

# What to do about Rio traffic tangle?

By BOB SMITH

Traffic problems continue to nag Rio del Mar leaders but there are no plans to improve the situation on Clubhouse, Rio del Mar and Sumner drives immediately.

The Rio del Mar Improvement Association directors met Monday afternoon with Second District Supervisor Robley Levy to discuss the area's traffic problems.

Association president Bob Curtiss noted there had been some improvements made recently on Rio del Mar streets, "but there is general agreement that we still have

traffic problems in Rio del Mar.

The principal troublespots, Curtiss said, are the Rio del Mar Boulevard bridge over the railroad tracks near Sumner Avenue, and the Rio del Mar-Clubhouse Drive intersection near Deer Park shopping center.

But residents also worry about traffic on Clubhouse Drive and Sumner Avenue, with Clubhouse Drive residents suggesting traffic be diverted onto Sumner Avenue and those living on Sumner advocating the through traffic in their neighborhood be routed onto Clubhouse Drive.

Rio del Mar resident Bob Nunes has undertaken a signature collecting campaign, urging the county to add pedestrian walkways to the narrow bridge over the railroad tracks on Rio del Mar Boulevard. So far, he's collected 41 signatures. He told directors he hopes to gather 200 or more.

Curtiss told the other directors Monday afternoon that response to the Association's newsletter questionnaire on the community's desire for street lights and stop signs along Clubhouse Drive and Rio del Mar Boulevard "has been rather meager."

He added:

"I think the biggest problem is speed. The traffic count on Clubhouse is not that heavy, but they tend to speed."

Speed bumps on public streets are not possible because they are banned by the state highway code, he added.

And one woman's suggestion that traffic be blocked on Clubhouse at Sumner was ruled out by Mrs. Levy.

Mrs. Levy said speeding is not only a problem on Rio del Mar Boulevard, "but throughout the Second District."

She promised to contact

California Highway Patrol Capt. Don Anderson again and request additional traffic officers be assigned, as possible, to the Rio del Mar area.

"He is very responsive," Mrs. Levy said.

She said she'll try to get additional signs on Rio del Mar Boulevard, warning motorists that pedestrians also use the roadway, contact the county Public Works Department to see if the roadway on either side of the railroad overcrossing can be widened to make a safer walkway for pedestrians there, and continue to study the other problems.