

**CITY OF SAMMAMISH  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
SPECIAL MEEING  
January 24, 2001**

Wednesday, January 24, 2001, 7:30 p.m., 486 228<sup>th</sup> Ave. N.E., City Hall Chambers

	<i>Approximate Time</i>
<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	7:30 pm
<u>ROLL CALL/PLEDGE</u>	7:35 pm
1. Approval of Agenda	7:40 pm
2. <b>Public Comment</b> (For members of the public to speak to the Council regarding items <u>NOT</u> on the agenda. Please limit remarks to three minute. Additional comments will be permitted before each ordinance is voted on)	7:45 pm
3. <b>Public Hearing</b> a. <b>Design alternatives for 228<sup>th</sup> Avenue Phase 1B         transportation capital improvement.</b>	7:50 pm
4. <b>ADJOURN</b>	9:00 pm



AGENDA BILL

CITY OF SAMMAMISH  
CITY COUNCIL

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**Subject:**

Public Hearing-design alternatives for 228<sup>th</sup> Avenue transportation improvement project

**Meeting Date:** January 24, 2001

**Date Submitted:** January 19, 2001

**Originating Department:** Public Works

**Action Required:**

None

**Clearances:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Administration**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Police**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Public Works**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Fire**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Building/Planning**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Attorney**

**Exhibits:**

Planning Advisory Board Recommendations

**Committee:**

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**Budgeted Amount:**

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**Summary Statement:**

The public hearing called for January 24th is for the purpose of gathering public comments on the preferred design alternatives for the 228th Avenue Phase 1B project. Attached are the recommendations from the citizen Planning Advisory Board, (PAB). These recommendations are incorporated in the design drawings that will be presented at the public hearing by the Public Works Department. The PAB, plus a special sub-committee of the PAB, spent several weeks and a number of meetings discussing and analyzing the 228th project in detail.

**Recommended Motion:**

None



**Planning Advisory Board Draft Recommendation Regarding  
Intersection Designs within Phase 1B of the 228<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Improvement Project. (January 4, 2001)**

The Planning Advisory Board (Board) was asked to make a recommendation to the City Council on the staff's recommended road improvement plan, Phase 1B of 228<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. The Board has done intense study over the last few weeks to form a recommendation on the idea of installing roundabouts at several intersection locations, in lieu of traditional traffic signals. The following presents the Board's recommendation and summarizes the Board's conclusions and concerns regarding this issue. While the Board had much education and discussion on the granular aspects of roundabout design, siting and installation, the Board's recommendation is more general and vision oriented in nature.

**I. Recommendation: Based on the following conclusions and subject to the identified concerns, the Planning Advisory Board makes the following four (4) part recommendation to the City Council regarding the design of intersection improvements within Phase 1B of the 228<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Improvement Project.**

1. A roundabout be built at the intersection of SE 8th St. and 228th Ave., if design studies show this is feasible and it will meet traffic capacity needs. The existing SEPA determination will be amended to assure the proposed project does not trigger a SEPA appeal. This intersection shall also be designed with maximum flexibility to allow for a signal in the event a roundabout cannot be completed at this time.
2. At all other intersections along 228<sup>th</sup> Ave., where roundabouts may be feasible in the future, the City obtain adequate right of way and build large, wide signal intersections with wider medians to provide free right turn lanes and u-turn capability for large vehicles. When considering design alternatives, maximum flexibility shall be a priority. [While providing a larger intersection will enhance safety, this option also allows removing the signals and retrofitting to roundabouts at a later date with minimal disruption to the community.]
3. A pedestrian underpass in the vicinity of SE 10<sup>th</sup> St. where there are large numbers of students walking to and from school should be considered. This crossing should also consider equestrian users as well. [This may provide an opportunity for additional external funding.]
4. The concept of roundabouts at other locations in the city shall be considered in development of the transportation element of the comprehensive plan.

**II. Conclusions: Based on presented information and discussion by the Board and its appointed sub-committee, the Planning Advisory Board concludes the following:**

- A. ***The use of one or more roundabouts may increase traffic and pedestrian safety.*** Safety is certainly one of the Board's primary concerns. Evidence showed roundabouts have proven to be safer for both vehicles and pedestrians because vehicles must slow down to 18-20 mph in order to navigate them and because vehicle paths are much less likely to cross, broadside collisions are virtually eliminated. The Board also believes that if drivers have shorter wait times before navigating the intersection, driver frustration and its consequences will be decreased.
- B. ***The use of one or more roundabouts may reduce traffic congestion.*** We often hear about the horrible traffic congestion in the Puget Sound area but we see very little being done about it. The Board believes roundabouts are a chance for Sammamish to lead the way with an innovative attempt to resolve some of these issues, at least for our own residents. If these devices work, Sammamish could become a model for other cities in addressing their own congestion issues. To be sure, properly designed roundabouts have proven to be more flexible at handling large volumes of traffic. Studies show they will improve the Level of Service when installed at existing signaled intersections and as traffic volumes build over time, would maintain a high level of service much longer than a signal would.
- C. ***The use of one or more roundabouts may contribute to a new community identity.*** While future plans for 228<sup>th</sup> include landscaped median strips, samples of roundabouts used in other communities provide additional landscaping opportunities, provide a visual, aesthetic buffer for a major arterial roadway and could help to provide a new community identity.
- D. ***The use of one or more roundabouts may improve air quality.*** The Board believes air quality in Sammamish will be improved as roundabouts will reduce stopping, idling and restarting. Vehicles that are stopped with idling engines pollute more than vehicles in freer moving traffic.

**III. Concerns: Along with the recommendation, the Board feels it is important to express the following concerns about roundabout intersections.**

- A. ***Timing of construction and funding.*** The Board is concerned that there may be insufficient time to properly plan roundabouts for a project slated to begin this spring. Obtained funding is contingent on a construction start this spring. Preparing all new plan designs, purchase of needed right-of-way and a SEPA addendum or Supplemental EIS could take more time

than is available, jeopardizing current funding sources. However, staff has assured us that adding a roundabout to the plan is feasible given the schedule constraints.

- B. ***Timing and the community's comprehensive planning efforts.*** The Board feels that making recommendations on a design for 228<sup>th</sup> Avenue is a little premature without having a better idea of the big picture of the city's future. The Board has yet to formulate future land use designations or even inventory the existing transportation deficiencies. In addition, sufficient design or cost estimates are not yet available to build all proposed roundabouts. The Board has no idea whether additional expenditures on this project may somehow affect more urgent transportation needs for the community.
- C. ***Adequacy of public awareness and participation.*** The decision to pursue roundabouts came out of widely publicized public workshops held in June, 2000. However more detailed discussion of roundabouts in lieu of signals on certain intersections of Phase 1B has only begun in the last few months. While there has been an open house and a newspaper article on the proposal, there may be a significant number of residents who will feel they were denied due process or environmental impact review. We are confident however, that with a properly executed public education campaign and further public involvement as to the merits of roundabouts, citizens concerns can be addressed.
- D. ***Residents responses.*** A number of the Board members informally polled some residents on the issue of roundabouts. With only prior knowledge of roundabouts, people were usually indifferent and a few were against the idea. However, once residents had listened to some of the safety and traffic flow benefits, they often became much more agreeable. A number of these residents voiced worries that people won't know how to drive the roundabouts or that young or irresponsible drivers might abuse them. While these issues appear real, the Board found no data to indicate they are long-term issues and was shown actual cases where the reverse is true.
- E. ***Emergency Vehicle Response.*** Board members expressed some concern regarding impact roundabouts may have on emergency vehicle response times. Sammamish Police and fire districts were contacted, however additional information should be requested.



CITY COUNCIL ROLL CALL

DATE: January 24, 2001

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>EXCUSED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mayor Troy Romero	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Deputy Mayor Ken Kilroy	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Jack Barry	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Phil Dyer	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Don Gerend	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Ron Haworth	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>
Kathleen Huckabay	<u>✓</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>



**PUBLIC HEARING  
SIGN IN SHEET**

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL

Date: January 24, 2001

Topic: 228 Ave NE

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
✓ Rick Johnson	20035 SE 27th St	425-392-0288
✓ J. S. Biskup	22721 SE 16 <sup>th</sup> St	425-427-9221
✓ Karen Moran	20705 BE 3 <sup>rd</sup> Way	425-836 8306
✓ Jo + Dave PORTER	3110 251st Ave Se.	425-392-5103
✓ Cindy Carter	227 SE 13th Ln.	
✓ Kathy Vance	225 SE 14th Pl.	
✓ Craig Christensen	825 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave Jasson	
✓ Steve Crawford	22917 NE 20th Pl.	
✓ Scott Hamilton	22571 SE 14th Pl.	
✓ Roger Street (3.)	22909 SE 32nd St.	



PUBLIC HEARING *Only*  
SIGN IN SHEET

SAMMAMISH CITY COUNCIL

Date: *January 24, 2001*

Topic: *228th St. Design Alternative's*

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
<i>Jamit Neeb</i>	<i>22774 SE 13th LN</i>	<i>425-369-8215</i>
<i>Elaine Chase</i>	<i>1807 227th LN SE</i>	<i>425-427-5938</i>
<i>KERIN CHASE</i>	<i>1807 227th LN SE</i>	<i>425-427-5938</i>
<del><i>Chap Thompson</i></del>	<del><i>22530 SE 142 PL</i></del>	<del><i>425-557-0362</i></del>
<i>CHRIS TAUCHER</i>	<i>22530 SE 142 PL</i>	<i>425-557-8943</i>
<i>TOM BARE</i>	<i>22571 SE 14th PL</i>	<i>425-392-8159</i>
<i>Tom Bluff</i>		
<i>MIKE DONALDSON</i>		
<i>TIM LORENSCHY</i>	<i>1234 227th AVE SE</i>	<i>425 313 5953</i>
<i>Ed Thom</i>	<i>1446 - 227th Ave. SE</i>	<i>425 - 392-7375</i>
<i>S. Farahmandnia</i>	<i>22522 SE 14th Pl.</i>	<i>(425) 936-2161</i>
<i>DAVID NISALIAN</i>	<i>1237 227th TER SE</i>	<i>(425) 369-0570</i>
<i>ARIEL HUBERT</i>	<i>1241 227th TERRACE SE</i>	<i>(425) 869-9916</i>
<i>Betty Correy</i>	<i>3801 E Lake Sammamish Pkwy, Sammamish</i>	<i>425-868-8661</i>
<i>DAVID GILBERT</i>	<i>22795 - S.E. 13th LANE</i>	<i>(425) 9941032</i>
<i>BAIL TUDZILAS</i>	<i>19787 SE 19th ST</i>	<i>425-392-1312</i>

