FEHR & PEERS
TRANSPORTATION CONSULTANTS

# MEMORANDUM

Date: November 26, 2008

To: Christopher Jordan, PMC
Matt Boyer, Dokken Engineering

From: Aaron Hoyt, Fehr & Peers

***Subject: Review of Conceptual Alignments for the Western Ione Roadway***

*RS08-2592*

Fehr & Peers has completed a review of the conceptual alignments for the Western Ione Roadway with respect to the General Plan Circulation Element and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analysis. We understand that the Western Ione Roadway Improvement Study (WIRIS) is intended to relieve peak hour congestion and provide an alternative route for heavy vehicles passing through downtown Ione on State Route 104 (SR 104).

Our analysis for the Circulation Element and EIR will reflect the preferred alignments and phasing as recommended by the Ione City Council. We will use the Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) travel demand forecasting (TDF) model as a tool to estimate future roadway traffic volumes and roadway sizing. The TDF model is capable of estimating changes in travel patterns resulting from new roadways connections or parallel routes such as the Western Ione Roadway. The TDF model assigns traffic to the local roadway network through an iterative process that considers the buildup of congestion during the day and travel time. Therefore, the design speed and segment length heavily influence the route assignment of vehicles in the TDF model.

The TDF model is less sensitive to small changes in the roadway alignment. For example, the resulting traffic forecasts along segment "G" would be similar between all alignment alternatives (i.e., G-2A, G-2B, G-3, and G-4) assuming the same land use and local circulation network connections. Minor changes in land use or local circulation network connections can have a significant effect on future traffic volumes. Additionally, the TDF model is not capable of estimating a shift in heavy vehicle traffic resulting from the Western Ione Roadway. The WIRIS will address this question separately from the General Plan update, but can be used to assist in the Circulation Element policies.

We hope you find this information helpful.

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