



## Meyers Advisory Council (MAC)

**Chair:** Amanda Ross

**Vice Chair:** Judith Wood

**Secretary:** Trevor Coolidge

**Member:** Leon Abravanel

**Member:** Joseph Cardinale

**Member:** Greg Daum

**Member:** Carl Fair

**Member:** James Marino

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Sue Novasel, Chair  
Honorable Members, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors  
330 Fair Lane, Building A  
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Chair Novasel and Supervisors:

Members of the Meyers Advisory Council received a project briefing of the options being considered for the intersection improvements at Pioneer Trail and US Highway 50 at our May 1, 2019 meeting from Donald Palaroan and John Kahling of the El Dorado County Department of Transportation.

It was made clear to the Council during the presentation that, of the four alternatives, the proposed roundabout configuration for the intersection would provide the best safety, reduce traffic speeds, and produce the best outcome for future handling of level of service than the other alternatives presented. Council members had questions including funding mechanisms for the project, existing traffic conditions, maintenance practices, and the safety of pedestrian crossings with the proposed design. Questions were satisfactorily answered, and it was explained to the Council that the design of the roundabout configuration was informed by the highest traffic volumes (west and east Highway 50) and instances of sliding accidents during the turning action from Eastbound Highway 50 onto Pioneer Trail in winter conditions. It was also noted that the design options are in response to safety as the driving force for the project, noting that gridlock would continue due to the large volume of vehicles, weather conditions, and capacity limits on US 50 westbound.

The Council members present at the May 1, 2019 meeting approved the preferred project options as presented and determined to **support the Roundabout configuration** over the other three alternatives. With this support, the Council added the following:

- The Council **strongly urges** the Board to find funding mechanisms for public transportation in the Meyers area as an alternative to future infrastructure projects.

- The Council **recommends** that the final design of the roundabout include the necessary approvals for a “Welcome to Meyers” sign to be placed within the project boundary at a location approved by Caltrans, County staff, the MAC, and the Meyers Community Foundation.
- The Council **recommends** that the final design of the roundabout include design elements as indicated in the Meyers Area Plan including applicable goals and policies listed in Chapter 3, *Transportation & Circulation*.

The Board may not be aware, but **there is no longer any public transportation available to the residents of Meyers**. While the Council applauds this project, the Council feels future funding would be better spent working to reduce the number of vehicles along the Highway 50 corridor through our community by providing a public transit service that connects our Meyers Area Plan Town Center with the City of South Lake Tahoe and the West Slope of El Dorado County. Currently, El Dorado County Transit provides services from Pollock Pines to Sacramento (east and westbound), Monday through Friday. The Tahoe Transportation District provides services from the South Y Transit Center to Carson City every day. There is an expansive regional transportation opportunity that is **missing** to link public transportation services between Sacramento and South Lake Tahoe via the existing El Dorado County Transit lines through Meyers to the TTD transit lines.

The Meyers Area Plan Transportation & Circulation Vision is to:

*Redevelop the transportation system in Meyers to achieve complete streets, reduce reliance on the private automobile, improve circulation and provide opportunities to experience Meyers as a pedestrian or cyclist.*

This project incorporates improvements that achieve the goals of improving the circulation system and improves existing pedestrian and cyclist paths. While the Council supports the County and Caltrans in the proposed roundabout design, help is needed by the County to bring public transportation back to the Meyers area.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Ross', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Amanda Ross  
Council Chair