

Ramona Community Planning Group
Ramona State Routes Subcommittee
Final - Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 5th, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Ramona Community Center
434 Aqua Lane, Ramona Ca. 92065

1. Call to Order - Roll Call - 6:01 pm.

Present: Torry Brean, Jim Cooper, Robin Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips.
Absent: Janelle Clark until 6:07 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance - Led by Maya Phillips.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. 9/3/2025 Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve meeting minutes of 9/3/2025.

First: Elio Noyas. Second: Maya Phillips.

Motion Passed: 4-0-1-1

Ayes: Torry Brean, Robin Joy Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips.

Noes: None.

Abstain: Jim Cooper.

Absent: Janelle Clark.

4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: None.

Opportunity for members of the public to speak to Group on any subject matter within the Group's jurisdiction that is not on posted agenda. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes.

5. Action Items:

- a. Informational: Ramona Sheriff to update the Subcommittee on law enforcement activity to increase safety on SRs 67 and 78.

-Ramona Sheriff Lt. Scott Roller provided an update on traffic enforcement. An additional unit from Lakeside was patrolling SR 67 making 10-20 stops per day focusing on vehicles traveling over 70 mph with 10-14 receiving citations - particularly in the Mt. Woodson area of the highway.

- b. Informational: Caltrans to update the Subcommittee on status of SRs 67 and 78 improvements.

-Caltrans update by Stephen Welborn via email:

SR-78 Improvements

- There is a pavement rehabilitation project from Haverford Rd to Hatfield Creek Bridge that will begin in October 2026 and will last through July 2027
- Intermittent one-way traffic control is expected

SR-67 Highway Improvement Project

- The next public hearing will be scheduled in Fall 2026. The Draft Environmental Document will be released for circulation in August/September 2026. A public hearing will be scheduled and has a 45-day public review period.

- c. Discussion/Possible Action: Status of SR 67 Highway Improvements Project; including evacuation considerations and Mussey Grade intersection.

-Caltrans update by Stephen Welborn via email:

Mussey Grade

- Numbers of serious injuries and fatalities remain lower than prior to the installation of the temporary delineators.
- A meeting to discuss permanent options for improvements such as a signaled intersection or roundabout for Mussey Grade is being scheduled.

-Subcommittee member Robin Maxson reported that Caltrans Director Ann Fox indicated a community meeting on the Mussey Grade intersection was being planned for November. Subcommittee member Jim Cooper submitted data, analysis and a potential solution to prevent fatalities at the Mussey Grade intersection. Mr. Cooper suggested an overpass was the only solution. (Mr. Cooper's data included below.)

- d. Discussion/Possible Action: Status of SRs 67/78 Main Street traffic calming measures for safety and mistimed traffic lights prohibiting the flow of traffic.

-Caltrans update by Stephen Welborn via email:

SR-67 Traffic calming measures

-A study showing an increase in pedestrian traffic will be needed to warrant a crosswalk at 5th St

-Please report any mistimed traffic lights at csr.dot.ca.gov

-Ramona Sheriff Lt. Scott Roller reported that they can no longer give citations for jaywalking as California no longer considers jaywalking illegal. If citizens note areas of concern downtown they can go to the Sheriff Substation and request extra patrols or contact Lt. Roller directly through the Substation's business line.

-Subcommittee discussed the status of previous traffic calming recommendations and made two motions.

First Motion: Motion for RCPG to follow up with Caltrans on request for traffic calming radar enforcement speed signs on SR 78 between 3rd and 6th streets.

First: Torry Brean. Second: Jim Cooper.

Motion Passed: 6-0-0-0

Ayes: Torry Brean, Janelle Clark, Jim Cooper, Robin Joy Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

Second Motion: Motion for RCPG to follow up with Caltrans on status of speed limit painted on travel lanes on SR 78 at 3rd and 5th streets when approaching Old Town Ramona from the east.

First: Maya Phillips. Second: Torry Brean.

Motion Passed: 6-0-0-0

Ayes: Torry Brean, Janelle Clark, Jim Cooper, Robin Joy Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

e. Develop recommendations for the RCPG to consider including funding needs for additional traffic enforcement.

-Public Speaker: Terry Maxson recommended requesting more funds for

traffic safety and noted that if you don't ask, you won't receive. And, the request should be as specific and focused as possible.

-Subcommittee discussed the need for more traffic enforcement funding as the community has experienced an increase in highway fatalities during the last several months.

Motion to recommend the Ramona Community Planning Group to communicate to CHP Leadership, State Representatives, and County Representatives a request for increased funding for directed enforcement for speed related incidents on SRs 67 and 78 due to dramatically increased vehicle collisions resulting in severe injuries and death.

First: Torry Brean. Second: Elio Noyas.

Motion Passed: 6-0-0-0

Ayes: Torry Brean, Janelle Clark, Jim Cooper, Robin Joy Maxson, Elio Noyas, Maya Phillips.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: None.

6. Group Business:

a. Announcements and Correspondence Received - None.

Discussion Items:

1. Concerns of members - None.
2. Future agenda items - None.

b. Next meeting - January 7, 2026

7. Adjournment - 6:59 pm

Traffic Accident History, SR 67 and Mussey Grade –

2013 thru early 2025

In response to my request to the California Highway Patrol, they provided me with a listing of the accident investigation reports for all accidents that they reported as being related to SR-67 and the Mussey Grade Road intersection.

The following information reflects some data for consideration BUT does identify an area for focused consideration – those accidents directly related “IMPROPER TURN” as reported by the CHP.

YEAR	ACCIDENTS	FATALITIES	IN PROPER TURN
2013	11		3
2014	17	1	of 4
2015	9		3
2016	11		2
2017	9		2
2018	7		2
2019	5		0
2020	2		1
2021	6		2
2022	7	2	of 5
2023	8		3
2024	3		1
2025	1 (incomplete)		
TOTALS	96*	3	28 (30%)

*not all are directly related to accidents at this intersection but rather all that occurred in the general vicinity.

A QUICK ANALYSIS OF 2022 TO FOCUS ON THE ACTUAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE ACCIDENT TO THE INTERSECTION OF SR 67 AND MUSSEY GRADE REVEALS THE FOLLOWING

Five accidents that occurred during 2022 occurred at or near the intersection of State Route 67 and Mussey Grade between June 6 and October 19, 2022, a period of three and one-half months; one in June, three in August, and one in September

All four other accidents; one in June, two in August, and one in September, and one in October were all the fault of a driver failing to properly make a left hand turn from Mussey grade onto State Route 67 going towards Poway...

Two of these accidents did result in fatalities: one in June and the other one in September. Both fatalities were drivers making a left turn from Mussey grade onto State Route 67.

So on overview:

5 accidents within a five month period

4 accidents as a result of driver turning left onto State Route 67; one in June, two in August, and one in September

2 accidents resulting in fatalities – one in June resulting in the faulted 91 year old driver's death; the other in September resulting in the faulted 68 year old driver's death = three months apart.

ANY HONEST STATISTICAL REVIEW WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO USE THESE FACTS AS A BASIS FOR DECIDING THAT A MAJOR, COSTLY CHANGE MUST BE MADE AT THIS INTERSECTION.

In my Humble Opinion and as is often said: "You can't solve stupid!" and four of these accidents are the simple and direct result of four drivers doing a stupid thing at the intersection, and unfortunately two people died as a result: both were drivers that turned left from Mussey grade into oncoming traffic.

The intersection modification in the late 1980s was near perfect except for the grade that led to driving light glare blinding oncoming traffic..If this was resolved by grading the grade flat, it would be a perfect solution without any cross- traffic opportunities for accidents....

The only other PERFECT SOLUTION is to create an overpass so that all Mussey grade traffic must pass under State Route 67 in order to merge into traffic going towards Poway.

All other solutions, including round-a-bouts, etc will still leave an opportunity for driver stupidity, and possible future deaths to occur.

**A QUICK ANALYSIS OF 2023 TO FOCUS ON THE ACTUAL
RELATIONSHIP OF THE ACCIDENT TO THE INTERSECTION OF
SR-67 AND MUSSEY GRADE REVEALS THE FOLLOWING:**

2/3/2023 – Vehicle #1 **making a left turn from Mussey Grade**, struck vehicle #2 as they were trying to making a left turn from SR 67 onto Mussey Grade.

2/9/2023 - 0.1 miles North of Mussey Grade - Accident not related to the intersection of SR 67 and Mussey Grade.

2/19/2023 – 195 feet South of Mussey Grade Rd., single vehicle accident, ran off road – accident not related to the intersection of Sr 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

3/4/2023 – 250 foot South of Mussey Grade Road, Driver under the influence, crossed over center lines, ran off the road, and overturned. – accident not related to the intersection of SR 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

3/18/2023 - Vehicle #1 **making a left turn from Mussey Grade**, struck vehicle #2 driving towards Ramona on SR 67.

3/29/2023 – Driver #1 under the influence, **made a left hand turn from Mussey Grade** directly into the path of vehicle #2, which was traveling on SR 67..

5/8/2023 – 525 feet South of Mussey Grade Road. Vehicle #1 made an unsafe U-turn across SR 67 and was struck by vehicle #2. accident not related to the intersection of SR 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

6/13/2023 – 160 foot North of Mussey Grade, Single vehicle curved off the road after passing Mussey Grade on Sr 67 towards Ramona. accident not related to the intersection of SR 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

**A QUICK ANALYSIS OF 2024 TO FOCUS ON THE ACTUAL
RELATIONSHIP OF THE ACCIDENT TO THE INTERSECTION OF
SR-67 AND MUSSEY GRADE REVEALS THE FOLLOWING:**

6/29/2024 – driver #1 under the influence, 134 feet South of Mussey Grade Road. Driver failed to make curve on SR 67 after the Intersection of Sr 67 and Mussey grade Road. Accident not related to the intersection of Sr 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

8/24/2024 – vehicle #1 **making a left turn from Mussey Grade onto Sr-67**, turned in front of vehicle #2 traveling towards Ramona on Sr-67.

9/11/2024 – Vehicle #1 attempting to make a left hand turn from SDR-67 onto Mussey Grade before it was safe to do so...

**A QUICK ANALYSIS OF THE PARTIAL DATA FROM 2025 TO
FOCUS ON THE ACTUAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE ACCIDENT TO
THE INTERSECTION OF SR-67 AND MUSSEY GRADE REVEALS
THE FOLLOWING:**

1/28/2025 – 350 Feet South of Mussey Grade Road. Vehicle #1

made a U-turn across SR 67 in front of vehicle #2. Accident not related to the intersection of Sr 67 and Mussey Grade Road.

Jim Cooper – November 2025