

Annette Alonso

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Ada County Highway District
Meridian City Council Members
Meridian Police Department
Mayor Simison

RE: Visual Hazards Sky Mesa Sign, Taconic Drive and Eagle Road Roundabout

Friends, Neighbors and Elected Officials,

Currently we reside in Blackrock Subdivision (above Sky Mesa on the hill). The newly erected signage and landscape at Taconic/Eagle Road intersection, although very nicely done, is a visual hazard for both pedestrians and automobiles. Our grandsons, 7 and 9 years old, cross at that intersection daily. Today I had the occasion to ride across Eagle on my bike, with my grandson, and was shocked that you cannot see the oncoming, North/South traffic coming until they are around the sign. Vehicles cannot see the crosswalk until they are approximately a quarter of the way around as well.

From my prospective, there are three hazards at that Roundabout:

1. Sign is approximately 13-15 feet tall. You cannot see the oncoming cars, in either direction, even from Automobile height. Signage should be lowered 6-8 feet for visual safety.
2. Children cannot be seen in the crosswalk to cross safely. This is a school crossing zone and with the new roundabout, Ada West has decided it is too dangerous to put a crossing guard as they had before.
3. The flashing lights are too small and difficult for cars to see in advance. The pedestrian crossing at the roundabout at Eagle/Amity is the same. I have seen pedestrians and cyclists almost get hit because cars do not notice the small, yellow flashing lights. Larger, visible crossing lights are needed, similar to the ones that were at Taconic/Eagle prior to the new roundabout.

Please feel free to contact me with questions. I would be glad to meet anyone at the roundabout and show them the problem. We are hopeful you will take this matter seriously and solve the visual hazards before there is a fatality.

Sincerely

Annette Alonso

Cc: Boise City Property Management - Donna Reeve