



El Dorado Hills
Area Planning Advisory Committee
 1021 Harvard Way
 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

2012 Board
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July 16, 2012

El Dorado County Development Services
 Attn: Robert Trout, Director
 2850 Fairlane Court
 Placerville, CA 95667

LATE DISTRIBUTION

DATE 7-16-12

2012 JUL 16 PM 5:45

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
 EL DORADO COUNTY

Subject: Silva Valley Interchange

Dear Mr. Trout:

Members of APAC have been deeply concerned about the detrimental effect that plans for the Silva Valley Interchange and the new Silva Valley Road will have on the lives and safety of the El Dorado Community.

Specifically the safety issues presented by the north eastern connection of the old Silva Valley Road with the new proposed Silva Valley Road.

Community representatives have contacted the El Dorado County Transportation Commission and the El Dorado Department of Transportation about this safety issue.

Community members met with DOT Supervisor Jim Ware explaining that Silva Valley is a road that is in constant use by joggers, bike riders and families. We articulated that one of the most dangerous place for joggers and bike riders are the on and off ramps for an interchange.

Jim Ware indicated that the proposed interchange could be avoided by using the old Silva Valley Road and that this would provide a safe route.

But that is not the case there isn't any safe way to cross from the old to the new Silva Valley Road.

We have emphasized the fact that because of a lack of safe way for joggers, and bike rides to cross from the old Silva Valley Road to the new Silva Valley road when traveling north east; this intersection is a danger to the lives and safety of all who use it. A letter to this effect was sent and included in the Silva Valley NOP. The answer to this letter in the NOP didn't seem to understand the problem and did not answer our concerns in the NOP.

Below are comments made by The County Department of Transportation in response to our letters to Supervisor Knight and to the letters from John Raslear – Chairman –APAC White Rock / Latrobe Subcommittee.

(Areas highlighted in red were added for this report)

"The southside intersection will be signalized the northside intersection will not be signalized. The old Silva Valley Parkway will have Class II bike lanes in the shoulders and a

sidewalk on one side. I hope this answers your questions and feel free to contact me if you have more questions.”

Sincerely, Matthew Smeltzer May 2012

Deputy Director-Design Division.

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Response received by Supervisor Knight from DOT:

“received the information below from DOT regarding the plan, now and future, for the pedestrian crossing at Silva Valley.”

” We are installing a traffic signal at the old/new Silva Valley Pkwy intersection on the southside of US50 where it forms a 4-way intersection at Joerger Cut-Off Rd/White Rock Rd. On the northside of US 50 old/new Silva Valley Pkwy intersect at a 3-way intersection. We know that someday this northside intersection will probably be reconstructed as future development comes and a future 4-way intersection could also be formed with a future proposed Country Club Dr. connection here. We are not signaling this northside 3-way intersection during the Phase 1 Silva valley Interchange project. We do not believe it is warranted at this time and this intersection will likely get reconstructed in the future. We are providing a middle two-way left turn lane on new Silva Valley Pkwy at this 3-way intersection on the northside. This will provide for turning movements in all directions but without a traffic signal. “

It is quite apparent that the planners of this road don’t appreciate the fact that this road is a community asset that has been used by joggers, walkers and bike riders who travel from Town Center to the library, the schools, parks, the CSD, Green Valley and even the trails along Folsom Lake. El Dorado Hills lacks good class 1 bike lanes and now this plan will destroy Silva Valley Road.

RECOMMENDATION

1. It is the recommendation of the El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee that a Three Way Stop Sign be installed at the juncture of the new and old Silva Valley Road as a temporary measure , until a traffic signal be installed.

2. The Silva valley interchange project shall require an encompassing and thorough pedestrian circulation plan both during construction and after final improvements are implemented. There should be should be two separate and stand alone pedestrian circulation plans.

Sincerely,

John Raslear
Chair – APAC White Rock /Latrobe Sub Committee

cc: El Dorado County Transportation Committee
Board of Supervisors