

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR
EXPRESSWAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

ITEM: 7d

SUBJECT:

North County Corridor Comparison with 2005 Dowling Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discussion Item

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

DISCUSSION:

During a recent board meeting, Director Grover mentioned that there was a need for 30 east-west lanes based on previous traffic studies. The study referenced was the North Stanislaus County Corridor Feasibility Study (June 15, 2005) prepared for New Cities Development Group, The Desilva Group and Pacific Union Homes.

Fehr & Peers was asked to compare the assumptions used for the North County Corridor with the Dowling Study. The attached memo discusses that comparison.

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 3, 2009

To: Laurie Barton, Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations, Stanislaus County

From: Eddie Barrios, Fehr & Peers

Subject: North County Corridor Comparison with 2005 Dowling Report

WC08-2575

This memorandum presents a brief comparison of the assumptions for the North Stanislaus County Corridor Feasibility Study (Dowling Associates – June 15, 2005) and the North County Corridor (NCC) SR 108 East Route Adoption project. Specifically, the following two questions are answered:

- 1) What are the total number of east-west lanes assumed in the 2005 Dowling Report between SR 99 and McHenry Avenue and NCC?
- 2) What are primary differences and why?

NUMBER OF EAST-WEST LANES

The total number of east-west lanes assumed in the 2005 Dowling Report is 30. The breakdown is presented below:

- Ladd Road - 4 lanes
- Salida Expressway (new east-west expressway between the SR 99/Hammet Road interchange and Dale Road) - 10 lanes
- Kiernan - 4 lanes
- Pirrone - 4 lanes
- Pelandale - 6 lanes
- Bangs - 2 lanes

For NCC, the number of east-west lanes was based on 2007 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Tier I list. The following is a breakdown of the number of lanes assumed for NCC:

- Ladd Road - 2 lanes
- Salida Expressway - Not included
- Kiernan - 4 lanes
- Pirrone - 6 lanes
- Pelandale - 6 lanes
- Bangs - 2 lanes

Without the Salida Expressway the 2007 RTP includes 20 east-west lanes. Although the Salida Expressway is not explicitly in the 2007 RTP, it was assumed to be in place for NCC. However, it was not assumed to be a ten-lane facility.

PRIMARY DIFFERENCES

As noted above one of the primary differences between the 2005 Dowling Report and NCC assumptions is the number of lanes on the Salida Expressway. The NCC project is assuming 6 lanes in Year 2030 and 8 lanes in Year 2050. The biggest reason for the reduction in the number of lanes is attributed to the overestimation of employment in Salida in the 2005 Dowling Report. Based on the 2005 Dowling Report, there is a planned net increase of about 56,000 employees in the Salida community. However, the latest Salida Community Plan only indicates a net increase of about 27,000 jobs.

Please give me a call at (925) 930-7100 if you have any questions or concerns.