

Incident Report

PIMA Sheriff Report: Sun 5-28-2022

PIMA Sheriff was called and came to the scene.

CASE #220529112

Deputy Palmer

DATE OF ACCIDENT: Thurs night 5-26-22 or early morn Fri 5-27-22

Reported Sun 5-28-22 by: Monica Alponete and Brian

Homeowner who lives at the scene (8918 Joanna) named Parker Lane also spoke to Sheriff and safely cleared damaged branches from parking lot.

First Discovered: 5am Friday morn 5-27-22 by homeowner Parker Lane, who left for work 5am and who lives at the location (8918 Joanna). *He thought it was landscapers who had been working on removing a tree, he didn't know it was caused by an accident and that is why he didn't report it.*



DETAILS:

Late Thurs night or early Friday morning a vehicle lost control and came up the curb on Joanna from Camino de Oeste. Fortunately and miraculously it just missed the electric transformer box and also missed hitting into the home at 8918 Joanna by **hitting into a tree instead**. The Sweet Acacia tree in our common area just in front of the electric transformer box was destroyed and completely uprooted. Driver freed his vehicle from the wreckage and left without reporting the accident to the Sheriff.

A good portion of the tree was embedded into the vehicle and multiple branches had to be removed to free the vehicle. Sheriff noticed one branch had been cut out (branch with fresh clean saw cut at the location among the other branches that were torn out of the vehicle and left in a pile at the location).

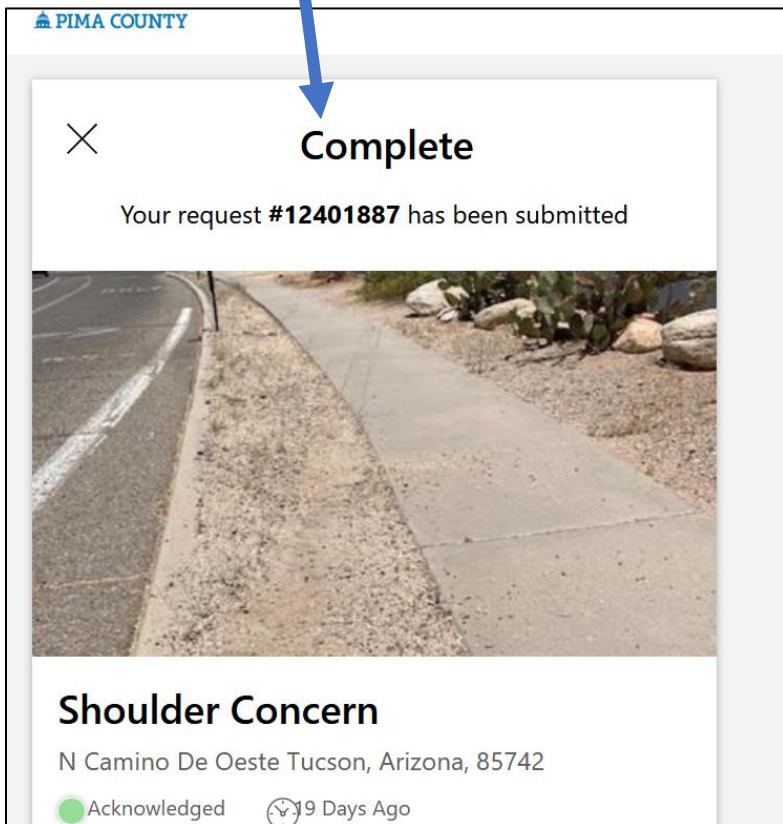
Vehicle also hit oil pan leaving oil on the ground and a car part left at the scene appears to be part of the vehicle's grill. We tried looking up the part from the numbers on the sticker of the part left at the scene to determine what kind of car it came off of, but all we could determine was the part is European (date format MDY)

- No witnesses at scene, driver didn't report accident
- **Sheriff recommends placing more large boulders at the scene**, at least 10 to fill the empty spots because this area is prone to accidents and now there's nothing preventing a car from crashing into electrical transformer.
- **Homeowner also requests more large boulders to be replaced** along Camino de Oeste acting as a barrier to protect his home.
- **I will call PIONEER LANDSCAPE (520-744-8700) on Tuesday.** This is where we got our boulders before. There's a 15 foot space unprotected where there are no longer a boulder barrier and now without the tree nothing is protecting the electric transformer nor the house from oncoming out of control vehicle.
- *NOTE: Prior to this current board, years ago after the first 2 accidents hit into the home at 8918 Joanna we installed large boulders as a barrier to prevent this. Unfortunately, through the years boulders were removed and relocated to the end of Doria to prevent people from entering and exiting over the curb and never replaced the boulders taken from the blind curve at Joanna where 4 prior accidents have occurred. Thank God the tree was there.*
- Sheriff took the report, said to get more boulders, if we hear anything more about the driver to call them but at this point nothing they can do but recommend we protect that area asap with a boulder barrier.
- Landscapers will clean the debris and haul away at their next scheduled maintenance day this week.

PIMA REPORT (direct link here):

<http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=456811>.

Pima's Response "Complete"



Reported at N Camino De Oeste Tucson, Arizona, 85742.

This request's status is Acknowledged, 19 days ago

[Pima County](#)

5/30/2022

Verified Official

Thank you for submitting this request, it has been received as #22018667. We will provide you with status updates, as soon as possible. For expected maintenance response times by request category, please visit

<http://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=456811>.

MY REPORT: POSTED 5-29-2022

We are a homeowner association (Countryside Villas HOA), we request assessment for best way to prevent serious accident and injury resulting from accidents from vehicles jumping curb at a blind curve (along Camino de Oeste and N Joanna Dr) and either crashing into electric transformer box or crashing into house or crashing into people or cars in parking lot.

Possibly a boulder barrier or a guard rail or ?

There have been 5 such accidents at this exact location thus far. The most recent accident 5-27-2022 vehicle almost crashed into large electric transformer and had tree not been there in its direct path to stop the vehicle it would've crashed at high speed into the electric transformer (see photo showing green metal electric transformer box). Two other accidents at this same location both vehicles crashed into the house at 8918 N Joanna Dr (house shown in this photo). One such option is placing large boulders as a barrier; the other is a guard rail. We would like to meet with you to discuss our options. A few years ago after a vehicle jumped the curb it crashed into the home (seen here in the photo 8918 N Joanna Dr) causing a lot of damage. As a result PIMA did install an additional chevron sign at the location. Although these chevron signs posted along this blind curve help prevent accidents, they are not enough. Last year a vehicle crashed into the chevron sign which PIMA repaired. Law enforcement suggested using a boulder barrier but we are unsure of the liabilities and laws for this. A guardrail would be another solution or another viable recommendation from PIMA.



Green metal electric transformer box (note destroyed tree directly in path of electric transformer box) completely uprooted. Had tree not been there to stop vehicle, vehicle would've crashed into electric transformer box.

House at 8918 N Joanna Dr has been crashed into on 2 previous occasions causing serious property damage and one of the homeowners to move out.





Tire tracks on sidewalk of most recent accident caused by vehicle losing control jumping curb, coming up sidewalk, and hit tree directly in path of green electric transformer box.

One suggestion is to create a boulder barrier to stop vehicles from coming up onto property either crashing into electric transformer box, or a

house, or people and vehicles in the parking lot at 8918 N Joanna Dr along Camino de Oeste. Unfortunately, there is no boulder border for about 15 feet at this location. We await PIMA recommendation and assessment whether or not adding boulders to the remaining 15 feet would be the best solution. Or if this BLIND CURVE needs a guard rail. Five accidents in 8 years is too much.



CLOSEUP of where the tree that stopped car from crashing into electric transformer was completely ripped up by its roots. (it's branches had to be removed by saw from the vehicle and are in a pile to the side not shown in this photo).

Tree that stopped the vehicle from crashing into the electric transformer box at high speed. Was a 30-year old Sweet Acacia tree with a pretty thick trunk. Had this tree not been there the vehicle would've hit the transformer.

BEFORE

AFTER



from its root
from crashing into electrical transformer at high speed along Camino de Oeste 5-27-22.
Piles of branches (yellow arrow).

(R) Removed stump, filled in hole, put rocks on top, and hauled away debris and branches.

BEFORE



AFTER



What could happen if a vehicle crashed into an electric transformer box?

"Assume the collision was hard enough there would be an outage. However, if the collision did not cause an outage there could be a fire. The worst possible option is that an outage doesn't occur, but the vehicle (and ground) are energized, and danger is amplified for individuals who improperly exit the vehicle or others who approach the scene.

"Another dangerous outcome could include a vehicle hitting a transformer or underground enclosure hard enough to dislocate it, exposing energized conductors or creating an area/hole to fall into that could be energized. This scenario especially applies to first responders or those who stop to help but could apply to anyone at the scene."