

# City of Grants Pass



April 7, 2006

Mr. Art Anderson  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
100 Antelope Road  
White City, Oregon 97503

Dear Art,

The Mayor, Council and Staff are very aware of the growing traffic issues along the Highway 199 corridor from Tussey Lane to Midway Avenue. We appreciate the attention you have given to the problem and the work you have put into funding the project as well as finding solutions that fit our community.

The Council supports the current project which would complete the following:

1. Purchase adequate right of way along the corridor from Midway to the Allen Creek Road area;
2. Install a median in Highway 199 from Midway to the entrance to Rogue Community College;
3. Install a lower median from the entrance to Rogue Community College to Allen Creek Road;
4. Install landscaping, with coordination and approval with ODOT, through the corridor from Rogue Community College to Allen Creek Road;
5. Improve Hubbard Lane and its intersection with Demaray;
6. Remove the two traffic signals on Highway 199: one at the entrance to the Josephine County Fairgrounds and the other at the intersection with Redwood Avenue;
7. Install improvements to allow safe "U-turns" at both Allen Creek Road and Ringuette Street;
8. Rebuild the intersection of Redwood Avenue and Allen Creek Road including rerouting Redwood Avenue to this new intersection and installing a new slip ramp from Highway 199.



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The Council understands that as part of the project O.D.O.T. will mitigate the significant impacts this will have on the Josephine County Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds is important to our community and to the local economy. The mitigation must allow the Fairgrounds to continue to operate satisfactorily.

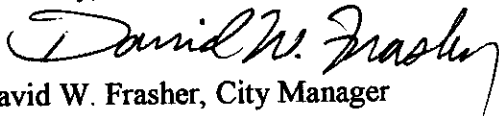
The Council further supports the continued analysis of the solution for the traffic congestion between Allen Creek Road and Tussey Lane. We understand that while this analysis will include a proposed frontage road, this solution will be reviewed as part of the South Y planning process.

The Council is very supportive of the South Y study, and we applaud the efforts of O.D.O.T. to move this forward. If there is some assistance the City can provide to move this study forward more quickly, we will do all we can to help. It is important to the City that this study include a location analysis and potential funding plan for a fourth bridge at either the Allen Creek location, or more importantly, a location further west, perhaps near Hubbard Lane.

We also recognize that the solutions to the South Y will impact a large area and we want to be a part of the development of the solutions. We know that there will be difficult decisions that have to be made that will involve relocation of businesses and perhaps even homes.

Thank you for your responsiveness to local concerns, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



David W. Frasher, City Manager

cc. Mayor Len Holzinger  
Members of the City Council  
Duane Schultz, Attorney