



A Tradition of Stewardship  
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Department of Public Works

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Steven Lederer  
Director

## MEMORANDUM

To: Shaveta Sharma Planner III	From: Rick Marshall Deputy Director of Public Works
Date: May 12, 2015	Re: Melka Winery Use Permit P14-00208-UP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RM", located to the right of the "From:" field in the memorandum header.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject project application. It is my understanding that the Use Permit has been approved by the Planning Commission, but has been appealed to the Board of Supervisors. The appeal is focused on the question of whether a left-turn lane should be required as a condition of approval of this project.

I have reviewed the information in the project file, including the *Focused Traffic Analysis for the Proposed Melka Winery Project – Located at 2900 Silverado Trail Napa County*, dated June 10, 2014, and the March 3, 2015 memo from Peter Galloway, Omni Means (author of the June 2014 study) to Cherie Melka (project applicant) providing additional evaluation of the analysis and its recommendations. In general, the analysis is acceptable and I concur with the assumptions made, the methods used in the evaluation, and the conclusions reached. However, I disagree with the one key point which is the focus of the appeal currently pending. **It is my recommendation that a left-turn lane be required as a condition of approval of the subject Use Permit application.** My evaluation is as follows:

1. The traffic evaluation indicates a volume of 6,783 average daily traffic (ADT) on Silverado Trail at the project site. This volume is based on a count taken in November, 2013, adjusted to account for near-term increases due to approved/not yet built projects in the vicinity.
2. The report calculates traffic generation by the proposed winery use at 10 trips per day.
3. The author compares these volumes with the left-turn lane warrants contained in the Napa County Road & Street Standards (August 9, 2011). The standard reads as follows: "Application of the following Left-Turn Lane Warrant Graph based on road average daily trips (ADT) and the projected ADT of the proposed use. The chart is a representation of probable conflict between turning traffic and advancing traffic. Private Road or Driveway ADT is the total average daily traffic utilizing the facility. A left-turn lane will not be considered for uses generating an ADT of 10 or less."
4. Although the report estimates only 10 ADT for the proposed winery use, the underlined phrase in #3 is what governs my recommendation for this project. In addition to the winery use which is forecast to generate 10 ADT, the site driveway also provides access to two residences. Thus the "total ... traffic utilizing the facility" (the driveway) would actually be greater than 30 ADT, since each residence will generate 10 ADT itself, plus it is my understanding that the Planning Commission approved a greater number of employees than what was evaluated in the study.

5. The combination of 6,783 ADT on Silverado Trail, and 30+ ADT using the project access driveway, would plot "above the curve" on the graph included in the Road & Street Standards, and thus a left-turn lane is warranted.

6. The Road & Street Standards also include this provision: "If traffic conditions or turning movements pose a considerable threat to public life and safety, as recognized by the Director of Public Works, a left-turn lane shall be installed." Staff from Public Works have viewed this location in the field and determined that the turning movements associated with this proposed development would present safety issues due to the road curvature, and thus would warrant the improvement based on this criteria as well.

Please email me at [Rick.Marshall@countyofnapa.org](mailto:Rick.Marshall@countyofnapa.org) or call (707) 259-8381 if you have questions or need additional information.