



Mayor Robert E. Simison

**City Council Members:**

Liz Strader, Vice President

Doug Taylor

John Overton

Anne Little Roberts

Luke Cavener

April 3, 2024

The Honorable Alexis Pickering  
President  
Ada County Highway District  
3775 Adams Street  
Garden City, ID 83714

Dear Commission President Pickering,

Our community has and continues to advocate for road and intersection improvements as a top priority, and we appreciate the recent road widening efforts that the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) has made including on Locust Grove, south of Overland. However, with the changes made to Locust Grove Road, Meridian is now seeing changes in traffic patterns causing expanded activity and safety concerns at the intersection of Amity and Locust Grove.

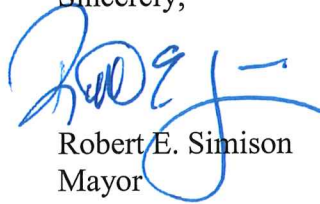
As you are aware, the City has sent several previous letters advocating for an interim intersection facility at Amity and Locust Grove Roads. While the buildout design work was understood to have been paused pending additional outreach, the resulting activity and safety concerns from the Locust Grove widening to the north are creating new challenges. Specifically, the congestion during peak activity is precluding safe entry and exit of the neighborhoods, and the increased traffic makes uncontrolled crossing near the intersection particularly unsafe for bicycle and pedestrian users.

While Meridian fully supports the continued study and public visioning of a future buildout of the intersection, the City is once again asking for more expedient interim facilities. The City understands that an interim facility in this location must address a number of complex site challenges, but short-term efforts now would not be wasted later, particularly as any final solution does not currently include any funding in ACHD's Five-Year Work Plan. Additionally, an interim facility would also provide time and opportunities for the acquisition of additional right-of-way through redevelopment.

I have asked the Meridian Transportation Commission to add this item to their agenda during their May meeting. Please ensure the appropriate staff member from ACHD is present to have a discussion regarding the current status of the Amity and Locust Gove intersection and how it pertains to this request.

Thank you for continuing to make needed investments in Meridian. If there are any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact Brian McClure, Long-Range Planning Supervisor, at 208-884-5533.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Simison  
Mayor

cc: ACHD Commissioners  
Bruce Wong, Director, ACHD  
Justin Lucas, ACHD Deputy Director, Planning and Projects  
Caleb Hood, City of Meridian Deputy Directory, Community Development

