



TRANSPORTATION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ponderosa Parkway Completion and Connection

Completion: Ponderosa Parkway currently ends at two driveways that enter San Francisco de Asis Catholic Church. In order to develop the properties north of Route 66 and south of the Catholic Church, the City will need to complete this connection because of requirements for secondary access. The City has an easement that allows for the completion of Ponderosa Parkway. Some of the developments, which may trigger construction of the road are under review. The properties along the south end of Ponderosa Parkway are a prime location for housing that fills a gap between East and West Flagstaff and has the potential to provide affordable housing.

Connection: Flagstaff has long considered a connection between Route 66 and Cedar Ave./Forest Ave. The connectivity and access provided by this route was analyzed in the Flagstaff Regional Plan 2030's consideration of development scenarios. On the Regional Plan's Road Network Illustration, the major plan amendment proposes to remove a "Future Access" route that would have connected Gemini and Route 66 via a new alignment of Ponderosa Parkway. The removal of this road from the Regional Plan is being analyzed because Proposition 413: Initiative for the Greater Buffalo Park states that this road can only be constructed if deemed necessary for the new Veterans' Home.



<p>Scenario 1 Ponderosa Parkway is completed without a Connection to Gemini Dr.</p>	<p>According to the 2040 growth projections, traffic on Pine Cliff is estimated to increase by 150% compared to today's traffic.</p>
<p>Scenario 2 Ponderosa Parkway Completion and Connection to Gemini Dr. built</p>	<p>According to the 2040 growth projections, traffic on Pine Cliff would increase by less than 12% compared to today's traffic.</p>

The photo to the left is the northwest driveway into San Francisco de Asis. The Ponderosa Parkway extension would travel through the meadow in the background.

Police, Fire, and Emergency Services

The removal of the Ponderosa Parkway Connection from the Road Network Illustration will have a negative impact on fire, police, and emergency medical services response times for several neighborhoods, including Switzer Mesa, the north end of Sunnyside, Shadow Mountain, and North of Hospital neighborhoods. Fire Station #2 is located on Ponderosa Parkway below the edge of the mesa and the Guardian Medical Service's new facility is located on Gemini Dr. Without the Connection of Ponderosa Parkway and Gemini, engines and ambulances will have a more circuitous route that will pass through numerous residential areas. This will add several minutes to response times, even after the connection between Pine Cliff and Ponderosa Parkway is completed. It will also eliminate an alternative route in case of traffic jams that impede the travel of emergency vehicles, and increase noise on occasion in the Switzer Mesa neighborhoods.

