

Mitigate this...

I have a suggestion for Ponte Vista's new facilitator, Jim Oswald: Hold your meetings with stakeholders at the Ponte Vista offices at Western Avenue and John Montgomery Drive at, say, about 7:30 any weekday morning.

The new Mary Star High School, as expected, has created morning traffic problems, and not just those at Westmont Avenue. Drivers bringing their kids to school from out of town, heading south on Western, have forced Green Hills Memorial Park to take drastic action. Because of the backup at the signal to make the left turn from Western into Ponte Vista – the only access to Mary Star High – some drivers were turning right into the cemetery then flipping a quick U-turn to catch the light going across the street. After several near accidents, the cemetery was forced to close the exit gate there and set up a line of orange traffic cones to discourage such maneuvering. It's a nightmare WITHOUT any new housing, and it will take more than green turn signals to make this problem go away.

After a few mornings observing this circus, maybe even I have no agenda Oswald will understand why some stakeholders want to drive that stake into the heart of this project and kill it once and for all.

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