



**CITY OF HAYWARD**  
**AGENDA REPORT**

AGENDA DATE 07/18/00  
AGENDA ITEM \_\_\_\_\_  
WORK SESSION ITEM WS #3

**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Director of Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** Orchard Avenue **Traffic** Calming Update

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council review and comment on the proposed traffic calming devices for Orchard Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:**

On November 9, 1999, Council reviewed staff's proposed plan for traffic calming measures along Orchard Avenue, which included a roundabout at Joyce Street as well as two raised intersections; one at Orchard Avenue and Muir Street and one at Orchard Avenue and Thomas Avenue. In anticipation of possible citizen concerns, the roundabout would be constructed in a temporary manner using asphalt rather than concrete to allow for the possibility of its removal. The temporary roundabout was completed at the end of March. Also, Council had requested that the raised intersections not be installed until after there had been time to analyze the effectiveness of the roundabout. Sufficient data is now available to report on implementation of these traffic-calming measures. Staff observed traffic speeds both before and after the installation, which confirmed that the average speed along Orchard Avenue has decreased from 33 mph "before" to 26 mph "after." The only significant reduction in traffic volumes is along Joyce Street where the number of vehicles has dropped from 750 to 600 vehicles per day.

On May 24, 2000, staff sent the attached questionnaire (see Exhibit A) in both English and Spanish to 440 households along Orchard Avenue and the adjacent streets; 110 responded. Of the responses, about 70 percent want the temporary roundabout replaced with a permanent one and raised intersections installed at the Orchard Avenue intersections of Muir Street and Thomas Avenue.

According to the Hayward Police Department, there have been three known collisions at this intersection, since installation of the roundabout. In one instance, the driver admitted speeding. Informal reports of two other collisions were made, but no formal police reports were filed because the, drivers left the scene before the police arrived. As a result, it is difficult to **confirm** or ascertain the cause of these collisions.

Since some drivers might be unfamiliar with traffic rules for navigating roundabouts, substantial signage has been placed on the approaches to the roundabout to alert drivers. It is hoped that this signage, as well as the placement of raised pavement markers to more clearly delineate the roundabout, will further reduce the collision potential.

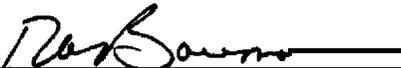
Based on the responses, staff proposes that a permanent, landscaped roundabout be installed at the Orchard Avenue and Joyce Street intersection (see Exhibit B) and that raised intersections, which are essentially elongated speed humps, be installed along Orchard Avenue at Muir Street and Thomas Avenue (see Exhibit C). Also, additional wheelchair ramps will be installed along Orchard Avenue at Muir Street, Thomas Avenue, and Arvilla Lane.

Staff anticipates that this work can be done under several existing projects. The additional wheelchair ramps will be accomplished under the next wheelchair ramp contract scheduled for this winter. The raised intersections will be incorporated in this year's 'speed hump purchase order that is planned for November. The raised intersections are estimated to cost \$18,000, which can be added to the Speed Hump Project from available funding in the Transportation System Management Project. The permanent, landscaped roundabout is estimated to cost \$35,000. Staff will return to Council in early September for authorization to advertise this project and to request an appropriation of available funds from the Capital Improvement Fund.

**Conclusion:**

Staff recommends that the City Council review and offer comments on the proposed traffic calming devices for Orchard Avenue.

Prepared by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert A. Bauman, Deputy Director of Public Works

Recommended by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis L. Butler, Director of Public Works

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jesús Armas, City Manager

Attachments: Exhibit A: Orchard/Joyce Roundabout Questionnaire  
Exhibit B: Landscaped Roundabout  
Exhibit C: Raised Intersections

ORCHARD AVENUE/JOYCE STREET ROUNDABOUT QUESTIONNAIRE

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Do you want the temporary roundabout replaced with a permanent one?                      | YES | NO |
| 2. Do you have suggestions on how the roundabout may be improved? (Note how under comments) | YES | NO |
| 3. Do you want a raised intersection at Muir Street?  | YES | NO |
| 4. Do you want a raised intersection at Thomas Avenue?                                      | YES | NO |

OTHER COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

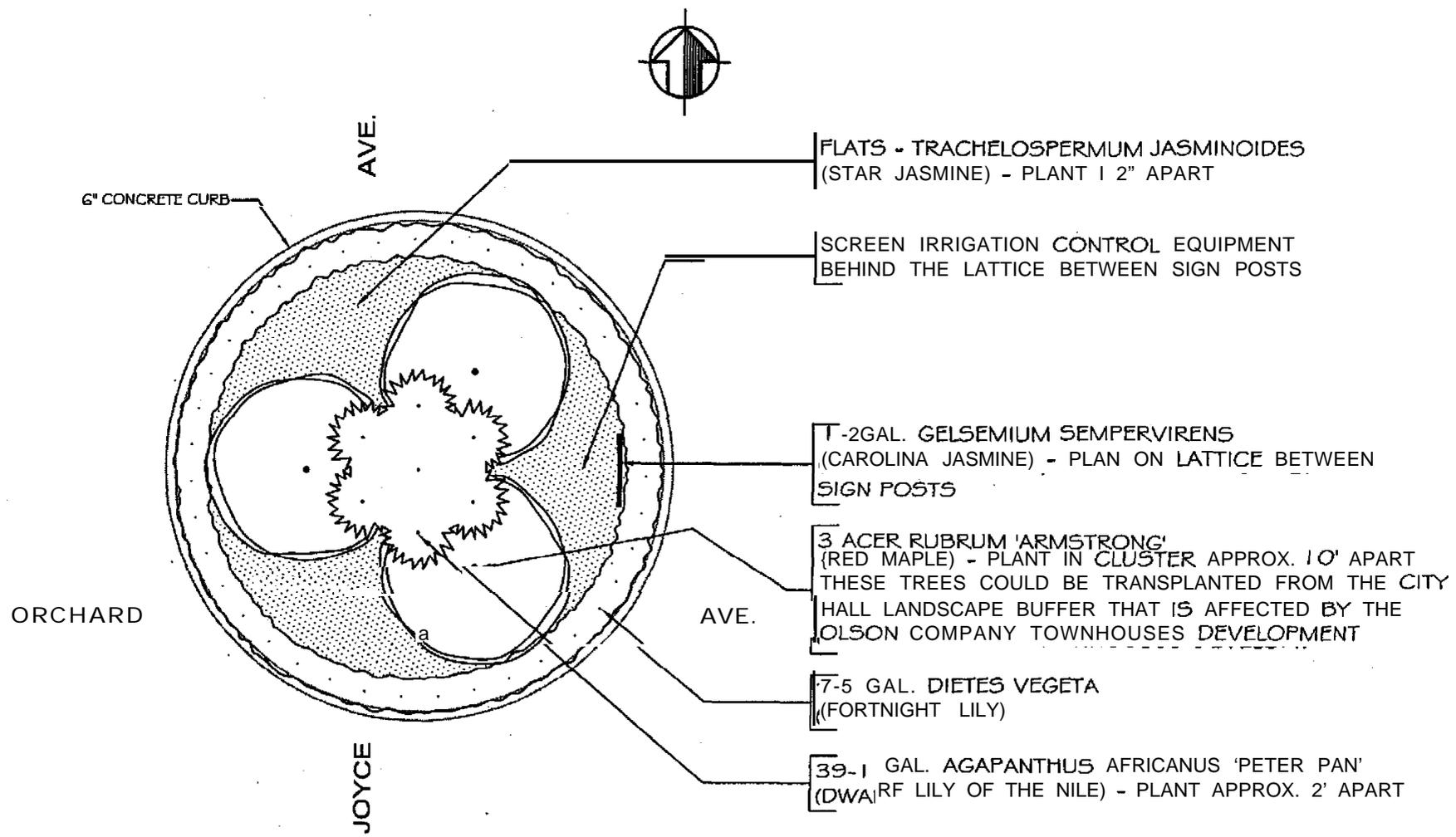
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number (Optional)



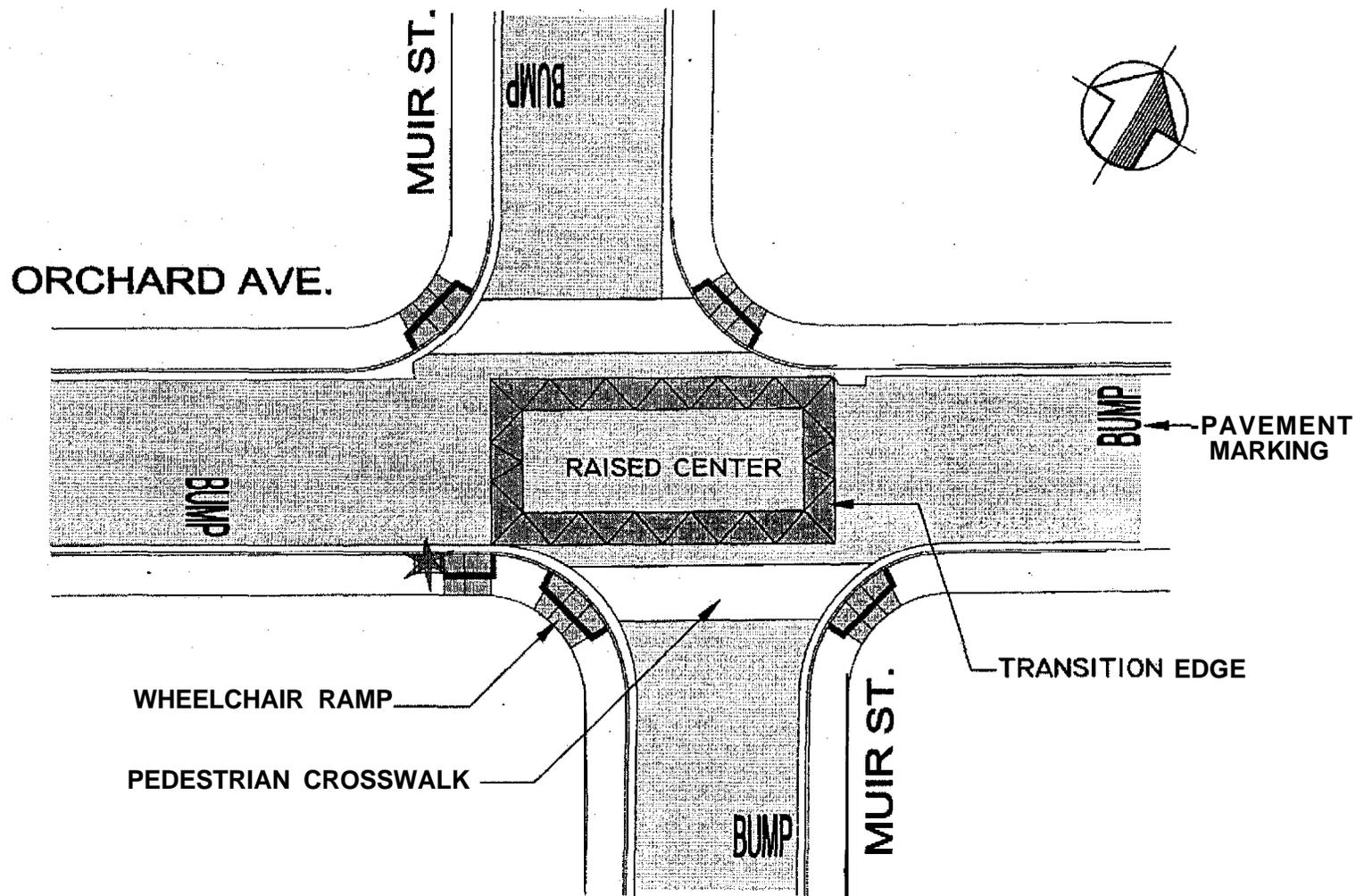
CITY OF  
**HAYWARD**  
HEART OF THE BAY

Engineering & Transportation Department  
777 "B" Street  
Hayward CA 94541

Exhibit B



# ROUNDABOUT LANDSCAPE PLAN



# RAISED INTERSECTION AT ORCHARD AVE. AND MUIR ST.