



Bridger Canyon Property Owners Association
Attn: Tom Fiddaman
1070 Bridger Woods Rd
Bozeman MT 59715

December 5, 2006

**Re: Bridger Canyon Partners Base Area Development
TIS Review**

Dear Tom:

I have reviewed the information you provided relative to the Bridger Canyon Partners' Base Area Development Traffic Impact Study (TIS). I also inspected pertinent transportation sections of the Bridger Bowl Master Plan EIS. Although my review was not extensive, I am able to provide you with my general impressions of the study's composition and value in assessing transportation impacts on the Highway 86 corridor in the following narratives.

The trip generation characteristics of the proposed development appear to be consistent with accepted standards and the assumptions regarding internal capture trips seem to be reasonable, if not conservative. The principal of providing on-site accommodations to reduce the number of external trips on Highway 86 to Bozeman is representative of good Transportation Demand Management practices and is well accounted for within the TIS report. Even though a wealth of information on trip generation is provided in the report, the actual traffic volume assignment on the Highway 86 corridor was not entirely clear. From the trip generation and distribution discussions in the report I was able to calculate that there would be approximately 1,765 external trips to and from the development on the average weekday (AWT), with 149 during the peak pm hour. Of those external trips, approximately 1,660 AWT and 140 pm hour trips would be directed to and from the south on Highway 86. South of Jackson Creek Road, to and from Bozeman, there would be approximately 1,465 AWT and 124 pm hour trips. Since the average annual daily traffic (AADT) on Highway 86 is currently about 2,000, the development would have significant volume impacts on the AADT, if not on the peak pm hour winter volumes.

Because of the number and variety of traffic data sources quoted and extrapolated upon within the TIS study, it was not clear what existing and planned traffic volume conditions were being analyzed as a part of the study. I could not find a statement or figure that clearly stated the exact volume numbers being analyzed. I can only assume that the study based all traffic growth on a 4% annual rate, which may be a valid assumption considering the time lag experienced in planned developments and the highly variable nature of historic traffic growth. Site development traffic assignment numbers would have then been added to background traffic increases. A check of capacity calculations for



the 2015 peak pm hour traffic volumes at the Jackson Creek Road – Highway 86 intersection, appears to support my assumptions.

Capacity calculation summaries for 4 intersections on Highway 86 were presented within the report and mitigation measures were presented for the movements that would be substantially impacted. One thing that was missing from the analysis was the two-lane highway capacity calculations for Highway 86. This would appear to be a critical issue considering that current design hour volumes for weekend ski days are approximately 35% of the AADT. Having performed impact studies for several ski areas in Montana, I know that this is a critical issue and I fully expected to see a very detailed summary of capacity variations along the corridor. I was also surprised to see that the Bridger Bowl EIS did not contain highway capacity calculations for the corridor either.

In order to determine if this would have been a critical issue, I completed HCS Two-lane Highway Capacity calculations for existing and year 2012 traffic volumes. Existing design hour volumes are 700 vph and calculated 2012 volumes used in the capacity analysis were 1,000 vph. The MDT documented peak pm hour directional split for this traffic was 24%/76% and MDT's records indicated that trucks traffic is approximately 6%. Without the benefit of other documented data, assumptions were made to complete the analysis (attached). It was determined that the existing level of service (LOS) would be "C" and that the year 2012 traffic conditions would result in LOS "D" on the highway corridor.

Generally, my only concerns with the study deal with the report's lack of clarity and the fact that no attempt was made to address operations along the entire Highway 86 corridor. If additional information or evaluation is required, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert R. Marvin, P.E., P.T.O.E.

TWO-WAY TWO-LANE HIGHWAY SEGMENT WORKSHEET			
General Information		Site Information	
Analyst: R. Marini	Agency or Company: Marvin & Associates	Highway: M-55	Average Conditions: M-2
Date Performed: 4/5/2007	Analysis Time Period: Peak PM Winter Day	Location: Junction	Analysis Year: 2006
Project Description: Bridge Canyon Lease Area Development			
Input Data			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Class I Highway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class II Highway Lane 1: <input type="checkbox"/> 11' <input type="checkbox"/> 12' <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rolling Two-way hourly volume: 1000 veh/h Directional split: 50% Peak hour factor, PHF: 0.90 No passing zone: 50 % Trucks and Buses, P _T : 6% % Recreational vehicles, P _R : 0% Access points/mi: 5	
Average Travel Speed			
Grade adjustment factor, f _g (Exhibit 20.5)			0.93
Passenger car equivalents for trucks, k _T (Exhibit 20.5)			1.9
Passenger car equivalents for RVs, k _R (Exhibit 20.9)			1.7
Heavy vehicle adjustment factor, f _{HV} = (1 + P _T (k _T - 1) + P _R (k _R - 1))			0.94
Two-way flow rate, v _P (pc/h) = W / PHF * f _g * f _{HV}			853
v _P * highest directional split proportions (pc/h)			677
Field Measured Speed (miles per hour)	Estimated Free Flow Speed		
Field Measured Speed, S _{FM} (mi/h)	Base free flow speed, BFFS _{FM} (mi/h)		60.0
Observed volume, V ₁ (veh/h)	Adj. for lane width and shoulder width, f _{LW} (Exhibit 20.5) * S _{FM} (mi/h)		71.5
Free flow speed, FFS = S _{FM} * 0.001 * 50 * V ₁ / f _{LW}	Adj. for access points, f _{AP} (Exhibit 20.6)		1.3
	Free flow speed, FFS = (SS) * BFFS * f _{AP}		55.7
Adj. for no passing zones, f _{np} (mi/h) (Exhibit 20.11)			71.0
Average travel speed, AAS (mi/h) = SS * FFS * f _{np}			47.3
Percent Time Spent Following			
Grade adjustment factor, f _g (Exhibit 20.5)			0.94
Passenger car equivalents for trucks, k _T (Exhibit 20.10)			1.5
Passenger car equivalents for RVs, k _R (Exhibit 20.10)			1.0
Heavy vehicle adjustment factor, f _{HV} = (1 + P _T (k _T - 1) + P _R (k _R - 1))			0.97
Two-way flow rate, v _P (pc/h) = W / PHF * f _g * f _{HV}			857
v _P * highest directional split proportions (pc/h)			645
Base percent time spent following, BPTS (%) = 100 * (1 + 2000 / v _P)			57.7
Adj. for directional distribution and no passing zone, f _{cd} (%) (Exhibit 20.12)			12.5
Percent time spent following, PTS (%) = BPTS * f _{cd}			65.0
Level of Service and Other Performance Measures			
Level of Service, LOS (Exhibit 20.3 for Class I or 20.4 for Class II)			C
Volume to capacity ratio, v/c = V _P / S * 2000			0.28
Peak 15-min vehicle miles of travel, VM ₁₅ (veh mi) = 1.25 * V * PHF			1924
Peak hour vehicle miles of travel, VM _{1h} (veh mi) = V * PHF			1000
Peak 15-min total travel time, TT ₁₅ (veh h) = VM ₁₅ / AAS			47.1
Notes			
1. If v/c > 0.75, terminate analysis the LOS is C.			
2. If highest directional split v/c > 1.0, terminate analysis the LOS is D.			

TWO-WAY TWO-LANE HIGHWAY SEGMENT WORKSHEET			
General Information		Site Information	
Analyst: R. Marz	Agency or Company: Marvin & Associates	Highway: M-55	Average Conditions: M-2
Date Performed: 4/5/2007	Analysis Time Period: Peak 4 PM Winter Day	Location: Junction	Analysis Year: 2012 (with base & 4% growth)
Project Description: Bridge Canyon Base Area Development			
Input Data			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Class I Highway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Class II Highway Lane 1: <input type="checkbox"/> 11.5 ft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rolling Two-way hourly volume: 1000 veh/h Directional split: 50% Peak hour factor, PHF: 0.90 No passing zone: 50 % Trucks and Buses, P _T : 6% % Recreational vehicles, P _R : 0% Access points/mi: 5	
Average Travel Speed			
Grade adjustment factor, f_g (Exhibit 20.5)			0.95
Passenger car equivalents for trucks, k_1 (Exhibit 20.6)			1.5
Passenger car equivalents for RVs, k_2 (Exhibit 20.9)			1.1
Heavy vehicle adjustment factor, f_{HV} ($(1 + P_T(k_1 - 1) + P_R(k_2 - 1))$)			0.969
Two-way flow rate, v_p (pc/h) = $W/P_H \cdot f_g \cdot f_{HV}$			1108
v_p * highest directional split proportions (pc/h)			550
Field Measured Speed (miles per hour)	Estimated Free Flow Speed		
Field Measured Speed, S_{FM} (mi/h)	Base free flow speed, BS_{FM} (mi/h)		60.0
Observed volume, V_1 (veh/h)	Adj. for lane width and shoulder width, f_{LW} (Exhibit 20.5)		7.5
Free flow speed, $f_{FS} = BS_{FM} \cdot 0.00075 \cdot S_{FM} \cdot f_{LW}$	Adj. for access points, f_{AP} (Exhibit 20.6)		1.3
	Free flow speed, $f_{FS} = (0.95) \cdot (BS_{FM}) \cdot f_{LW} \cdot f_{AP}$		55.7
Adj. for no passing zones, f_{NPZ} (mi/h) (Exhibit 20.11)			1.5
Average travel speed, A_{TS} (mi/h) = $f_{FS} \cdot f_{NPZ} \cdot f_{g}$			45.7
Percent Time Spent Following			
Grade adjustment factor, f_g (Exhibit 20.5)			1.00
Passenger car equivalents for trucks, k_1 (Exhibit 20.10)			1.0
Passenger car equivalents for RVs, k_2 (Exhibit 20.10)			1.0
Heavy vehicle adjustment factor, f_{HV} ($(1 + P_T(k_1 - 1) + P_R(k_2 - 1))$)			1.000
Two-way flow rate, v_p (pc/h) = $W/P_H \cdot f_g \cdot f_{HV}$			1111
v_p * highest directional split proportions (pc/h)			544
Base percent time spent following, $PTSF_{base}$ (%) = $100(1 + 2000/v_p)$			67.3
Adj. for directional distribution and no passing zone, $PTSF_{adj}$ (%) (Exhibit 20.12)			10.7
Percent time spent following, $PTSF$ (%) = $PTSF_{adj} \cdot f_{g}$			7.7
Level of Service and Other Performance Measures			
Level of Service, LOS (10.3 for Class I or 20.4 for Class II)			D
Volume to capacity ratio, v/c (v_p/V_p) (Exhibit 20.1)			0.36
Peak 15-min vehicle miles of travel, VMT_{15} (veh mi) = $V_1 \cdot 15 / 60$			77.8
Peak hour vehicle miles of travel, VMT_{60} (veh mi) = V_1			1000
Peak 15-min total travel time, TT_{15} (veh h) = $VMT_{15} / 15$			60.8
Notes			
1. If $v/c > 0.5$ or $PTSF > 10\%$, terminate analysis the LOS is			
2. If highest directional split $v/c > 1.0$, (10.10), terminate analysis the LOS is			