

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor Jones and Members of the Board

FROM: Karen Proctor, Town Administrator

DATE: July 21, 2022

RE: Centennial Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses Request

## **DISCUSSION:**

At the Board's request, Deputy Clerk Gallivan contacted the Centennial Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses to request that they possibly change one of their current meeting start times from 7:00 P.M. to 7:15 P.M. so that the gates being down would not be an issue for those entering Town to attend the meeting. In response, the Town received the attached letter requesting that instead, the Town change the hours the gates go up to 6:30 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings OR provide each of their congregants RFID tags.

To assist with this discussion, Trustee Farreau put together the worksheet in Exhibit B with data obtained from the gate cameras. This data shows that in the six days that data was collected there was a total of eight turnarounds at each gate totaling 16 turnarounds. If we had already changed the time that the gates go up to 6:30pm then those 16 cars would have cut through Town.

## **ATTACHMENT:**

Exhibit A - Letter from the Centennial Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses Exhibit B - Gate Data Spreadsheet

## CENTENNIAL CONGREGATION of Jehovah's Witnesses

16300 E Costilla Avenue • Foxfield, CO 80016

Randi Gallivan
Acting Town Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Foxfield Colorado

June 10, 2022

Dear Mrs. Gallivan,

We are in receipt of your May 16th request for the congregation to change meeting times to accommodate traffic gate closures.

We are very much aware of the traffic concerns the community has and the dangers presented by 'cut through' traffic and we fully understand why the gates were installed. In fact, we have no objections to the gates presence, and feel they will definitely benefit the entirety of the community.

As a property owner with inherent rights equal to all the other property owners in Foxfield we desire to be a part of issues affecting the community, including determining such things as when the gates will be opened and closed. However, that was not the case in this instance, and that time is past.

As requested, we have spent considerable time consulting with representatives of all the congregants that depend on our Kingdom Hall as a place of worship to discuss adjusting the meeting times. After reviewing the matter, we have determined that we are unable to accommodate your request at this time.

Foxfield is noted for being a family-oriented community. Therefore, we are sure you can understand the adverse impact moving our meetings later into the evenings would have on our many school children and many seniors that regularly attend. Other factors also influence our decision to stay constant with our present evening meeting times.

Please consider that the traffic the congregations bring into the Foxfield community to reach the Kingdom Hall has not changed since 2009. Therefore, we conclude our congregants were not the reason gates were installed. By closing the gates until 7PM, we are in affect being punished for a situation we did not create. An unintended consequence of forcing our congregants to enter Foxfield via alternate routes creates another unpleasant concern for our neighbors in Foxfield.

Rerouting our congregants to enter off Arapahoe not only results in a longer drive time, but importantly to Foxfield, it means we are travelling much longer distances on Foxfield's community roads and traveling going past many more of our neighbor's homes than if we were able to use the Fremont entrance as we have done for years now.

We therefore propose a solution that is better for the community and ourselves:

- If on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings the gates opened at 6:30PM instead of 7PM, our congregants would have no conflict, and many would be able to continue to use the shortest route to our Kingdom Hall. We note that the traffic study used to present the gate solution to the traffic problem stated on page 13 that the "Gates {would be} lowered only during rush hours..." On page 15 of the same study Rush Hour was defined as 3-6PM. So, at 6:30, 'cut through' traffic should no longer be a concern. This will likely enable you to accommodate our here proposed solution.
- Alternately, providing our congregants with the same RF controllers that all other property owners in Foxfield have, would mean that the gate times of operation could remain unchanged. Either solution is acceptable to us.

We understand the community concerns and want to be accommodating where possible. For example, we also have regularly scheduled short meetings most mid-week mornings. There is some conflict with gate closures at present, but it is minimal. At that time of day, and if needed, we would be able to adjust these meeting times to accommodate the current gate closure times.

We hope you find one of our proposed solutions acceptable and understand the reason we are unable to accommodate your request that we change our evening meeting times.

We look forward to hearing back from you in the very near future.

David Ingram

for Centennial Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

David Angram

Sheet1 Exhibit B

Richfield	Turnarounds	<b>Entering With Tag</b>	Exiting With Tag
Wednesday 6/22/22 6:00-6:30	2	9	6
Wednesday 6/22/22 6:30-7:00	1	2	2
Thursday 6/23/22 6:00-6:30	2	8	4
Thursday 6/23/22 6:30-7:00	2	3	2
Wednesday 6/29/22 6:00-6:30	3	2	3
Wednesday 6/29/22 6:30-7:00	3	1	4
Thursday 6/30/22 6:00-6;30	2	2	1
Thursday 6/30/22 6:30-7:00	1	6	4
Friday 7/01/22 6:00-6:30	3	5	3
Friday 7/01/22 6:30-7:00	1	7	2
Tuesday 7/05/22 6:00-6:30	1	3	1
Tuesdy 7/05/22 6:30-7:00	0	5	3
Fremont			
Wednesday 6/22/22 6:00-6:30	1	13 between 6-7pm	?????
Wednesday 6/22/22 6:30-7:00	3	?????	?????
Thursday 6/23/22 6:00-6:30	2	12 between 6-7pm	6 between 6-7pm
Thursday 6/23/22 6:30-7:00	1	?????	?????
Thursday 6/30/22 6:00-6;30	1	10	4
Thursday 6/30/22 6:30-7:00	0	3	6
Friday 7/01/22 6:00-630	0	6	5
Friday 7/01/22 6:30-7:00	3	8	7
Tuesday 7/05/22 6:00-6:30	1	8	7
Tuesday 7/05/22 6:30-7:00	1	3	2

Note: turnaround numbers only include vehicles turning around in turnaround areas at gates. Count does not include vehicles turning around at stop sign at Richfield and Hinsdale or at Fremont and Easter.