

## Paul Foley

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**From:** Susanna J. Sturgis [sjs2@gis.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 4:28 PM  
**To:** foley@mvcommission.org  
**Subject:** Public Hearing about the Roundabout

I plan to attend the public hearing tonight but wanted to set a few thoughts down for the written record.

I believe very strongly that the roundabout project should have been considered as a DRI as soon as it was conceived. I stand 100% behind the West Tisbury selectmen -- I live and vote in West Tisbury myself -- for making the necessary referral earlier this year.

The project seems to have proceeded directly to solving a problem without first ascertaining that the problem exists. Is there a problem with the four-way stop? If so, what does it look like? Is it a matter of accidents, or is it that some people don't like waiting in traffic for 10 or 15 minutes? Is it year-round or seasonal? Is it worse at some times of the day than others?

Not until the problem has been defined can we come up with the best solution -- one that addresses the problem with the least disruption to the landscape, our lives, and our pocketbooks. I don't understand why so little consideration has been given to a traditional red-yellow-green traffic signal that could be fully functional during peak months of the year and/or peak hours of the day, then revert to blinking the rest of the time.

I know few people who support this project, and those who do like to tell me that the four-way stop is "a terrible accident waiting to happen" or words to that effect. As arguments go, this is ridiculous.

The same could be said of quite a few island intersections, not to mention some parking lots I'm in and out of several times a week. Let's get real. The roundabout project clearly meets section 3.701(b) of the MVC's administrative checklist for a DRI. It's long past time for it to be reviewed as such.

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New blog! "From the Seasonally Occupied Territories"  
<http://squattersspeakeasy.com>

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