



## **D' Andrea Traffic Safety\***

**MAYOR LAWSON, COUNCIL MEMBERS**

### **OVERVIEW**

We visit Council chambers today to echo mounting traffic safety concerns voiced by D' Andrea residents – specifically speeding – and congestion not only on loop connector arterials Gino Martini, North D' Andrea Parkway and San Marino but also, equally distressing, interior residential feeder streets.

Whether you reside in, visit or traverse D' Andrea, we've all seen the results of careless, negligent or impaired drivers – broken or damaged trees, shrubs, fences, light poles, signs and irrigation equipment costing the City, HOA's and NV Energy literally thousands annually to repair or replace – not to mention resultant insurance premium increases. [See attached photos]\*

D' Andrea paths, walkways, trails streets carry footfalls of our Moss, Mendive and Reed school children, a diverse array of walkers – often with pets in tow – and runners of all ages on a daily basis. Crosswalks provide guidance but even casual observers see the dangerously 'creative shortcuts' children often take. While damaged private, City and HOA assets can be replaced, the price on loss of life is incalculable. Are pedestrians safe from frequently distracted, often angry drivers speeding through our community?

Offered with permission from Alexandria Tuccori-Reiley, third 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Northern Nevadan and D' Andrea resident since 1998, the following excerpts magnify community concerns about the alarming increase in the fury and intensity of speeding:

*“The speeding on Gino Martini is excessive and dangerous . . . [I was] almost hit . . . Once at Gino Martini and Inman and once on Gino Martini while crossing with my dog.”* Speeding drivers often appear distracted and seem to be unaware of *“the 25 mph speed limit”*. Perhaps understandable, Alex offers, since *“the surrounding environment hasn't changed in a long time”*. Adding that speeders or obnoxious delinquents, in her view, may not intentionally break the law, she suggests positioning visible 25 mph signage, solar powered radar speed monitors, speed legends on the street, raised pavement markers – *“all would be helpful without impeding access by emergency vehicles”*. Golf course entryways, cart crossings and

Moss elementary students [at the Primio Way-Gino Martini junction] pose challenges that may, in part, be addressed with 3-way stops.

Have concerns about traffic safety fallen on deaf ears? Absolutely not! In the past, the City has been more than cooperative and instrumental helping D' Andrea resolve traffic and other community concerns. The heightened level of collaboration between the D' Andrea community and the City lies in plain view. Drainage ditches have been remediated with drain tunnel gate openings repaired and secured, pedestrian and driver lines of sight dramatically improved by 'lifting up' trees and removing tall shrubs, over grown foliage trimmed away from City traffic signs – much of this in the last two years as a result of a joint D' Andrea/City on-site property review facilitated by councilman Anderson. City of Sparks Traffic Calming procedures posted on the D' Andrea Community Manager's HOA site facilitated a petition currently in review by the City Traffic Manager. Police assets have addressed speeding on community connectors but police and fire staffing needs are not lost on D' Andrea residents. While constant support from police is unrealistic, D' Andrea appreciates and remains confident that City and HOA synergies will continue.

Speeding threatens lives! Resultant property damage constantly erodes City and HOA resources but equally at issue is the burgeoning expansion of D' Andrea's infrastructure. D' Andrea Ranch Phase 3 approaches completion of nearly five-hundred new homes; the proposed addition of 200 or more new golf course homes proximate to the former Monticello footprint may require two new North D' Andrea Parkway ingress, egress easements. Pending construction of a new drive-through mini-storage facility just west of Amore Drive will generate even more trips increasing the arterial load on D' Andrea's two busiest North D' Andrea roundabouts which channel the northbound San Marino connector west to Baring or east to the Villas at D' Andrea (310 units) or, further east, to planned golf course housing (200+ units) or D' Andrea Ranch Phase III homes.

The 'loop road' and San Marino are primary connectors but D' Andrea also serves increasingly as a 'connector' for 'shortcuts' – South to Prater and Vista via Primio Way/Pete's Way and Northeast from D' Andrea Ranch Phase 3 via Culpepper to South Los Altos and Vista. Utilized not only by residents but also 'pass-through' drivers avoiding am/pm peak Vista traffic, these 'convenient' shortcuts amplify traffic volume, in this instance, 'traveling into and/or through D' Andrea neighborhoods'.

**KEY QUESTION:** Do the traffic analyses projections [Chapter 2, PUD Handbook (D' Andrea/D' Andrea Ranch Phase 3)] completed in 1998 – nearly 23 years ago – still satisfactorily address current-day and future traffic safety requisites given predictable traffic volume increases and infrastructure growth?

**RECOMMENDATION:** We ask that City Council and the City Planning Commission revisit and update the nearly quarter century old traffic analyses to generate a strategic planning model to optimize current and projected traffic volume solutions not only internally for D' Andrea proper but also for peripheral Prater, Whitewood, Vista, Baring arterials and adjacent communities.

**We cannot to the detriment of our residents – our families, our children – ignore the intensifying speeding threat in D’ Andrea. Nor can we forego instructive, long-term planning value that a well-researched updated traffic analysis will bring to D’ Andrea residents and the City of Sparks. We implore Council to join with D’ Andrea in bringing that objective to fruition.**

**On behalf of all D’ Andrea residents – two HOAs, one D’ Andrea community!**

**Thank you for your attention to this matter!**

**George Emery, President  
D’ Andrea Community Association**

**Corie Quillinan, President  
D’ Andrea Ranch Phase III**

**\*03.08.2021/GEE: D’ Andrea Traffic Safety OVERVIEW, Sparks City Council**