

## Letter from UDOT about Utah County Blvd Construction Project:

Thank you to all who met with us regarding the raised median at the intersection of 900 E/1000 N and North County Boulevard (SR-129) in American Fork. Each conversation was very productive and provided us with additional information to consider.

Here's what we heard; many of you acknowledged the safety benefits of installing the median while at the same time expressing concern regarding how the raised median would potentially redirect vehicles through your respective properties and neighborhoods. Several suggested extending the median farther to the north and south or installing a traffic signal in lieu of a median. Additional comments focused on kids and youth who cross the road to attend church activities and several of you asked UDOT to consider lowering the speed limit in this area. Others identified a concern with the current back-ups occurring at the intersection of 700 North and North County Boulevard during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up at American Heritage School. At the same time, should the school expand their campus, UDOT will work with the AHS to ensure any access changes or additions meet department and city permitting requirements.

Because of your feedback, UDOT is adjusting the plan to include additional safety features along with the median with the goal to further enhance safety for pedestrians. For example, in January, our traffic engineers re-evaluated the speed limit zones and moved the 40 mph speed limit transition area to the north of the 1100 North intersection **where the road straightens out.**

Regarding the pedestrians crossing the road at the 900 E/1000 N intersection, because the intersection is on a curve it would be better to encourage pedestrians to use the signals to the north and south. Signs will also be placed on 900 East and 1000 North to remind pedestrians to not cross North County Blvd. at that location. At the same time, UDOT will add a second crosswalk on the south side of the intersection with 1100 North. This will require additional work to make sure the crosswalk meets pedestrian design standards.

The purpose of the raised median is to enhance safety by prohibiting left turns coming from 900 East and 1000 North. The median will allow left turns from North County Boulevard into the Autumn Crest neighborhood and 900 East area. UDOT is working with American Fork City to place signs at the 700 North/900 East intersection to direct drivers to use 700 North to make their left turns onto North County Boulevard.

With respect to the request to add traffic signals, UDOT is committed to safety and works diligently to balance safety while also maintaining mobility (keeping people moving) and accessibility (being able to safely access side roads, businesses, neighborhoods, etc.). We take into consideration the location, road type, the surrounding area (including adjacent signals), visibility of travelers and pedestrians, safety and crash data as part of our warrant analyses. At this intersection location, the spacing of the signals are close enough that adding another signal would make it challenging to keep people moving safely and efficiently. For a traffic signal to work in the most efficient manner, it needs to have a sufficient amount of traffic coming from all directions. If there are too few vehicles coming from the side streets, then the signal can actually have a negative effect on mobility and safety. Another challenge at this location is the curve of the road to the north also creates visibility concerns. These are some reasons why the median is a more viable solution.

As this area continues to develop, we recognize further coordination and adjustments may be needed. If you have additional questions, please contact UDOT at 801-227-8000 or via email at [cmanderson@utah.gov](mailto:cmanderson@utah.gov).

#### North County Blvd Intersection Improvements

- North County Blvd (SR129) is a UDOT road.
- UDOT will be constructing improvements at the 1000 N/900 E intersection to improve safety.
- A raised median is proposed that will restrict left turn traffic onto North County Blvd (NCB). Left turns off NCB will still be permitted.
- Construction is planned for 2023.
- Crosswalk will be added to the South side of the intersection at 1100 N.
- The 45 to 40 mph transition that is just south of 1000 N/900 E Intersection will be moved North past 1100 N.
- UDOT's Project page can be found at UDOT's at: [https://www.udot.utah.gov/projectpages/f?p=250:2007:0::NO:2007:P2007\\_EPM\\_PROJ\\_XREF\\_NO,P2007\\_PROJECT\\_TYPE\\_IND\\_FLAG:17060](https://www.udot.utah.gov/projectpages/f?p=250:2007:0::NO:2007:P2007_EPM_PROJ_XREF_NO,P2007_PROJECT_TYPE_IND_FLAG:17060)
- The UDOT project manager is Diego Carroll and can be reached at (801)362-9594 or [diego@monumentengineers.com](mailto:diego@monumentengineers.com)
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