



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

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Secretary of Transportation

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March 31, 2015

Kittitas County - Community Development Services
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Attention: Jeff Watson, Staff Planner

Subject: CU-14-00004 McIntosh Small Scale Event Facility
US 97 milepost 138.89 right

We have reviewed the proposed project and have the following comments.

- The event facility is adjacent to State Highway 97 (US 97). US 97 is a Class 1 access managed highway with a posted speed limit of 65 miles per hour. The property has an existing permitted commercial approach at milepost 138.89 Right. The proponent has indicated that each event may generate 50-75 new trips. The proposed change in use for the subject property does not warrant further upgrades to the existing approach. However, the conditions of this approach permit allow up to 100 daily trips. If the number of daily trips crosses this threshold, as allowed within Kittitas County guidelines, the applicant is required to upgrade the permit to a Category II – Minor Connection. The fee for a Category II connection is \$1,000, which allows up to 1,000 daily trips. No new approaches to US 97 will be allowed. The property owner is required to contact Mark Kaiser at 509-577-1668 to update the permit if the threshold is exceeded.
- The County should require the proponent to provide obstruction-free ingress/egress for two-way traffic beyond the approach to prevent vehicles from backing up onto US 97 while entering the facilities during events. WSDOT highly encourages the County to require the use of on-site signage and parking attendants to manage the entering vehicles. If events cause vehicles to back up onto US 97, WSDOT will require the proponent to construct a right turn lane at the proponent's expense.
- Parking will not be permitted within WSDOT right-of-way. Appropriate on-site parking provisions are required during events. The decommissioned roadbed lying parallel to US 97 on the east side of the highway is within WSDOT right-of-way.
- Any outdoor signing proposed as part of this project must be placed on the subject property and not within WSDOT right-of-way.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Rick Holmstrom at (509) 577-1633.

Sincerely,


Paul Gonseth, P.E.
Planning Engineer

PG: rh/mls
cc: File #2, US 97
Christina Wollman, Kittitas County
Terry Kukes, Area 1 Maintenance Superintendent
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