

Mesquite Ranch Neighborhood Association
Houghton Road Widening Position Paper
October 24, 2007

1. The suggested signaling at Bilby Road (retain traffic signal with U-turns in both directions on Houghton) and Poorman Road (Florida T-signal) is acceptable, with the understanding that the Poorman Road traffic light will include intersection street lighting, and drainage improvement on the east side of the intersection.
2. It is requested that a detailed lane diagram be provided for the intersections at Poorman, Forest Glen and Bilby to ensure sufficient lanes for right and left turn traffic. It is requested that the Poorman Road intersection at Houghton be widened to accommodate future 150' right-of-way travel on Poorman.
3. Based on resident feedback, it is requested that the traffic signals at Bilby Road and Poorman Road be sensitive enough to turn green for a motor scooter.
4. Due to heavy commercial traffic on Poorman, it is requested that there be a long merge lane at the Florida T-Signal from Poorman Road onto Houghton Road, northbound. This will allow the commercial traffic to come up to speed and to be able to safely merge into high-speed Houghton traffic.
5. Similarly, the southbound merge lane from Poorman Road onto Houghton Road at the new T-Signal should be a long merge lane due to the commercial traffic.
6. It is requested that the intersection of Houghton Road and Forest Glen Street be lighted with street lights, and designated as a "directional median opening" (similar to that at the Secrist Elementary School), to allow for southbound Houghton traffic to turn onto Forest Glen. This is consistent with the HAMP guidelines of having traffic openings no closer than ¼ mile apart.
7. It is agreed that left turns (southbound) from Forest Glen onto Houghton would not be allowed, and would be accomplished by turning right (northbound) onto Houghton, and making a U-turn at the Bilby Road/Houghton Road traffic light.
8. The right turn (northbound) from Forest Glen onto Houghton needs a merge lane of extended length to handle school bus traffic and commercial vehicles.
9. The intersections of Houghton Road and Poorman Road and Houghton Road and Bilby Road need a safe and controlled means for pedestrian traffic, including foot and bicycle traffic, to cross Houghton Road on demand.
10. The planned bus stop at Houghton Road and Poorman Road currently has protective curbing to prevent vehicles turning northbound on Houghton Road, from traveling too close to bus patrons. This protective curbing defeats a required acceleration lane for heavy commercial vehicles turning northbound on Houghton Road. Request removal of the protective curbing.
11. The required acceleration lane on northbound Houghton Road at Poorman Road needs to be an extended lane to accommodate heavy sand and gravel commercial vehicle acceleration requirements.
12. The required acceleration lane on northbound Houghton Road at Bilby Road needs to be an extended lane to accommodate heavy school bus acceleration requirements.

For questions concerning this position, please contact:

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