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Donald G. Ridenhour, P.E. Director

MEMORANDUM

To:	Trish Hornisher	From:	Nate Galambos
Date:	February 22, 2010	Re:	"Hidden Driveway" Sign on Hardman Avenue related to Kitchack Winery

During a January 20, 2010 public hearing for the Kitchack Winery project located on Hardman Avenue, the Planning Commission requested Public Works to investigate the possibility of installing a "hidden driveway" sign on Hardman Avenue. The request was in response to concerns from neighbors that the Kitchack Winery driveway experienced sight distance problems for vehicles traveling west on Hardman Avenue at a high speed.

The sight distance for the Kitchack Winery Project's driveway was reviewed by Public Works during the project review process and determined to be adequate. In light of the concerns raised by neighbors and the request from the Planning Commission to look into placing a "hidden driveway" sign on Hardman Avenue, Public Works re-evaluated this issue.

With respect to placing a sign for a "hidden driveway" within the County right-of-way, Public Works is required by law to only install approved traffic control devices in the public road right-of-way. The "hidden driveway" sign is not an approved traffic control device. However, Public Works did reevaluate the sight distance for the Kitchack Winery Project's driveway with respect to the posted vehicle speed limit. The stopping sight distance for the posted speed limit (40 mph) is in compliance with standards found in Caltrans Highway Design Manual, Chapter 200 'Geometric Design and Structure Standards'. If the driveway had been found to not be in conformance with these standards, we would have recommended that improvements be required which would bring it into conformance.

Based on the results of Public Works' review of this issue, no further action is warranted at this location. The existing driveway fully complies with the appropriate design standards for this facility.

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.