

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
 DISTRICT 1, P.O. BOX 3700  
 EUREKA, CA 95502-3700  
 (707) 445-6376



February 7, 1996

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 HT 65 6-101-002

**R E C E I V E D**  
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**FEB 13 1996**

Ms. Suzi Fregeau  
 Rt. 1 Box 613B  
 Loleta, CA 95551

AM PM  
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Dear Ms. Fregeau:

We received your recent letter regarding our response to Ms. Gay Wilburn's request to review both the Loleta Overcrossing interchange and the Fernbridge interchange. Ms. Wilburn, Loleta Tribal Gaming Commission, had requested that we review these interchanges to address what she felt were necessary improvements prior to the casino opening.

While this appears to be an attempt to work within the system, under normal conditions the developer is responsible to not only determine what impacts will result from their development, but to mitigate them. Our authority to require a study and mitigation stems either from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process or through the encroachment permit process. Since no work is planned within our right of way, an encroachment permit is not required. As as you know, the Tribal Gaming Commission is exempt from the CEQA process.

Both at the time of our field review and in our ensuing letter, we recommended that the Tribal gaming Commission go through the Intergovernmental Review process to determine the exact impacts that the casino will have on the surrounding locale, including Loleta Drive.

The potential solutions you suggested (speed zone and flashing beacons) would, if warranted, be installed outside our right of way. Loleta Drive is a County road and would therefore be the County's decision if any mitigation measures should be taken by someone other than the developer. To pursue this further, you should contact Mr. John Murray, Director of Public Works, at 445-7491.

We share your concerns for traffic safety and hope that the Tribe will address these potential problems. Since they will benefit directly from the casino, they should provide their customers with safe access to and from the facility.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me a 445-6376.

Sincerely,

*Mark L. Suchanek*

Mark L. Suchanek, Chief  
 District Traffic Safety Office

cc: John Murray, HCPWD

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