

Community Voice Column
City Manager Marcela Piedra
April 28, 2023

In recent years, traffic has been one of the primary concerns raised by residents. In response, we've dedicated resources to traffic improvements for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. So far, we've completed the following projects:

- Installed traffic signals that use live traffic information to help improve flow.
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle safety. Safety projects included signal timing and striping, markings and asphalt improvements.
- Installed yellow flashing left turn arrows throughout the city. This improves traffic flow on major streets.
- Installed traffic cameras for better vehicle detection.
- Installed new technology along Rohnert Park Expressway and Golf Course Drive to enhance first responder response times.
- Constructed safety enhancements on 12 pathways and sidewalk crosswalks.

On April 11, the City Council identified focus areas for 2023 and 2024. A high-level priority is investing in infrastructure and beautification efforts. Our Public Works Street Maintenance Division will continue maintaining our road infrastructure.

We also have other infrastructure improvement projects planned for this next fiscal year. This summer, Rohnert Park residents can look forward to a mini roundabout at Arlen and Almond. We are also planning street repairs and treatments on streets throughout the city.

Public Works staff are improving the safety for pedestrians at Rohnert Park Expressway and Commerce Boulevard. This improvement will reduce the travel length for pedestrians crossing the western leg of Commerce at the Expressway. It will also increase the speed of traffic flow at the intersection. This project is expected to be completed in Mid-May.

A few upcoming projects are in the design phase:

- A Pathway Replacement Project to replace creek pathways along Hinebaugh Creek
- An enhanced crosswalk where Hinebaugh Creek Pathway crosses Snyder Lane
- A crosswalk at Golf Course Drive & Hacienda, as well as Golf Course Drive & Halcyon
- The Southwest Boulevard project to reduce travel lanes to one in each direction
- New sidewalks on the north side of Southwest Boulevard with enhanced bike lanes, pedestrian lighting and landscaping

On other matters . . . we continue to value the opportunity to engage with our residents. Thus, we will be hosting community meetings on May 8 and May 24 with the Mayor and Vice-Mayor, along with some City staff. The May 8 meeting will be at the Burton Recreation Community Center. The May 24 meeting will be at the DoubleTree Hotel. Both will start at 5:30 p.m. We hope to see you there, especially those who live nearby. More information about additional meetings will be forthcoming.