

**From:** [Georgeann Quinn](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Highway 12 crosswalks  
**Date:** Sunday, April 2, 2023 5:53:39 PM

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## EXTERNAL

Hi Karina,

I walk 12 every day to get in my steps and this is what I observed and what is needed to make everyone safe crossing 12.

Aqua Caliente and 12 needs

voice alert "walk light is on" and a count down  
better striping

Mountain Ave/ Flowery School

voice alert "walk light is on" and a count down  
better striping

BHS PO

better striping  
count down

Fruit Basket

Voice alert "walk light is on" and a count down

\$ store

This is a safe crosswalk. It has the voice alert and a count down

McDonalds

needs a dedicated left turn arrow from Verano to 12  
voice alert "walk light is on" and a count down

Lucky's

voice alert "walk light is on" and a count down.

Thank you,  
Georgeann Quinn

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**From:** [pete alcantara](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Comment for Apr 12 meeting, agenda item 6/Caltrans  
**Date:** Monday, April 3, 2023 11:26:13 AM

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## EXTERNAL

Recently got back from a trip to Honolulu. For those who have traveled to the Waikiki area, the main thoroughfare, "Ala Moana Drive", is incredibly busy for cars and pedestrians in all four directions. Noticed in this recent trip that many intersections converted pedestrian crossing lights so that all traffic is stopped and pedestrians can cross in any direction, including diagonal. Maybe something worth considering for Hwy12/Verano since all traffic will be stopped, including right turn on red, and pedestrians have full access to all directions in the intersection (maybe diagonal doesn't make sense for this intersection).

Thanks...  
Peter Alcantara  
alcantpe@pm.me

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

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**From:** [Lisa Willett](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Meeting Date 4/12, CalTrans Item #6  
**Date:** Monday, April 3, 2023 1:59:20 PM

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EXTERNAL

Hi Karina,

I hope you are well and having a nice spring.

I have a public comment for the upcoming SMAC meeting on 4/12 regarding Item #6, CalTrans report on the intersection at Verano & HWY 12

Thank you!  
Lisa Willett

Public Comment for the Item #6

On Sunday, April 2, 2023 my 11 year old son and I were in transit to the Sonoma Skatepark at Maxwell Farms when we witnessed a person being loaded on to a gurney and into an emergency vehicle from the crosswalk on Verano Avenue and Highway 12. My young son watched in disbelief and said "Again?! Mom! Why does this keep happening?" He followed by saying that he will NEVER come through this intersection again without an adult with him.

I am appalled that we've had yet another injury accident in what has become one of the most dangerous intersections in Sonoma County. I am appalled that we've had multiple fatalities and life altering injuries occur at this intersection and yet, no meaningful changes have been made. I am saddened that my son and all of the children in our community cannot safely navigate their way to Maxwell Farms, where 13 million dollars in upgrades are currently underway. It occurs to me that by upgrading the park, we are enticing more members of our own community, our children and visitors from outside our community to navigate an intersection that we know is deadly. What are we doing?

I am well aware that the intersection overlaps the territory of both the State of California (CalTrans) and Sonoma County. We cannot continue to allow bureaucracy to slow the progress of addressing this killer intersection. Today, I am asking the Springs Municipal Advisory Committee to consider stronger actions, and explore legal avenues to hold the municipalities responsible for addressing and resolving the problems contributing to the deaths and injuries to members of our community.

Furthermore, it should be noted that it is mainly the residents north of the intersection that are not able to access Sonoma County's Regional Maxwell Park unless they navigate the killer intersection, which is an equity issue that cannot be overlooked. While Eastside Sonoma residents and children can safely make their way west on a dedicated bike path, Springs residents and children must navigate bike lanes along Highway 12 which narrow between the bridge and the intersection, increasing the danger.

Enough is enough. We need action.

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**From:** [Pam Burns-Clair](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda for Board Meeting re: Sonoma intersection Verano/Hwy. 12  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 5, 2023 5:30:00 PM

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## EXTERNAL

From SIT 4/5/23: Written comments can be submitted ahead of the meeting by emailing [Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Karina.Garcia@sonoma-county.org). They must include the agenda date and item number/topic in the subject. Comments will be shared with the council and included in the meeting material.

However the agenda # & topic were not included. Date of meeting is 4/12

My husband who frequents that intersection most days on his bike would request a left hand turn arrow on all 4 sections of the intersection (currently there is none) & we would urge flashing lights (both on the pavement & alongside the pedestrian push button) especially after dark alerting stopped cars that a pedestrian is crossing!

This is familiar at other high risk intersections, so it's puzzling that this is not already in place at this intersection which is clearly high risk--even though "Highway 12 is managed by the state while Verano Avenue is a county road." There needs to be some mutual cooperation of both entities to avoid serious accidents in the future!

Thanks, Pam & Robert Clair  
858 Austin AV, Sonoma

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**From:** [Bill Hinder](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Intersection of Verano and HWY12  
**Date:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 3:36:28 PM

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## EXTERNAL

Hello Mrs. Garcia,

I am writing to you to give you my suggestion for improving the Verano HWY 12 intersection. I bike and drive through it on a regular basis.

Put in a roundabout. Here's why:

1. 50% more traffic moves through a roundabout as opposed to a traditional 4 way stop.
2. There are far fewer deaths as the speeds traveled through a roundabout are greatly reduced.
3. It's more cost effective because you don't have to maintain the lights and pedestrian crosswalk signals.
4. We're fortunate to still have enough room on that intersection to put one in.
5. There are fewer emissions from cars and trucks idling while waiting for the light to change.
6. The accidents that do occur are also far less severe due to the reduced speeds at the intersection.
7. It reduces the noise at the intersection.

Thank you,  
William Hinder  
19305 Junipero Serra  
Sonoma

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**From:** [Josette Brose-Eichar](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** Springs MAC meeting 4-12  
**Date:** Monday, April 10, 2023 4:30:07 PM

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EXTERNAL

Hi Karina,

Can you please forward this to the Spring MAC ahead of the 4-12 meeting. I also plan to attend virtually.

I have forwarded correspondence to you from county parks concerning Larson Park. It appears from the information I have received that the county does not consider Larson Park to be an idea location for the types of events that would take place on a plaza. It appears that they think Maxwell park maybe more suited to these types of events. I am not sure what other Springs residents feel about Maxwell Park. It is my impression that many do not consider it as in the Springs, even though it is technically considered to be.

I have also been asking in the last 2 meetings if the Springs MAC still has a Plaza ad hoc committee or not.

In addition I have asked if the MAC would be interested in the survey data I have collected from over 100 Springs residents on what they want in a Plaza, along with all of their comments and suggestions.

So far I have received no responses, other than from Karina, suggesting that I apply for a position on the Springs MAC. As I work full time, running a floral design business, this is not an option for me at this time. I am often away when the MAC meets.

I will attend the next meeting, to see if there is possibly still any interest in this subject. I would love to hear back from members of the Springs MAC.

Thank you and sincerely,

Josette Brose-Eichar  
1110 Loma Court  
Boyes Hot Springs.

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**From:** [JEANNETTE SCHARICH](#)  
**To:** [Karina Garcia](#)  
**Subject:** April 12 Springs Municipal Advisory Council Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023 10:05:10 AM

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**EXTERNAL**

Kindly include my comments for this meeting beginning with my emails (below) dated from February 24, 2021 to Ms. Susan Gorin. PLEASE READ. I find it beyond belief that NOTHING has been done to remedy this DANGEROUS, DEADLY intersection. How hard can it be for Ms. Gorin to get Caltrans to install left turn arrow signals at the east and west sides of Verano Avenue at the Highway 12 intersection in Sonoma as well as pedestrian crossing signals??? The cost to do this should be secondary to safety. Saving lives should be the PRIORITY!! Get it done! Ms. Jeannette Scharich  
615 E. Thomson Avenue  
Sonoma, CA 95476  
[jscharich@comcast.net](mailto:jscharich@comcast.net)

----- Original Message -----

From: Susan <[gorins@sonic.net](mailto:gorins@sonic.net)>  
To: JEANNETTE SCHARICH <[jscharich@comcast.net](mailto:jscharich@comcast.net)>  
Date: 03/22/2021 5:48 PM

**Subject: Re: Request for your Help! AGAIN!!!!!!**

Tune into the Springs MAC meeting tomorrow night at 5:30. We will be discussing this accident which happened close to the bike path near Maxwell village and others at this location and elsewhere as well as springs roads on the schedule fir paving.

You can find the zoom link by googling Springs MAC AND IT WILL TAKE YOY TI THE WEBSITE.

THANKS FOR WRITING. I'm concerned about yet another accident on this stretch of highway 12, as are you.

Susan Gorin

[Gorins@sonic.net](mailto:Gorins@sonic.net)

Cell -707-321-2788  
[www.Susan-Gorin.com](http://www.Susan-Gorin.com)

On Mar 22, 2021, at 5:13 PM, JEANNETTE SCHARICH  
<jscharich@comcast.net> wrote:

**AGAIN??????**

*California Highway Patrol officers at the scene of a fatal pedestrian accident on Highway 12 south of Verano Avenue, Monday, March 22, 2021.*

What will it take for action??? Governor Newsom?  
President Biden? **Another death** since our last communication ONE MONTH AGO!

Ms. Gorin, please make this  
happen NOW.

Do the local residents need to create a "GO FUND ME" page to spur action and pay for this vital improvement to the traffic flow here?

Let me know what needs to happen to make a LEFT TURN SIGNAL at both ends of Verano Avenue, and any other signal that the Department of Transportation deems necessary.

**NOW!!! NO MORE DELAY, PLEASE!!!**

And let me know if you need help. I am here and glad to assist in any way.

Jeannette Scharich  
615 E. Thomson Avenue  
Sonoma, CA 95476  
(707) 935-3158  
[jscharich@comcast.net](mailto:jscharich@comcast.net)

On 02/25/2021 9:57 AM Susan Gorin  
<gorins@sonic.net> wrote:

We are looking at that intersection. You are right – increased traffic and distractedness.



Thanks for writing.

Susan Gorin

[gorins@sonic.net](mailto:gorins@sonic.net)

Home – 707-708-8296

Cell – 707-321-2788

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**From:** [JEANNETTE SCHARICH](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:27 PM

**To:** [susan@susan-gorin.com](mailto:susan@susan-gorin.com)

**Subject: Request for your Help!**

Dear Supervisor Gorin:

What can you do to initiate the installation of left turn arrow signals installed at the east and west sides of Verano Avenue at the Highway 12 intersection in Sonoma?

Especially since the closure of Boyes Blvd., traffic has increased dramatically and schools have not even yet begun, which increases traffic even more!

When I try to turn left from Verano to Highway 12, I always think I'm going to get hit by another vehicle either on East Verano or Highway 12 in either direction. Many vehicles get "stuck" trying to turn when the signal changes, causing tempers

to flare and chances to be taken.

We have just had a recent pedestrian death and two adolescents struck by a vehicle in this area. I have lived in Sonoma for 47 years and I can assure you, this intersection needs left turn arrows!

What can I do to help you with this effort?

Sincerely,

Jeannette Scharich

615 E. Thomson Avenue

Sonoma, CA 95476

(707) 935-3158

[jscharich@comcast.net](mailto:jscharich@comcast.net)

SEE ARTICLE IN Index-Tribune:

<https://www.sonomanews.com/article/news/2-girls-struck-at-verano-and-sonoma-highway/?ref=related&sba=AAS>

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