

## Memorandum

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Tom Baker, Town Administrator  
**Date:** May 5, 2015  
**Re:** Discussion: Walters/CVB Intersection

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this item is to discuss whether or not it is prudent to make changes (right turn only) to this intersection in advance of the roundabout construction. Jeff Simonson will attend the Council meeting.

**Background and Discussion:** Several years ago, as part of the roundabout construction drawings and traffic flow planning, SGM developed traffic-flow plans for this intersection - right turn only at the Walters/CVB intersection to ensure safe traffic flow through the roundabout. A right turn only system at this intersection with a roundabout allowed for traffic to easily and safely reverse course to travel north or into the shopping center without significantly more driving. Additionally, this type of traffic flow was not perceived to be a deterrent to business access in the area.

The Police Department reviewed accident statistics for the past 5-years and reports that eight accidents have occurred at this intersection in that time period.

Staff suggests the following questions be part of Council's discussion.

- One question to answer is, if we implement the right turn only rule at this intersection prior to constructing the roundabout, will we negatively impact existing businesses?
- Another question is, when can we expect the roundabout to be constructed?
- Another question is, have there been safety problems with the existing intersection?

**Preliminary Conclusion:** Making a change of this nature will require the Town to explain why? If we were constructing a roundabout it is an easy explanation given the nature of traffic flow with a roundabout in place. But making this change prior to roundabout construction is more difficult to explain, especially when accidents at this intersection average less than 2/year over the past 5-years.

Staff understands that this is a problem intersection and if Council wishes to proceed with this change, then staff recommends a series of meetings with business owners in the Mall and on Walters Lane.