## Foothill Dr. and Loring Blvd. Roundabout

Presented to: Pacific Beach Planning Group June 11, 2025

# The roundabout is a huge first step for safety on Foothill Blvd.

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... let's finish with low-cost steps for Loring St even more safety

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### The roundabout's positive impacts:

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- Lower speeds near Foothill/Loring
- Lower speeds going north on Foothill out of the roundabout
- A safe pedestrian crossing finally available on Foothill
- Improved drainage to prevent periodic flooding at intersection

### **Additional refinements to consider:**

**Beautifying the roundabout, directed by beautifulPB** (Ideas: Plants, sculpture, surf art, etc.)

• A 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic calming measure (an all-way stop?) farther north on Foothill

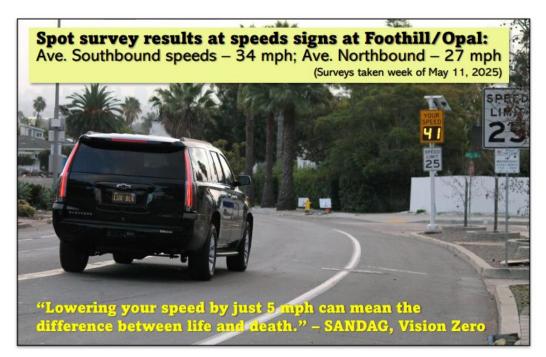
• Green striping & share-the-road signs approaching roundabout for bike safety

## Why a 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic calming measure is a critical safety need on Foothill Blvd.

At .62 miles, Foothill is long. The roundabout only impacts speeds on one part of the road. Speeds on the rest of "Foothill Freeway" aren't being slowed by the roundabout.

That's especially true for southbound traffic. A case in point: This electronic speed sign at Foothill/Opal indicates a southbound car going 16 mph over the posted speed limit.

Imagine you are a cyclist trying to merge into the traffic lane to enter the roundabout. Or that you are a pedestrian trying to cross Foothill. With a car going more than 40 mph, your chances of suffering a serious injury are significantly increased.



#### That's why a 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic calming measure – even a low-cost all-way stop – is critically needed.

#### **BIKE SAFETY: Adding green striping just makes sense**





At left, a cyclist riding north on Foothill faces a challenge to merge from a bike lane into a traffic lane as he nears the roundabout. City crews say now is the time to recommend safety measures, like green striping and "Yield to Bikes" signs.

Signs indicating bikers can use the entire lane have been painted near the north and south entrances/exits of the Foothill/Loring roundabout (right photo). The signs are welcome

However, additional signage would make it safer for cyclists to transition from bike lanes into traffic lanes as they approach the roundabout.

Green striping and "YIELD TO BIKES" signs are two low-cost solutions worth considering. City crew members say now is the time for Pacific Beach to make recommendations like these because more paving is planned.

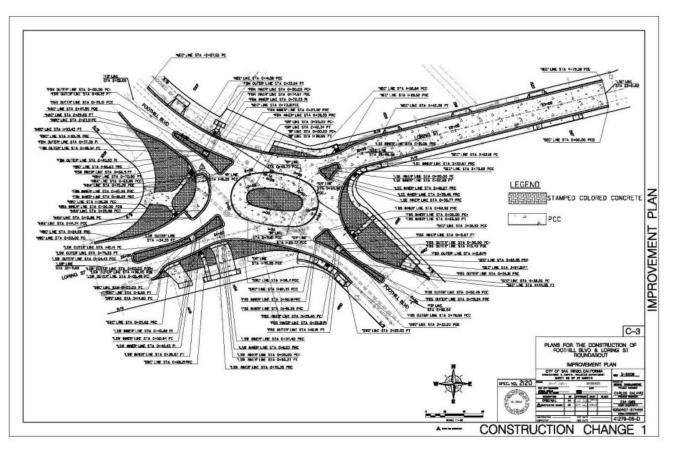


#### Summary: Major work is done, refinements will finish job

The City's traffic engineers and crew are to be commended for the positive impacts the Foothill/Loring roundabout is making.

Thanks also are due the PB Planning Group, PB Town Council, and councilmembers Lorie Zapf and Joe LaCava for their support.

Small refinements - a 2<sup>nd</sup> traffic calming measure, bike signage, and roundabout beautification – will make Foothill even safer for all of its users.



#### **Beautification Effort - Known Constraints**

<u>No public funding</u>: Area does not have a Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) - therefore no city funding for maintenance or utilities.

No water: This area has no public water utility available. Drainage is a major concern in the area.

City is open to an organization establishing an encroachment maintenance removal agreement (EMRA) conditioned on the organization:

- Accepting liability & maintaining insurance.
- Funding and maintaining the improvement.
- Improvement could be removed if the organization stops maintenance.

EMRA is potentially a lengthy process.





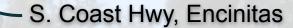




#### Wind sculptures by Jeffery Laudenslager







Nimitz Blvd, Point Loma

Photos taken by Richard Schulte (coolsandiegosights.com)

#### **Next Steps**

beautifulPB is willing to take ownership of the beautification project and pursue funding and community input for a removable, low-maintenance design.

Our plan:

- Establish community support
- Begin the EMRA process
- Work with local businesses for materials and designs
- Fundraise
- Establish a local care team of neighbors
- Present a few ideas with in the constraints to the community and select a design

#### Early example concept ideas All dependent on city approval and fundraising outcomes



#### **Summary Request**

A second traffic calming measure, perhaps near/at Vickie Drive to slow traffic in that section of Foothill Blvd. To be studied by Transportation.

Add green striping merge and "Yield to cyclists" signs in advance of the roundabout.

Support for efforts directed by beautifulPB to beautify the roundabout.

