### George W. Nickelson, P.E.

Traffic Engineering - Transportation Planning

April 22, 2009

Mr. Rick Marshall
Principal Transportation Engineer
Napa County Public Works Department
1195 Third Street
Napa, CA 94559

Subject:

Focused Traffic Study for a Proposed Suscol Creek Winery on Soscol Ferry Road

in Napa County

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This letter report summarizes a focused traffic study for a proposed Suscol Creek Winery on Soscol Ferry Road in Napa County. This study has identified the existing traffic conditions, calculated the added traffic due to the proposed winery and evaluated the effects of that traffic.

#### 1. Existing Traffic Conditions

Soscol Ferry Road is a two-lane road in the area of the winery site. At the winery site Soscol Ferry Road does not have a left turn lane. Based on Napa County records, Soscol Ferry Road has a daily traffic volume of 2,995 vehicles. (1) The posted speed limit on Soscol Ferry Road is 40 mph.

#### 2. Traffic Effects of the Proposed Winery

#### a. Project Description

The proposed project would involve a winery shared by various vintners with a total annual production of 600,000 gallons. It is expected that during both a typical weekday and a typical Saturday, about 15 persons would visit the winery (by appointment only). The winery's employment is expected to include 25 persons on a weekday and 15 persons on a Saturday. Table 1 outlines the winery's expected daily traffic generation on a typical weekday (67 daily trips), a typical Saturday (48 daily trips) and a day during the harvest season (84 daily trips).

The project would have two driveways on Soscol Ferry Road. The driveways would provide access for the various site users (employees, visitors, and trucks). The westerly driveway would be expected to serve most of the visitor and employee traffic. The easterly driveway would primarily serve truck traffic.

#### b. Site Access Design Issues

The primary traffic design issue would be the need for a left-turn lane at either of the site driveways. Standards for left-turn lanes relate to the left-turn volume conflicting with the volume of opposing

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through traffic. Napa County has adopted a warrant methodology based on daily traffic volumes on the highway and daily traffic volumes on the access road or driveway. (3) As noted in this report the daily volume on Soscol Ferry Road is 2,995 vehicles. If the daily visitor and employee traffic primarily uses the westerly driveway, that driveway would carry about 55-60 weekday vehicles, about 35-40 Saturday vehicles and about 55-60 vehicles during a harvest season day.

Napa County standards for left-turn lanes indicate that the volume on Soscol Ferry Road and the daily volumes in/out of the westerly driveway would exceed the levels at which a left-turn lane would be warranted (left turn lane graph is attached). Volumes at the easterly driveway would be well below the minimum threshold for a left turn lane.

#### 3. Napa Airport Industrial Area (NAIA) Traffic Fees

Development projects within the NAIA pay a traffic impact fee based on a calculation of the development's PM peak hour trip generation. The most recent guidelines for calculating the PM peak hour trips indicate that for developments in the GI (General Industrial) zoning category, the trip generation shall be calculated as per the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) "General Light Industrial" land use category. Using this trip rate, the project would have a calculated 68 PM peak hour trips (70,000 sq.ft. building area @ 0.97 trips/1,000 sq.ft.). (5)

As noted in this report, the detailed calculations of this project's traffic identified 67 daily trips on a weekday. Clearly, the above calculation of 68 PM peak hour trips provides an extremely conservative estimate of the project's contribution to weekday commute traffic. Even if it were conservatively assumed that peak hour trips were 25% of the daily total, the project would only generate about 17 PM peak hour trips (67 daily trips x 25%).

#### 4. Summary and Conclusions

As outlined in the report, the combination of volumes on Soscol Ferry Road and volumes in/out of the westerly project driveway would exceed the level at which a left turn lane would be warranted. Volumes at the easterly driveway would be well below Napa County thresholds for installation of a left-turn lane.

The paved width of Soscol ferry Road is 45 feet adjacent to the project site. This width would allow a restriping to accommodate a separate left turn lane (see attached plan). Based on Caltrans design standards (sufficient storage for a two-minute volume of left turns), only one vehicle would be expected to queue at any given time. (6) However, Caltrans recommends a minimum 50 foot left-turn storage lane, and a left turn lane design with that storage length could be provided at the westerly driveway.

With regard to the project trip calculation for NAIA traffic impact fee purposes, it is our conclusion that the unique nature of this project would result in trip generation well below the levels that would

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be associated with a typical General Light Industrial development. In this regard, the project applicant will provide documentation that will support this project's characteristics relative to trip generation.

I trust that this study responds to the needs of Napa County. Please let me know if there are any questions or if further input is required.

Sincerely,

George W. Nickelson, P.E.

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#### References:

- (1) Napa County Department of Public Works, traffic counts on Soscol Ferry Road conducted 2004.
- (2) Project information provided by Mr. Mark Phillips, Dickenson, Peatman & Fogarty, April 9, 2009.
- (3) Napa County Department of Public Works, *Adopted Road & Street Standards*, Revised August 31, 2004.
- (4) Napa County, Policy on Calculation of Trips Generated By Developments Subject to Traffic Mitigation Fee, adopted by Board of Supervisors September 9, 2008.
- (5) ITE, Trip Generation  $8^{th}$  Edition, 2008.
- (6) Caltrans, Guidelines for Reconstruction of Intersections, August 1985.

# TABLE 1 DAILY TRIP GENERATION FOR THE PROPOSED SUSCOL CREEK WINERY ON SOSCOL FERRY ROAD

#### Daily Traffic During a Typical Weekday:

•	15 visitors/2.6 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	=	12 daily trips
•	25 employees/1:1 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	=	45 daily trips
6	5 trucks x 2 one-way trips per truck <sup>(1)</sup>	=	10 daily trips
			67 daily trips

#### Daily Traffic During a Typical Saturday:

•	15 visitors/2.8 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	<del></del>	11 daily trips
•	15 employees/1.1 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	=	27 daily trips
•	5 trucks x 2 one-way trips per truck <sup>(1)</sup>	=	10 daily trips
			48 daily trips

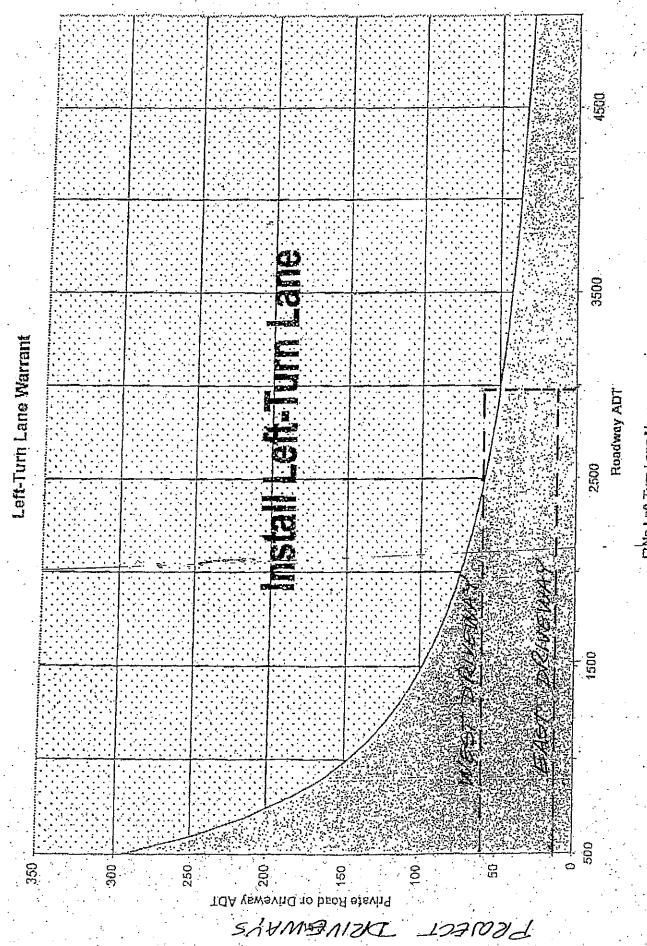
#### Daily Traffic During Harvest Season (6 weeks):

•	15 visitors/2.8 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	=	11 daily trips
	25 employees/1.1 per vehicle x 2 one-way trips	<u></u>	45 daily trips
•	14 trucks x 2 one-way trips per truck <sup>(2)</sup>	= _	28 daily trips
			84 daily trips

- (1) During the 46-week non-harvest season, a maximum of one daily truck would be generated related to routine deliveries associated with the winery production (600,000 gallons/2.38 gallons per case = 252,100 cases).
  - 252,100 cases/2,310 cases per truck = 109 glass delivery trucks
     252,100 cases/1,232 cases per truck = 205 wine shipment trucks
     25 miscellaneous weekly deliveries = 1,150 miscellaneous trucks
     1,464 annual trucks

1,464 trucks/46 weeks = 32 weekly trucks or 4-5 trucks per day.

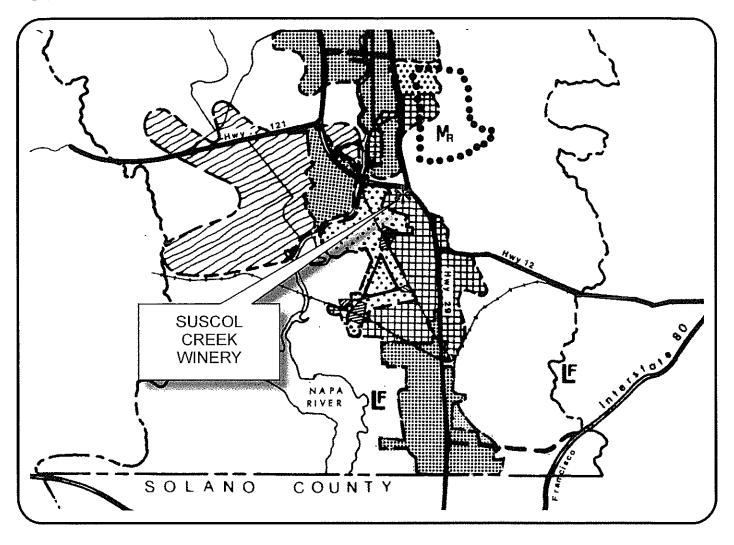
- (2) During the 6-week harvest season, 8-9 added daily grape delivery trucks would be generated, calculated as follows:
  - 3,636 tons of imported grapes/10 tons per truck/6 weeks = 61 trucks/week or 8-9 added trucks per day; and pick up of empty bins = 8-9 added truck per day.



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SOSCOL FERRY RUAD

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### NAPA COUNTY LAND USE PLAN 1998 - 2000



### **LEGEND**

## LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY MAJOR ROAD

- SECONDARY ROAD

RAILROAD

**TRANSPORTATION** 

F LANDFILL SITE

**AIRPORT** 

OPEN SPACE

AGRICULTURE, WATERSHED & OPEN SPACE

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE

APN 057-170-018 01-25-2006 3C UP

#### **URBAN**

CITIES

URBAN RESIDENTIAL

RURAL RESIDENTIAL

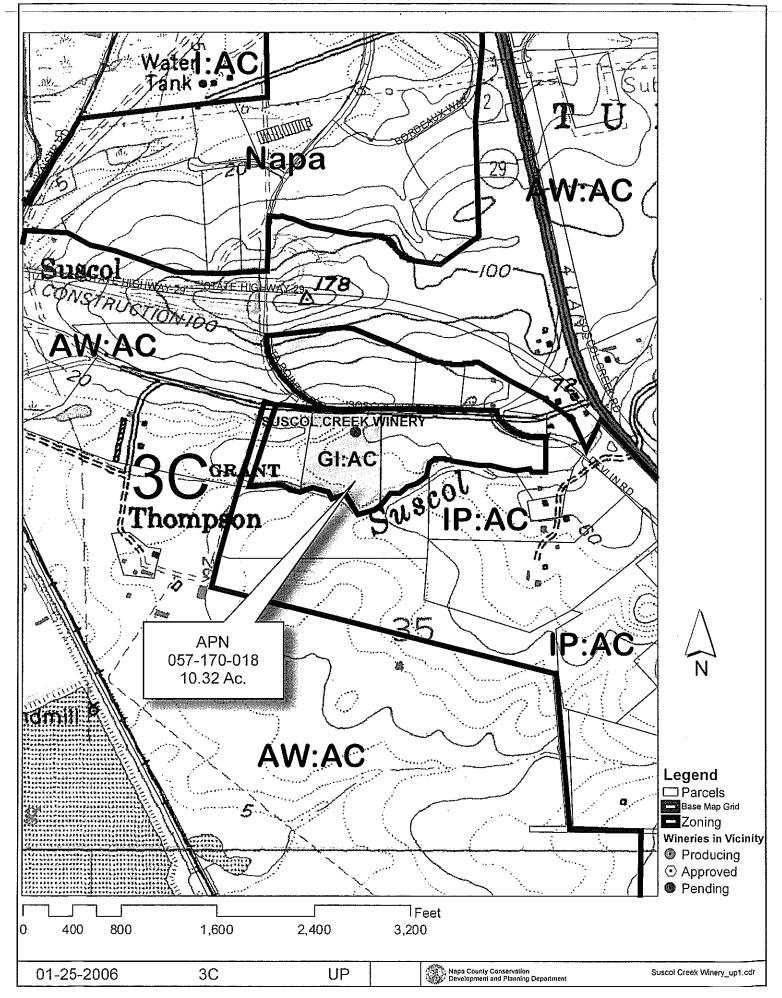
COMMERCIAL

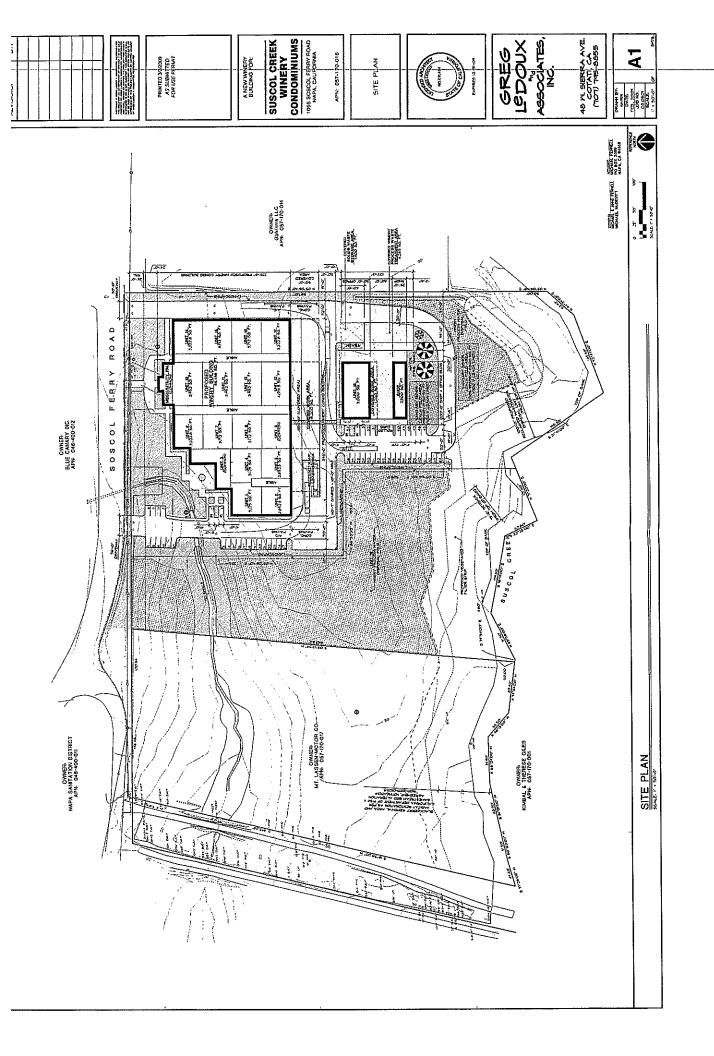
INDUSTRIAL

PUBLIC - INSTITUTIONAL

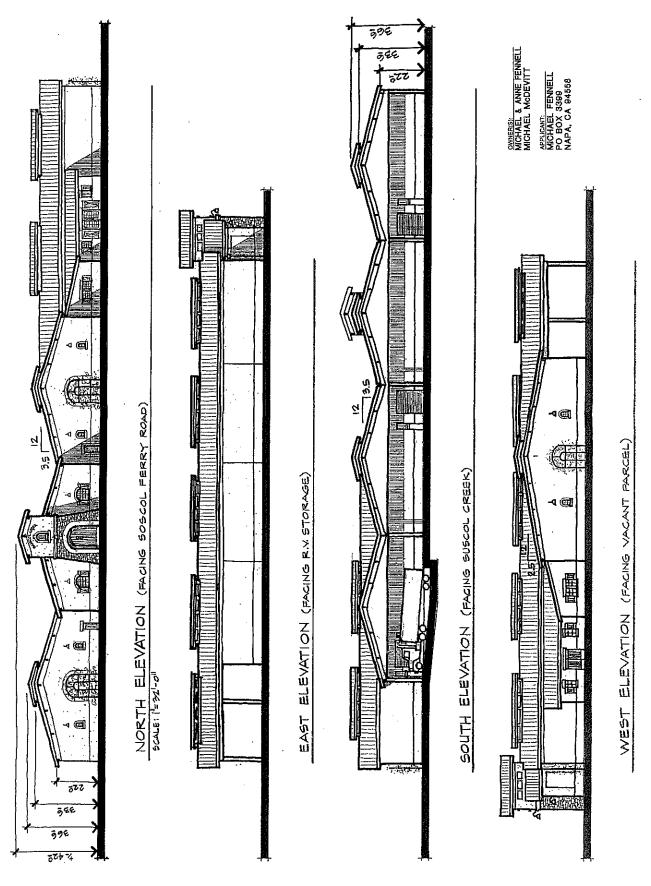








## SUSCOL CREEK WINERY CONDS



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