

# COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST

SUBJECT: Mesquite and Rim View Drive Intersection

MEETING DATE: 5-19-09

PAYSON GOAL: NEW:

EXISTING:

ITEM NO.:

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

SUBMITTED BY: LaRon G. Garrett, Pub. Wks. Dir. AMOUNT BUDGETED:

SUBMITTAL TO AGENDA

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED:

APPROVED BY TOWN MANAGER

CONT. FUNDING REQUIRED:

EXHIBITS (If Applicable, To Be Attached): Citizen Letter of Request, Map of the Area, Aerial Photo of the Intersection

## POSSIBLE MOTION

I move to eliminate the requirement on the Stone Creek Subdivision that all traffic exiting the Stone Creek Subdivision on Rim View turn south on Mesquite, direct staff to remove the center island at this intersection, and direct staff to install a Stop sign on each leg of this intersection during the 2009-2010 budget year as manpower is available.

## SUMMARY OF THE BASIS FOR POSSIBLE MOTION:

Prior to the Stone Creek Subdivision, the intersection of Mesquite and Rim View was a two- legged 90° intersection. When Stone Creek was submitted, the plan showed an extension of Rim View Drive to the west, thus making it a 3- legged "T" intersection. Some of the existing residents on Rim View Drive east of Mesquite were concerned that this extension would greatly increase the traffic on Rim View between McLane Road and Mesquite. When the Stone Creek Preliminary Plat went before the Council for approval residents from the Rim View area voiced their concern. In response, the Council required that the intersection be constructed in a manner that would theoretically prohibit traffic from the Stone Creek Subdivision from using Rim View between McLane Lane and Mesquite. The developer installed an island in the middle of the intersection that met the intent of the Council requirement.

If a driver uses the intersection as intended, they cannot travel from the Stone Creek Subdivision on Rim View Drive east of Mesquite. They must turn south on Mesquite to Summit and then continue east on Summit to McLane Road. However, from observation, we have determined that very few drivers are actually driving through this intersection the way it was intended. Most drivers that want to continue east on Rim View drive around the island on the left side of the road and then continue east on Rim View to McLane Road. Since the traffic volume at this intersection is very low, the hazard created by driving on the wrong side of the road is minimal. However, it does create the potential for a serious accident in the future.

Staff received a letter from a Stone Creek resident dated April 5, 2009 requesting that the island be removed and the intersection be controlled with a Stop sign on each leg. A copy of the letter is attached. Since the current intersection configuration is based on a requirement of the Town Council, the citizen was informed that it would take Council action to approve the requested modifications.

Staff has reviewed the situation at this intersection and agrees that it is not working as intended. Staff also concurs with the recommendation of removing the center island and controlling the intersection with a Stop sign on each leg.

MAY 19 2009 I.S

# ***COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST***

If the Council does approve this request, the work to revise the intersection will be performed by Town forces (as they become available) using funds from the 2009-2010 Street and Sidewalk Maintenance Budget line item. The estimated cost to make these modifications is less than \$1,000.

**PROS:** These modifications will reduce the chances for a potential accident in this intersection.

**CONS:** Traffic from the Stone Creek area will be able to use Rim View Road between Mesquite and McLane easier thus potentially increasing the traffic in that area. However, several of the residents in this area are already doing this by going around the island.

**PUBLIC INPUT (if any):** Citizen Request Letter

**BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS (if any) (give dates and attach minutes):** N/A

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**FUNDING:**

Acct: 202-5-3442-00-6402	Budget: \$100,000	Available: \$100,000	Expense: \$1,000	Remaining: \$99,000
Acct:	Budget:	Available:	Expense:	Remaining:
Acct:	Budget:	Available:	Expense:	Remaining:

3A: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

April 5, 2009

Mr. LaRon Garrett  
Streets & Engineering Department  
Payson Town Hall  
303 N. Beeline Highway  
Payson, AZ 85541

Subject: Intersection of West Rim View Road & South Mesquite Street

Dear LaRon:

Per our previous conversations, please consider this letter my formal complaint regarding the "triangle" or "3-point" intersection of Rim View and Mesquite. As you know, according to the current design, eastbound traffic on Rim View must turn south on Mesquite and is prohibited from continuing further on Rim View. I have several concerns with this design.

First of all, the signage is poor. Although there is a "right turn only" sign, there is no "Do Not Enter" sign. Many travelers are unaware of the actual traffic flow intended. My own daughter-in-law has driven this area dozens of times and, until I pointed it out to her, thought the "right turn only" was simply referring to the short cut turn lane. A great safety hazard exists; especially if one driver knows the rules and the other does not.

Secondly, to send local residents (such as my daughter) south on Mesquite, east on Summit, north on McLane and back west on Rim View to their homes is not only ridiculously inconvenient, it is routing them on some of the most narrow and dangerously designed roads; posing further safety hazards.

Finally, vehicles traveling north on Mesquite have a greatly obstructed view. They must literally enter the intersection on a steep incline in order to determine whether or not there is cross traffic.

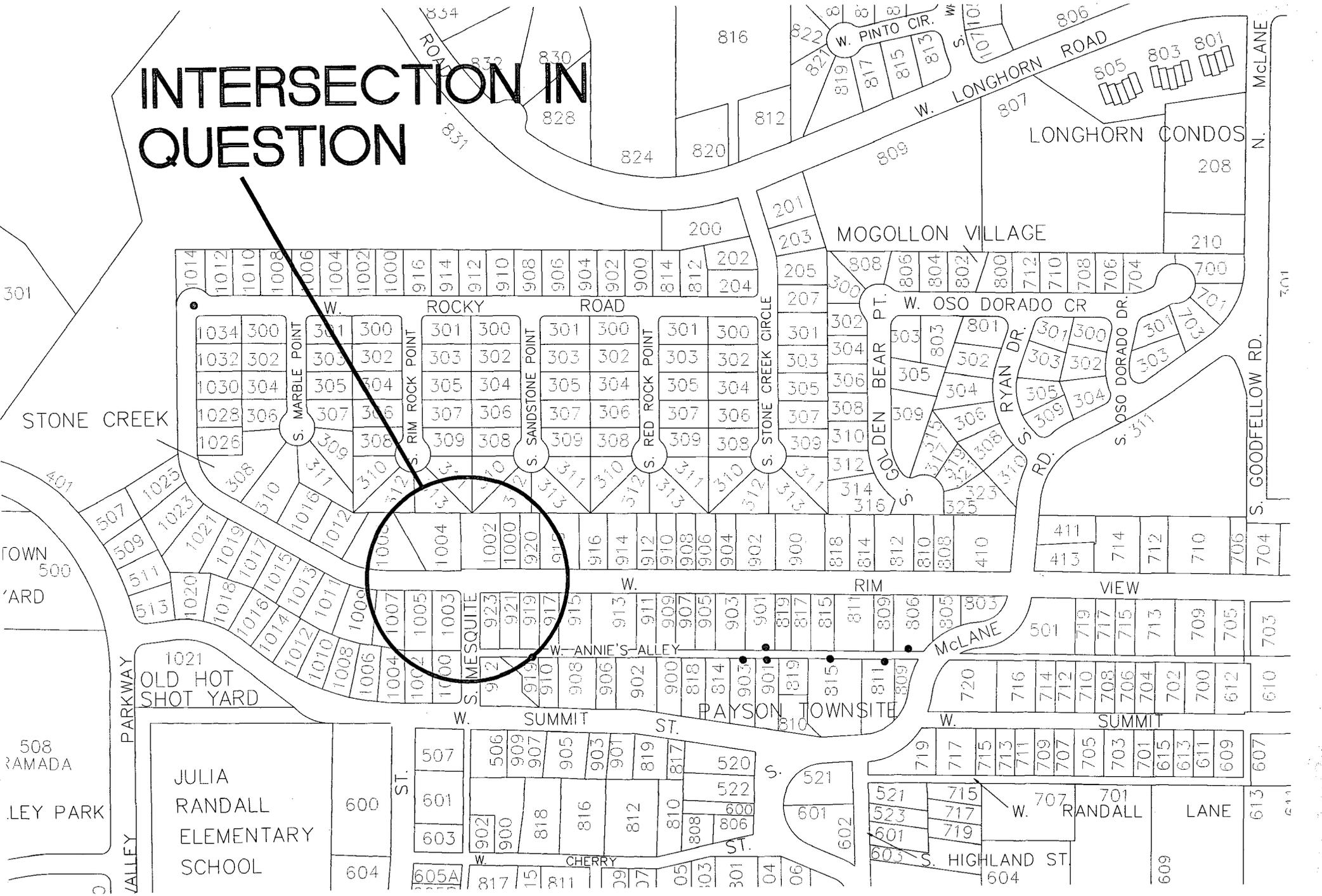
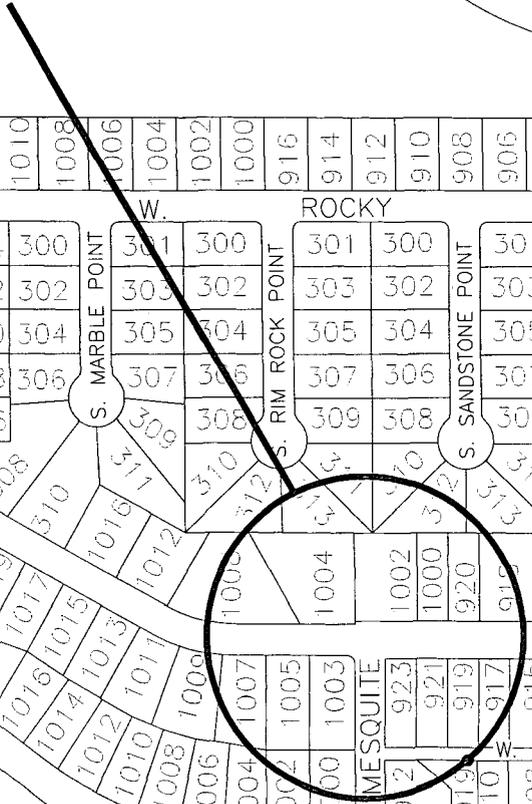
It is my understanding that this design was implemented to satisfy one or two Rim View residents who feared increased traffic down their street. I firmly believe that safety of the many residents who travel these streets daily should far outweigh the anticipated noise or dust concerns of a few. I urge the Town to remove the triangle island and replace the existing signage with three "stop" signs. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

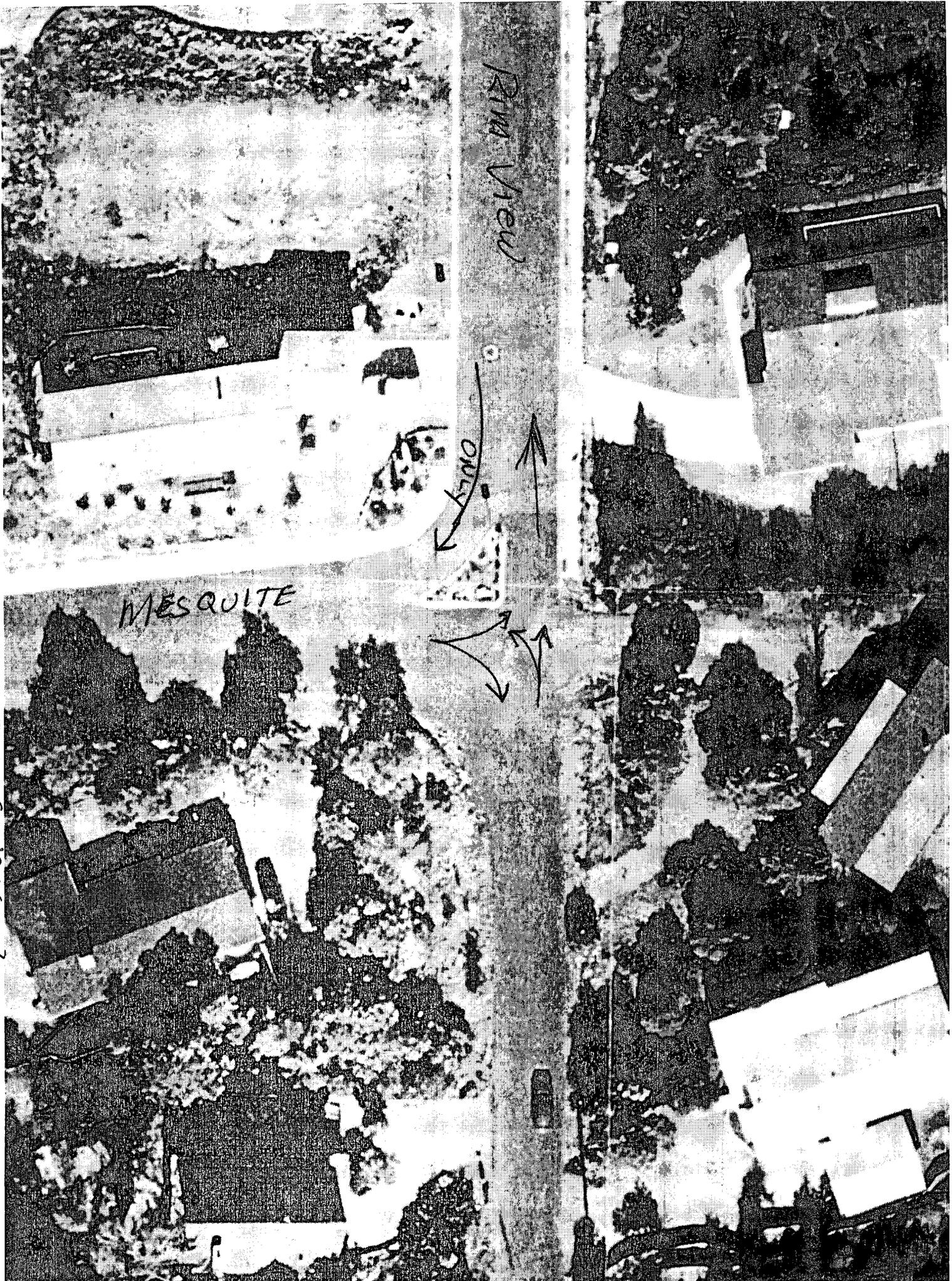
Sincerely,



Pat Randall  
302 South Marble Point  
Payson, AZ 85541  
928-474-4320

# INTERSECTION IN QUESTION





MESQUITE

Rim View

DUNE

CURRENT CONDITION