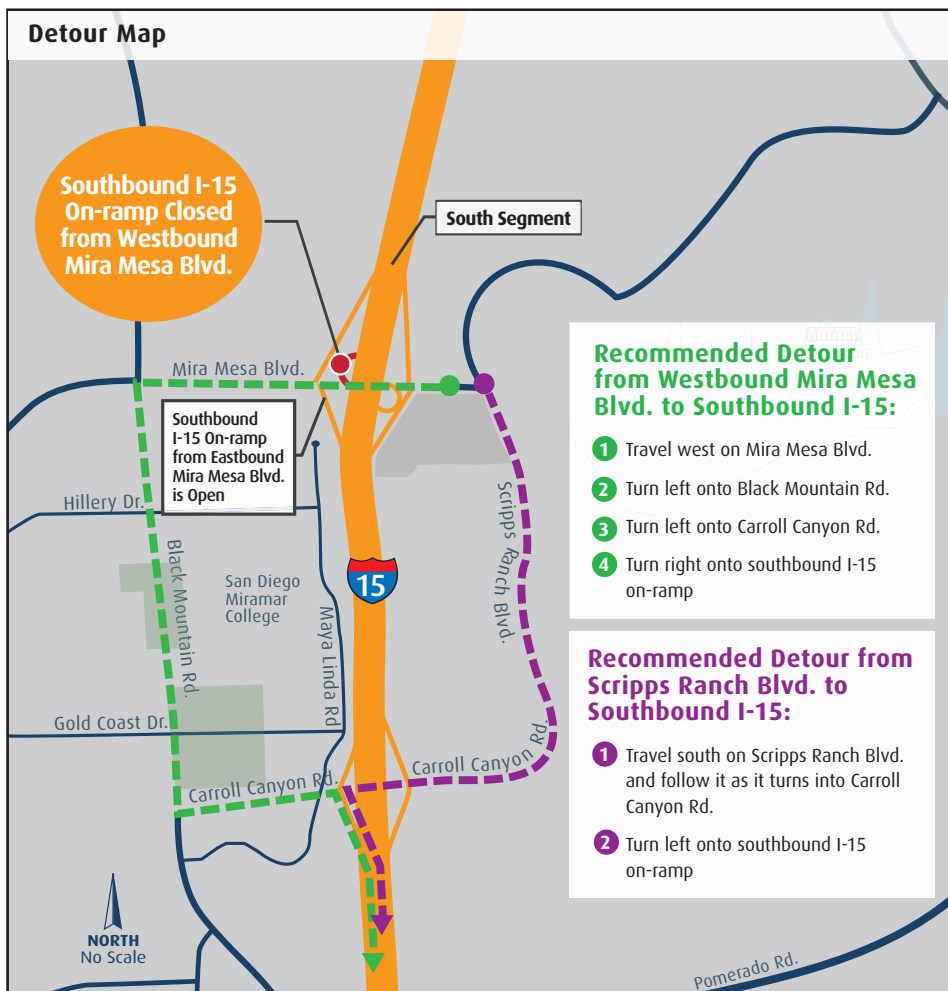
### How to Stay Informed

For more information, please contact:

- ▶ **Project Hotline**  
(866) 890-1397
- ▶ **I-15 Public Information Office**  
(858) 668-3368
- ▶ **Website**  
[www.keepsandiegomoving.com](http://www.keepsandiegomoving.com)

### Overview

The I-15 Express Lanes Project is being constructed in three segments: North, Middle and South. The construction in the South Segment began in 2008 and is expected to be completed by 2012.



## **Appendix 2: Report of Chair and Correspondence**



**Mira Mesa Community Planning Group  
Correspondence/Report of Chair  
Feb 2010**

**Announcements –**

What to know when reviewing projects, Thursday, Feb 25 2010, 6-8 pm, Metro Ops Center, 9192 Topaz Way in Kearny Mesa RSVP to [SDplanninggroups@saniego.gov](mailto:SDplanninggroups@saniego.gov) or 619-235-5200

**Correspondence**

Project Submittals:

- 201723 Los Penasquitos Ranger Station
- 203756 5830 Oberlin Map Waiver
- 201841 El Camino Memorial Park

Substantial Conformance Review

- 203654 California Proton Treatment Center

Assessment Letters:

- 199040 Clearwire Mira Mesa

Public Notices:

Notices of application:

- 201723 Los Penasquitos Ranger Station
- 201841 El Camino Memorial Park
- 200479 Clearwire San Diego Tech Center

Resubmittals:

- 191800 T-mobile Mira Mesa Flag Pole
- 196492 Clearwire Del Campo Court
- 158983 Alexandria Technology Center

## **Report of Chair**

### CPC

- Wireless Communication Stakeholders Review Committee

### Code Compliance

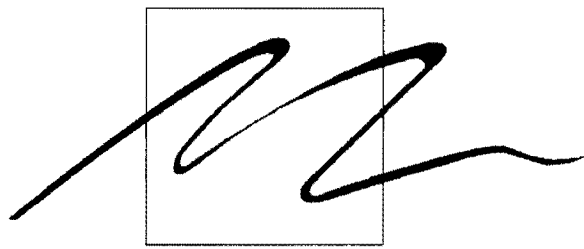
#### Work still in process:

- CALTRANS transportation grants
- City Planning – Airport overlay (Tait)
- Subcommittee List

#### Future agenda items:

- Election for Business member vacancy
- Stop sign requests sent to Traffic analysis in Aug 09 (incorporate into Hillary DAR discussion)
- FBA discussion
- SANDAG – Smart Growth/Regional planning
- Transportation workshop – In prep for Master Plan update
- Miramar College – their master plan and update on construction plans
- City Schools - update on construction and repairs to schools
- MCAS Miramar on new aircraft AICUZ...subcommittee

## **Appendix 3: Draft DAR Mitigation Recommendations**



Mira Mesa  
Community Planning Group  
Hillery Drive Direct Access Ramp Subcommittee  
Traffic Mitigation Strategy Recommendations  
February 16, 2010

## Subcommittee Implementation and Mission

At the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group meeting on April 20, 2009, Caltrans presented the "Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact" for the proposed Direct Access Ramp from the I-15 Managed Lanes to Hillery Drive, near the intersection of Westview Pkwy.

One key component of the Final EIR was the need for traffic mitigation, to reduce the impact on the surrounding residential areas of the additional traffic projected to use the DAR upon completion.

The MMCPG created the Hillery Drive DAR Subcommittee, and charged it with creating a recommended traffic mitigation strategy, to be presented to the full Mira Mesa Community Planning Group for review.

The Mira Mesa Community Planning Group will review the mitigation strategies recommended, accept comments, and compose the final recommendations to be submitted to City Planning, etc.

## Recommendation Categories

1. Improvements/Changes Needed Immediately  
DAR mitigation strategies suggested for immediate/earliest implementation, to address unsafe conditions or traffic conditions currently approaching or at LOS F.
2. DAR Mitigation  
Traffic calming/reduction strategies recommended to be in place prior to the DAR opening, to mitigate additional traffic anticipated from the DAR.
3. Post-DAR Review and "Fail Safe" Strategy  
Recommended post-implementation review and "fail safe" strategy should implemented mitigation prove unsuccessful.

### Improvements/Changes Needed Immediately

#### 1. *Mira Mesa Community Traffic Study*

SANDAG is currently working to synchronize traffic signals on many major roadways throughout San Diego, in an effort to relieve traffic congestion along the I-15 and I-805 corridors. Black Mountain Road is one of the roadways to be included in this resynchronization.

The subcommittee recommends that Traffic Engineering, in conjunction with the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group, undertake a traffic study of the entire Mira Mesa community to find areas where synchronization and other improvements can be made to improve the existing traffic flow. During the subcommittee's process, it was shown that the current flow of traffic eastbound on Hillery Drive at Black Mountain Road is backing up far beyond what was anticipated; this may not be the only area of Mira Mesa where traffic patterns have changed from when the current intersection was designed, resulting in LOS E or F traffic flow.

CALTRANS offers a Community-Based Transportation Grant that may be used to fund such a study; we recommend that application be made for this grant.

## Improvements/Changes Needed Immediately

### 2. Changes to Student Drop-Off/Pick Up at Walker Elementary

With little or no parking on campus for parents to drop-off or pick-up students, Walker parents park along Hillery Drive and nearby side streets. Parents and students exiting vehicles on Hillery Drive in front of the school create a traffic hazard for drivers. Student "safety patrol" members attempt to assist parents and students in crossing Hillery Drive; motorists frequently ignore the "safety patrol", endangering both the student patrol AND the parents and students they are trying to protect.

A school bus stop is located on the westbound side of Hillery Drive, immediately in front of Walker Elementary. The bus stop location and limited visibility for drivers entering Hillery Drive from southbound Black Mountain Road create a safety hazard; it is possible to turn onto Hillery Drive and NOT see a stopped school bus until the vehicle is well through the intersection.

The subcommittee recommends that the San Diego Unified School District, Traffic Engineering, Caltrans, Walker parents, and nearby residents form a task force to explore options to improve traffic flow along Hillery Drive and increase safety for parents and students entering the school.

## Improvements/Changes Needed Immediately

### 3. Lane Adjustments on Eastbound Hillery Dr at Black Mountain Rd

During afternoon commute time, eastbound traffic along Hillery Drive at Black Mountain Road is backing up much farther than anticipated – sometimes extending past Westonhill Drive.

The lane configuration at this intersection has a dedicated left turn (north) lane and a combined straight/right turn lane, indicating that the intersection was designed when a majority of the traffic exiting Hillery Drive was headed north. Traffic studies show that the majority of traffic exiting Hillery Drive at this location is now headed SOUTH. This causes a backup of traffic along Hillery Drive, as vehicles turning right (south) are impeded from turning right on red by vehicles continuing along Hillery.

The subcommittee recommends that Traffic Engineering explore possible changes to the lane design at this intersection, to improve traffic flow at peak commute times. These changes may include such strategies as: combining the right turn/straight traffic into one lane, with a dedicated right turn lane; elimination of stopping and parking areas along Hillery Dr between Black Mountain Rd and Rickert Rd, to allow for lane expansion.

## DAR Mitigation

### 1. *"Do Not Block" Striping*

Residents entering Hillery Drive from cross streets between Greenford Dr and Black Mountain Rd are often blocked at peak hours by bumper-to-bumper traffic that often refuses to yield.

The subcommittee recommends that "Do Not Block" striping be placed along Hillery Drive in front of each of these cross streets. This will include Rickert Rd, Marbury Av, Caminito Derecho, Caminito Duro, and Caminito Chueco. While not foolproof, the presence of this striping may assist residents attempting to enter Hillery Drive at a cross street.

The "Do Not Block" striping on Black Mountain Rd at the entrances to the Woods and Village Green mobile home parks should be restriped due to wear.

## DAR Mitigation

### 2. *Raised Crosswalk on Hillery Dr for Walker School*

The current crosswalk/ "safety patrol" configuration for Walker School is ineffective and creates safety hazards for pedestrians.

The subcommittee recommends that a raised crosswalk with illumination be installed adjacent to Walker School, crossing Hillery Drive

## DAR Mitigation

### *3. Traffic Circles*

In addition to increased congestion from DAR traffic, the community is concerned about exiting DAR traffic using Hillery Dr as a "speedway" during off-peak hours.

The subcommittee recommends that traffic circles be installed on Hillery Dr at the following intersections: Westonhill Dr, Greenford Dr and Marbury Av. Traffic circles at these locations will act to slow the "speedway" mentality at off-peak times, as motorists will have to slow down to enter the intersection. During peak traffic times, the circles will allow for a better flow of traffic and reduce both the number of accidents and their severity. Additionally, it is strongly recommended that some form of raised landscaping be included in these traffic circles. Raised landscaping (small trees, large shrubs, etc.) will better attract a driver's attention and prevent collision with the traffic circle.

## DAR Mitigation

### *4. Chicanes On Some Cross Streets*

An increase in traffic from the DAR will also mean an increase in traffic on two streets often used for parking by parents dropping off students at Walker Elementary: Rickert Rd and Marbury Av.

The subcommittee recommends that chicanes be installed on Marbury Av and Rickert Rd, to improve pedestrian safety and enforce a slower speed on traffic using these streets to access Hillery Dr. The chicanes along Marbury could also include crosswalk striping to assist students and parents in crossing to Walker School. These chicanes could also be decorative, incorporating landscaping and/or planters.



### DAR Mitigation

#### *5. Extended Right Turn Lane on East Bound Mira Mesa Blvd at Black Mountain Rd*

While the existing turn lane at this intersection is quite short, drivers create a de facto turn lane by stacking up along the curb. Drivers attempting to access the turn lane at the legally designated entrance often cannot do so at peak times, due to the traffic that has artificially extended the lane.

The subcommittee recommends restriping the turn lane, extending it to Rickert Rd. It is anticipated that this reconfiguration will assist in improving the flow of traffic turning right at Black Mountain Road.

### DAR Mitigation

#### *6. Dual Left Turn Lanes on Black Mountain Rd at Hillery Dr*

The current traffic level at this intersection is sufficient to support only one left-turn lane at Hillery Dr for southbound Black Mountain Rd. The proposed mitigation strategy is designed to discourage traffic from using Hillery Drive west of Black Mountain road as a shortcut to the DAR. Should this strategy succeed, the traffic level at this intersection will increase dramatically, supporting the need for a dual turn lane.

### DAR Mitigation

#### *7. Adjust Lane Configuration on Hillery Dr East of Black Mountain Rd to Accommodate Dual Turn Lane*

Implementation of the dual turn lanes on Hillery Drive at Black Mountain Rd (Item #6) will require an adjustment of the current lane configuration on Hillery Drive east of Black Mountain Rd. In reviewing the existing road configuration, as well as various mitigation suggestions, the subcommittee believes that sufficient space exists for the necessary adjustments to be made.

### Post-DAR Review and "Fail Safe" Strategy

It is the recommendation of the subcommittee that a traffic study be made at an interval agreed upon between the City and the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group (tentatively one year following opening of the DAR), to study the effects of the DAR on traffic in the nearby neighborhood. This study will be presented to the MMCPG, and input from nearby residents will be accepted. The MMCPG will then make the determination as to whether the strategies implemented have sufficiently mitigated the additional traffic produced by the Hillery DAR. If the mitigation strategies have not been successful, then a "fail safe" plan will be implemented. The recommended "fail safe" plan would include the installation of turn restrictions that would eliminate the flow of traffic across Black Mountain Road at Hillery Drive.