

City of Grand Junction Public Works Department 250 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street Grand Junction, CO 81501-2668 Phone: (970) 244-1555

FAX: (970) 256-4022

April 11, 2003

Mr. John Kornfeld Rhino Engineering, Inc. 1334 Ute Avenue Grand Junction, CO 81501

RE: TEDS Exception No. 10-03, to Exceed Maximum Grades Through Local Street

Intersections

Dear John;

Please find attached the committee's decision on the above request. You may use this decision to proceed through the development review process.

If you have any question concerning this decision, please feel free to contact the Development Engineer in charge of your project or me at (970) 256-4047.

Sincerely,

Michael G. McDill, P.E.

City Engineer

C: Laura Lamberty, Development Engineer (256-4155)
Pat Cecil, Development Services Supervisor

\DE#10-03 255Linden04-11



City of Grand Junction Public Works Department 250 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street Grand Junction, CO 81501-2668 Phone: (970) 244-1555

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# **DESIGN EXCEPTION #DE10-03**

To:

Mark Relph, Director of Public Works & Utilities

Thru:

Tim Moore, Public Works Manager

Copy to:

Laura Lamberty, Development E.I.T.

Pat Cecil, Development services Supervisor

From:

Mike McDill, City Engineer

Date:

January 21, 2003

RE:

Request to Exceed Maximum Grades Through Local Street Intersection

# **DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION**

Applicant is planning a 53-lot subdivision at the above location. The topography of the property (approximately thirty feet of fall from south to north) creates some challenges for providing moderate street grades. This problem is especially noticeable at intersections.

Section 5.2.4, *Intersection Grades*, states, "...the maximum allowable grade in the intersection is 4% and extends a minimum of 50 feet in each direction from the outside edge of the traveled way of the intersecting street." It also states, "Grades above 4% will only be allowed on local and collector streets in areas with steep topography or other unusual circumstances that prevent a flatter grade, and must be documented as a design exception."

The applicant requests exception from Section 5.2.4., *Intersection Grades*.

# **EXCEPTION CONSIDERATIONS**

# 1. Will the exception compromise safety?

The proposed grades are only slightly more than 4%. The difference will probably not be perceived by drivers. Although these are north facing slopes, the difference should not cause any appreciable amount of extra icing. Both of the approaches are very short (only the culde-sac from the south and a short block to the north) so speeds should always by quite slow. I do not foresee any safety compromise.

# 2. Have other alternatives been considered that would meet the standard?

The applicant considered other grading arrangements that met the design criteria, but generated more extreme cuts below the Orchard Mesa Irrigation Ditch. These cuts below the ditch have a higher probability of causing uncontrollable groundwater problems.

The grades through this intersection could be reduced to a value closer to 4% by increasing the slope away from B1/2 Road. However, it is a better engineering solution to keep the grades at this busier intersection, which will probably have a stop condition, flatter.

# 3. Has the proposed design been used in other areas?

There are other areas of the City, particularly in the Redlands and around 28 ¼ Road that have steeper slopes through local street intersections.

4. Will the exception require CDOT or FHWA coordination? No.

# 5. Is this a one-time exception or a manual revision?

This would be a one-time exception.

# **Staff Recommendation**

I recommend approval of the requested Design Exceptions to Section 5.2.4 to allow steeper than 4% grades, not to exceed 5.52%, through the intersection of Kip Lane and Sheene Road.

Recommended by: Mulling & May
Approved as Requested:
Denied:
Halt Slavehard

# MEMORANDIIM



Date:

March 21, 2003

To:

Bob Blanchard, Community Development

Rick Beaty, Fire Department

From:

Sandi Nimon, Sr. Administrative Assistant

Subj:

DE10-03- Request to Exceed Maximum Grades

Through Local Street Intersection.

Please E-mail your comments to Mark Relph and

copy me no later than Tuesday, March 25, 2003. I

would appreciate it!

Sn

Re-sent 4-9-03
Ruy Mits Me Will
Please reliver comments
luy April 14.

NTEDS EXCEPTION memorandum DE10-03.doc



# TEDS EXCEPTION For KIP LANE and KIP COURT at SHEENE ROAD LOCAL STREET INTERSECTION GRADES of CIMARRON MESA SUBDIVISION FILING ONE 255 LINDEN AVENUE

# Introduction

Cimarron Mesa Subdivision lies along Linden Avenue, near the southern limits of Orchard Mesa. The natural ground slopes, at the area in question, 4 to 10 percent. Therefore, the natural slopes for this parcel are greater than the average slopes common to areas within the City of Grand Junction.

This site has historically been more difficult site for development due to the existing sewer manhole that it being tied to. About 5 feet of fill is required near the northwest corner of Filing One to gain sufficient cover over the sanitary sewer.

# Proposed Exception

The longitudinal slope of Kip Lane as it approaches Sheene Road is 5.52%. Across the intersection to Kip Court, the longitudinal slope decreases to 4.15%. See attached drawing.

According to TEDS Chapter 5, 5.2.4, at unsignalized intersections, the maximum allowable grade in the intersections is 4% and extends a minimum of 50 feet in each direction from the outside edge of the traveled way of the intersecting street... Grades above 4% will only be allowed on local and collector streets in areas with steep topography or other unusual circumstances that prevent a flatter grade, and must be documented as a design exception.

### Alternatives Considered

An alternative to reduce the street grades increases the amount of cut near the Orchard Mesa Canal for Sheene Road. The first submittal included a design that entailed about 5 feet of cut on the "downhill side" of the canal. This submittal now maximizes a cut of 2 feet along Sheene Road. The first submittal was not favored by Community Development.

Another alternative would be to increase the street grade closer to B½ Road. Although this street design may decrease the slope on Kip Lane, it would not change the greater than 4% on Kip Court. This would increase the algebraic difference between the street grades of Kip Lane and

# CIMARRON MESA FILING ONE

FILE: #VE-2002-205(2)

Kip Court across the intersection. In addition, this alternative would create a steeper downhill intersection (northerly aspect) into B½ Road and approach 4 percent.

# **Proposed Design**

Based upon the current site plan and the lack of a better alternative for overall street grades, the current site plan is the proposed design. The proposed design includes slopes slightly in excess of 4 percent.

# Impact of Design

The proposed design allows for safer traffic movements at the Kip Lane/Sheene Road intersection than to create a greater algebraic difference across the intersection. This, in turn, would create a less dangerous intersection than meeting TEDS requirements and creating larger cuts near the canal.









