City of Lake Elsinore
Gunnerson Street
Improvements Project

California — Congressional District 49
Representative Darrell E. Issa

FY 2010 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations

REQUEST: $1.6 MILLION
The City of Lake Elsinore requests $1.6 million under the Transportation and Community Systems Preservation (TCSP) account for improvements at the Gunnerson Street/State Route 74 intersection.

PROJECT BUDGET
The total cost of the project is $2,000,000. Of this, $700,000 is for engineering, plans and permits and $1,300,000 will be used for construction. The project can be completed in one phase.

Project Purpose
State Route 74 (SR 74) serves as a major transportation route from Hemet/San Jacinto and Southwest Riverside County communities to San Juan Capistrano in Orange County. SR 74 also acts as a major local transportation route that connects the north and south areas of the City of Lake Elsinore and unincorporated areas of Riverside County. Gunnerson Street provides an east-west City connection. This route serves as the most direct and shortest link from Southwest Riverside cities to Orange County.

The current intersection at Gunnerson (continued on back)

Rescue personnel work the two vehicle collision that resulted in the death of a 9-year old girl.

Sudden stops for turning vehicles and cross traffic, combined with poor visibility and single lane travel at highway speeds, make fixing Gunnerson Street and the SR 74 intersection a high priority.
"Purpose" continued
Street and SR 74 sits at a skew angle and lacks specific turning lanes. The existing two lane road with its geometric configuration is under capacity to serve a population of 50,000 residents and traffic of 25,000 vehicles per day. The intersection is stop controlled on the minor street of Gunnerson but the skew angle presents a sight distance deficiency. The intersection experiences mid to high collision rates with one fatality to date. The proposed improvements to the intersection of Gunnerson Street and SR 74 will enhance the overall safety of the intersection as well as improve the general operation of the intersection.

“I would love to see something positive come out of this tragedy to make the intersection safer.”
- Accident Eyewitness

Project Benefits:
Constructing turn lanes, a new traffic signal and related Gunnerson-SR 74 intersection improvements are planned when funding becomes available.

Project Status
This project has multijurisdictional participation from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the City of Lake Elsinore and is on the National Highway System.

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