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Left Turn Phasing Traffic Signal Modification Project

Over the years, the City of Yucaipa has continued to invest in the engineering and construction of a well-designed transportation network that encourages economic development, facilitates the efficient movement of vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians and public transit, minimizes congestion, and enhances safety for all. Each day, residents and visitors depend on the community's local roadways to get them to work, obtain medical care, attend school, or participate in various recreational and social activities. Additionally, the City's transportation network works towards supporting the needs of local businesses, emergency responders, and other roadway users while taking into consideration ways to improve air quality. A well-designed transportation network is essential to enhancing the quality of life for all.

As part of the City's effort to make sure the transportation network continues to improve in safety and efficiency, City staff, with Council's approval, has initiated a Left Turn Phasing Traffic Signal Modification Project.

In 2019, City Council directed City staff to coordinate with a traffic engineering consulting firm to initiate and complete a Left Turn Phasing Analysis (Analysis) at six intersections throughout the City. The purpose of the Analysis was to determine if the efficiency (level of service) and safety at certain signalized intersections could be improved by modifying the left-turn phasing movement. As part of the Analysis, the consultant collected data on the current phasing movements of the signalized intersections, collision history, and existing/future traffic volumes to determine if a modification to the left turn phasing was justified. Once the Analysis



was complete, it was determined that left turn phasing modifications were in fact warranted at all six intersections:

- Yucaipa Boulevard at Yucaipa Valley Circle (Vons Shopping Center)
- Yucaipa Boulevard at 5th Street
- Yucaipa Boulevard at 10th Street
- Oak Glen Road at Avenue E
- Oak Glen Road at Chapman Heights Road
- Oak Glen Road at Sunnyside Drive

In October of 2020, City staff was informed that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) was accepting grant applications for funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). The purpose of this program is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, including non-State-owned public roads and roads on tribal land. Based on the HSIP grant guidelines and the data collected in the Analysis, City staff determined the Left Turn Phasing Traffic Signal Modification Project would be a good candidate for the grant funding. At the time, due to the lengthy-time period anticipated to construct HSIP grant-funded projects, City staff moved forward with the construction of the traffic signal modification project at Yucaipa Boulevard and Yucaipa Valley Circle. Additionally, the residential development project (Serrano Lake), was conditioned to complete a separate traffic signal modification, including a protected left-turn phase, at Oka Glen Road and Sunnyside Drive. As a result, City staff prepared the initial grant application requesting HSIP grant funds for the modification of the traffic signals at four intersections. The HSIP grant application was submitted in December of 2020.

- Yucaipa Boulevard at 5th Street
- Yucaipa Boulevard at 10th Street
- Oak Glen Road at Avenue E
- Oak Glen Road at Chapman Heights Road

On March 30, 2021, City staff was notified by Caltrans that the City's HSIP application had been approved and would be awarded \$350,400 in grant funding for the modification of traffic signals at four intersections. Upon notification of the approved grant application, City staff contacted Caltrans and requested that the traffic signal modification at Yucaipa Boulevard and Yucaipa Valley Center be added into the approved HSIP project which included a request for an additional \$103,700 in HSIP grant funds. Caltrans approved the City's request, including the additional HSIP grant funding.

“Not only is this an excellent project that enhances safety and efficiency in the community, but it also highlights City staff's dedication and hard work towards bettering our City. City staff was able to secure a total of \$539,000 in grant funding for this project; nearly paying for this critical infrastructure improvement entirely. This is an amazing achievement,” said Mayor David Avila.

The Left Turn Phasing Traffic Signal Modification Project is anticipated to be complete in January of 2023.

