

## **TIMELINE FOR EFFORT TO IMPROVE CANDELARIA AND RIO GRANDE INTERSECTION**

**August 2006** – Neighbors on Camino de los Artesanos NW meet with Councilor O’Malley and request an intersection evaluation and recommendations for improvements that could calm vehicular traffic and provide a safer street-crossing environment at the Candelaria and Rio Grande intersection.

**October 2006** -- Councilor O’Malley requests funding from the NM Legislature for an intersection evaluation and recommendations for improvements to the intersection.

**March 2007** – Funding for the study is secured by Rep. Sandoval and conveyed to the City.

**March 2008** – Data is collected for the intersection evaluation by PB Americas, the consulting firm hired by the City.

**April 2008** – Public involvement meeting on the intersection study, with consultant presentation and briefing on initial findings, and open forum discussion by neighborhood attendees. Primary concerns identified by the public were

- High travel speeds
- Dangers to pedestrians and bicyclists
- Poor visibility and sight distances
- Queuing on Candelaria by VHS traffic
- Noise
- Frequent collisions

**May 2008** – APD stations speed vans and conducts special enforcement operations to address speeding on Rio Grande Boulevard. Additional enforcement operations take place from time to time afterwards. Record numbers of tickets are issued.

**November 2008** – Public meeting to convey PB Americas’ results of the intersection evaluation and proposed potential improvements.

### Short term improvements

- Reconstruct curb on SE corner to improve vehicle tracking
- Provide speed actuated dynamic message signs along the Boulevard
- Alter signal timing at peak travel hours to give Candelaria more green time
- Restripe pedestrian crosswalks and consider in-pavement flashing lights on them
- Add speed limit signs along the Boulevard where they are sparse
- Police enforcement

### Long term improvements

- Raised medians along approaches to intersection
- Restriping of Candelaria to add bike lanes and better accommodate VHS traffic

- Single lane roundabout
- Single lane roundabout with bypass lanes

**February 2009** – Candelaria restriped and pedestrian crossings restriped.

**April 2009** – Councilor O’Malley reviews new information from DMD that indicates that a single lane roundabout will fit in the intersection, and requests a more detailed study that will indicate whether and where private ROW will have to be acquired.

**September 2009** – Speed actuated dynamic message signs installed on Rio Grande on both North and South approaches to the intersection

**September 2009** – DMD produces preliminary engineering drawings that indicate where ROW will be required and utilities will have to be moved.

**November 2009** – Roundabout at Candelaria and Rio Grande Boulevard is one of 36 New Mexico projects proposed for Federal Safety Project funding.

**April 2010** – City contracts with Dover, Kohl & Partners, Hall Planning & Engineering and Wilson & Company Engineering to assist in gathering public input and documenting a public planning process for improvements to Rio Grande Boulevard.

**April 2010** – Roundabout at Candelaria and Rio Grande Boulevard is the only NM project to receive full Federal Safety Project funding: \$1,150,000.

**July 2010** – A multi-day collaborative public planning process, attended by over 150 stakeholders, results in the following recommendations for improvements to Rio Grande Boulevard:

- Balance the uses to which the street right-of-way is put. Increase the utility of Rio Grande Boulevard to pedestrians and cyclists.
- Remove two motor vehicle travel lanes in the segments of Rio Grande Boulevard where peak hour traffic could be accommodated in fewer lanes in exchange for wider, unimpeded sidewalks, landscaping (shade), and better bike lanes.
- Make the intersections safer by installing roundabouts at Griegos, Candelaria, Mathew and Indian School and Old Town intersections. (Only Candelaria proved to be a feasible location.)

**October 2011** – City contracts with Bohannon-Huston, Inc. to complete the Candelaria and Rio Grande Boulevard roundabout design.

**July 2012** – DMD schedules public meeting to obtain input and opinions of local residents on the proposed intersection improvements.