



Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
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8/10/10

Teton Board of County Commissioners

CC: Sean O'Malley, Teton County Engineer; Paula Stevens, Associate Planning Director,
Teton County; Jackson Town Council

Re: Final Northern South Park Planning and Environmental Linkage Study - Purpose
and Need Statement

Submitted via email

Dear Board of County Commissioners,

On behalf of the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, thank you for the opportunity to submit further comments on the final Northern South Park Planning and Environmental Linkage Study - Purpose and Need Statement, released in July 2010. With the understanding that this document is subject to change as the Comprehensive Plan review continues, we will limit our comments in this letter to one suggested change that would make the document more reflective of community sentiment.

While we appreciate the reference to community and rural character in the stated first purpose, we agree with the sentiments of many community members that it should also reference meeting regional traffic needs primarily on regional roads. Reconstruction of clogged regional arterials (the "Y" intersection) should come before construction of a new road (Tribal Trails connector) that will funnel traffic onto local roads or neighborhood collectors. The purpose statement must simply acknowledge that we cannot solve regional problems by overloading neighborhood roads.

Here is some suggested language for the first purpose statement, based on recommendations from Robert Bernstein: "Maintain community and rural character within Teton County as a whole and the South Park area in particular, and relieve existing and future traffic congestion on the County Arterial and State Highway systems without diverting arterial/regional traffic into the community on neighborhood collectors and residential streets."

Please consider these changes to the final Purpose and Need Statement. Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Sincerely,

Cindy Harger
Interim Executive Director

Becky Tillson
Community Planning Associate