

## Gene Kim

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**From:** Greg Farrell [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 28, 2020 10:36 AM  
**To:** Gene Kim  
**Subject:** Traffic circle on Ruby  
**Attachments:** IMG\_20200428\_0001.pdf; IMG\_20200428\_0002.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged



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Mr. Kim

Although it's not perfect, I feel the traffic circle has helped to slow drivers down and makes the intersection at Gertruda safer. The stop sign at Helberta does need to be addressed. The sign is obscured by a large Honeysuckle bush when going eastbound. Simply trimming the bush down to a reasonable height or stenciling "Prepare To Stop" in the street would be helpful and relatively inexpensive. I look forward to your thoughts to make our street safer.

Sincerely  
Greg Farrell

## Gene Kim

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**Subject:** RE: DANGEROUS Roundabout @ S. Gertruda Ave and Ruby (Second Request for Response!)

**From:** Ted Semaan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 5, 2020 4:06 PM  
**To:** Gene Kim <[Gene.Kim@redondo.org](mailto:Gene.Kim@redondo.org)>; Andrew Winje <[Andrew.Winje@redondo.org](mailto:Andrew.Winje@redondo.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: DANGEROUS Roundabout @ S. Gertruda Ave and Ruby (Second Request for Response!)

FYI

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**From:** Bill Brand  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:20 PM  
**To:** Joe Hoefgen <[Joe.Hoefgen@redondo.org](mailto:Joe.Hoefgen@redondo.org)>  
**Cc:** Ted Semaan <[Ted.Semaan@redondo.org](mailto:Ted.Semaan@redondo.org)>  
**Subject:** Fw: DANGEROUS Roundabout @ S. Gertruda Ave and Ruby (Second Request for Response!)

See below. What is the process for removing this roundabout?

Bill Brand  
Mayor  
City of Redondo Beach  
(310) 809-4405

All communications are accessible via California Public Records Act requests. Records retention policy for Redondo Beach is 30 days.

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**From:** melissa schrift [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2020 9:03 AM  
**To:** Nils Nehrenheim <[Nils.Nehrenheim@redondo.org](mailto:Nils.Nehrenheim@redondo.org)>  
**Cc:** Gene Kim <[Gene.Kim@redondo.org](mailto:Gene.Kim@redondo.org)>; Joe Hoefgen <[Joe.Hoefgen@redondo.org](mailto:Joe.Hoefgen@redondo.org)>; Ted Semaan <[Ted.Semaan@redondo.org](mailto:Ted.Semaan@redondo.org)>; Andrew Winje <[Andrew.Winje@redondo.org](mailto:Andrew.Winje@redondo.org)>; jason schrift <[jason.schrift@abc.com](mailto:jason.schrift@abc.com)>; Bill Brand <[Bill.Brand@redondo.org](mailto:Bill.Brand@redondo.org)>; Jason Schrift <[jason.schrift@nbcuni.com](mailto:jason.schrift@nbcuni.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: DANGEROUS Roundabout @ S. Gertruda Ave and Ruby (Second Request for Response!)



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So far, everyone I know of who have voiced concerns regarding this roundabout has gotten no response.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2019, at 12:45 PM, melissa schrift [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Councilmember Nehrenheim,

I am writing as a resident of the 400th block of South Gertruda. My husband and I moved here from Los Angeles 2 years ago this past August. We moved to Redondo Beach for the good public schools and so that our three children could ride their bikes, walk to school and to the beach. We also have 3 dogs, which our children can now walk since we live in a neighborhood with sidewalks.

That being said, in the time we have lived here, there have been several accidents, including a significant car accident and a dog being killed by a hit and run. These incidents happened at either the corner of Gertruda and Ruby or at the top of the hill on Ruby at Helberta. Long before either of these happened, we as parents were nervous letting our kids cross Ruby at Gertruda because of the brief blind spot drivers encounter coming down the hill. Being that drivers often roll through, or blow through the stop sign entirely, anyone crossing at Gertruda has to run to get out of the way. Imagine a ten-year-old little girl walking a dog who happens to stop to sniff something in the street suddenly panicked and forced to drag the dog across the street to avoid being struck. Now imagine it's sunset and the glare from the sun over the ocean creates a glare for the driver casually blowing through the stop sign at Helberta, as they gain speed flying down the hill. It's another accident waiting to happen. I've been both that driver and that pedestrian. It has happened and it will happen again.

Clearly the city was made aware of these incidents and concerns, since we noticed what appeared to be a traffic study and now a temporary roundabout, which has NextDoor abuzz with complaints and confusion. I don't understand why this was the preferred option over what residents in this area have asked for, and that is a 4 WAY STOP with pedestrian crosswalks. There are many children who are either walking home from Alta Vista Elementary and there is NO path for her to walk that include a pedestrian crosswalk on Ruby. My daughter walks from Julia and turns right on Juanita, then left on Ruby. The odd 3-way intersection at Ruby and Camino Real is confusing and dangerous for a child to navigate and there is no pedestrian crosswalk at Helberta and Ruby either. Cars come flying up the hill from both directions, and it's hard to tell who will stop.

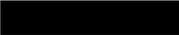
Attempting to cross at Ruby and Gertruda is like pedestrian roulette...you need to look back and forth several times before even attempting to cross. Now that there is a roundabout there, it's even LESS pedestrian friendly and MORE DANGEROUS. Drivers are clearly and admittedly confused (and DISTRACTED) about who has the right of way and drivers traveling east or west on Ruby continue to fly without realizing they must now yield to drivers entering the roundabout from Gertruda. I was nearly sideswiped twice by other drivers assuming I was in the wrong for not stopping to allow them to enter the circle because the rate of speed at which they were traveling coming down the hill was excessive.

I would like to know what the thinking was behind this idea? I realize and appreciate that I am not an engineer or city planner, but I'm a parent with children who need to safely cross that street. This has now created an even greater danger for pedestrians AND now drivers. Wouldn't it be much simpler to install a 4 way stop and pedestrian crosswalks with a yellow pedestrian caution sign?

I am hoping to attend the next safety meeting, but in the meantime, I wanted to let you know the community's frustration over this. This was the opposite of what we had in mind and it has made the existing problem worse. There IS going to be an accident, it's just a matter of when and how bad. I want it to be known that these concerns were shared with the city.

Thank you so much much for your time and consideration...I look forward to hearing from you. Wishing you a happy and healthy holiday, and all the best in 2020!

Sincerely,

Melissa Geiger Schrift 

Jason Schrift

## Gene Kim

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**From:** Janice Petrosino [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 31, 2020 5:00 PM  
**To:** Andy Lesser  
**Cc:** Brian Laine; Gene Kim; Ted Semaan; Nils Nehrenheim; Stephen Sprengel; Jon Naylor; Clint Daniel  
**Subject:** Re: Traffic Circle at Ruby and South Gertruda

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged



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I have been praying every time I have to use this unnecessary traffic circle. First the street is not wide enough. I have seen people jump into the circle to keep from getting hit by a car. I almost got hit as I was going around the circle and a car came up to the circle and wanting to hurry in front of me. It was truly a close call. Please put the stop signs back. That circle has not slowed down the traffic on Ruby they go around this circle like it was not there. People just drive faster than the 25mph that's on residential streets.

Janice Petrosino  
South Gertruda

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2020, at 10:40 AM, Andy Lesser [REDACTED] wrote:

I've seen the same thing, people speeding going downhill (and uphill) on Ruby as they approach and go through Gertruda.

There physically may be a traffic circle in that intersection, but if you don't want to get hit driving across Ruby on Gertruda, even if you're already "in the circle," you'd better yield to traffic on Ruby. You're crazy if you don't. That's the only way I am able to cross Ruby with any degree of safety.

Sorry idealists who think what works in Europe, or even at the more suitable location near Miramar Park at the City's south border, will work at this location but drivers on Ruby will never, ever get it into their heads that they have to slow down (or God forbid have to stop) and yield to traffic already in the circle. Drivers on Ruby treat the intersection just as they used to; the only difference in their driving this circle has caused is the swerving motion needed to avoid hitting the circle's barriers. This circle has not made an appreciable reduction in speeding.

This traffic circle is an accident waiting to happen. It's much, much more dangerous, now, for pedestrians, especially for people walking dogs---the cars almost drive up onto the sidewalks, now.

I am calling this experiment an abject failure and say it should be REMOVED before someone gets killed.

If you don't want to put stop signs on Ruby at Gertruda, then put the intersection back the way it was and add signage beneath the restored stop signs on Gertruda that says "cross traffic on Ruby does not stop."

Andy

Save A Life: Adopt a Companion Animal from a responsible Rescue Group.

On Fri, Jan 31, 2020 at 1:52 AM Brian Laine [REDACTED] wrote:

Andy,

I cross the circle on Gertruda Northbound nearly every weekday afternoon. Too many drivers on Ruby just blow straight through that circle at speed (mainly Westbound/downhill, but I've even seen it uphill), without caring whether there's someone coming into the circle ahead of them from Gertruda.

Happened again today - I'm Northbound on Gertruda and already have my nose in the circle and coming around to cross and continue on Gertruda, but stopped when I saw how fast a downhill car was approaching and not slowing. Sure enough they blew straight through, along with firing a bonus dirty look as if I was the one being dangerous.

If I'd continued around the circle as would normally be expected, that car likely would have creamed into the right rear passenger door where my 11-yr old was sitting. This time was the closest one I've had, but there have been several others where someone coming up or down Ruby seemed surprised at me coming around the circle in front of them as they approached it.

As you know we just moved back here after a few years living in the U.K., so I know how traffic circles work - there's thousands of them there of all sizes, and it's routine. But there's too many people in Redondo who don't get it yet.

> On Sep 23, 2019, at 4:08 PM, Andy Lesser [REDACTED] wrote:

>

> Hello Gene,

>

> I received the notice in the mail about the upcoming installation of the temporary traffic circle at Ruby and So. Gertruda.

>

> I am very concerned that drivers on Ruby approaching Gertruda, especially those travelling westbound downhill from Helberta, will not slow as much as we'd like. I am particularly worried that a speeding driver going westbound will lose control and plow into the house at the northwest corner of Gertruda and Ruby.

>

> I also believe that insufficient slowing of vehicle speeds on Ruby, combined with drivers on Gertruda approaching Ruby no longer having to stop for stop signs (which are there now but are going to be

removed), is a formula for collisions.

>

> Worst of all scenarios is two vehicles colliding and one of them being propelled into the house at the northwest corner of Gertruda and Ruby.

>

> It may not be conventional but, even with the traffic circle installed, I would strongly suggest KEEPING the stop signs on Gertruda. There isn't enough traffic on Gertruda to worry about trying to increase the speed or volume of traffic flow of vehicles crossing Ruby.

>

> I wanted to express my thoughts. My position has always been that what we really need is simply:

>

> 1. Stop signs added for both directions of travel on Ruby at Gertruda.

> 2. Enforcement by RBPD of the stop signs and of speeding.

>

> --

> Andy Lesser

> 

>

> Save A Life: Adopt a Companion Animal from a responsible Rescue Group.

## Gene Kim

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 7:41 PM  
**To:** Gene Kim  
**Subject:** Temporary Traffic Circle Questionnaire  
**Attachments:** Scan0037.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged



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Please see the attached Traffic Circle Questionnaire from the Murphy Family. We look forward to the day the whole thing can be removed and our streets restored to a safer order.

Thank you,

Cee-Cee Murphy

## Gene Kim

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**From:** Janice [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 4, 2020 4:39 PM  
**To:** myamydog@gmail.com; Joe Hoefgen; Gene Kim; Michael Webb; Nils Nehrenheim  
**Cc:** Stephen Sprengel  
**Subject:** Re: When do the residents get to give their input regarding traffic circle Ruby/Gertruda?

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Thank you Andy for speaking up for us. That traffic circle is a problem and sometimes dangerous. I try to avoid going that way and go around the block in order to avoid the circle. I was almost hit when a car was coming up Ruby and I was in the circle and had to stop to let the car pass going faster than they should. I would like to have the stop sign back. Now when I see a car coming on Ruby I will not enter the circle until they have gone around it. I have also seen people crossing the street get into the middle of the circle in order to avoid getting hit.

[REDACTED]  
Janice Petrosino

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

**From:** Andy Lesser [REDACTED]  
**To:** Joe Hoefgen <joe.hoefgen@redondo.org>; Gene Kim <Gene.Kim@redondo.org>; Michael Webb <michael.webb@redondo.org>; Nils Nehrenheim <nils.nehrenheim@redondo.org>  
**Cc:** Lt Stephen Sprengel <Stephen.Sprengel@redondo.org>  
**Sent:** Wed, Mar 4, 2020 11:21 am  
**Subject:** When do the residents get to give their input regarding traffic circle Ruby/Gertruda?

Gentlemen,

When do the residents get to give their feedback as to whether or not they want the temporary traffic circle at Ruby & Gertruda to become a permanent fixture?

So far, more than 9 out of 10 local residents I've spoken to feel the traffic circle has made the intersection far more dangerous for drivers and pedestrians, especially for pedestrians pushing strollers and/or walking dogs. Vehicles still speed on Ruby only now, with the temporary traffic circle in place, they have to swerve very, very close to the sidewalk to get through the intersection. Pedestrians have been seen jumping back and even hopping into the circle to avoid being struck by cars.

I've mentioned before how I feel that one day, a car going westbound downhill may swerve into the house on the NW corner of Ruby and Gertruda. I've more recently imagined a scenario where a speeding car going westbound will take out the power pole on that NW corner. If that happens, I and all my neighbors will not only lose power, cable and telephone service, but we will probably also suffer considerable appliance and electronic equipment damage due to power surges that inevitably occur when power lines are downed.

I just wanted you to know that in the event the above should happen, I (and neighbors who might also be affected) intend to file damage claims against the city for contributory negligence in the creation of this ill-conceived traffic circle at Ruby and Gertruda---a totally inappropriate location for such a 'traffic-calming' device.

Andrew Lesser, M.D.

Resident, [REDACTED]