E-mail from Susan Wright Kittelson & Associates, Inc. April 25, 2012

RE: Downtown Plan

Per your request we conducted a high level evaluation of Lithia Way as a two-way facility. Based on the available, our evaluation focused on the Oak Street/Lithia Way intersection and the impact of removing one westbound travel lane to accommodate one eastbound travel lane and adding a relatively minimal amount of eastbound traffic.

Currently the northbound approach to the Oak Street/Lithia Way intersection operates at LOS E. With the removal of one westbound travel lane to accommodate one eastbound travel lane, the northbound approach fails; this is primarily due to the relatively high level of westbound traffic along Lithia Way being forced into a single travel lane. With the addition of 90 eastbound through vehicles (10% of eastbound through traffic along E Main Street) and 10 side street vehicles, the northbound and southbound approaches fail. We can assume the same would be true for all stop controlled intersections along Lithia Way.

As a signalized intersection with one eastbound and one westbound travel lane and the same level of eastbound traffic described above, the westbound approach would operate near capacity under existing conditions and above capacity under future 2034 conditions. With two westbound lanes, the westbound approach would operate below capacity under existing and future conditions. We can assume the same would be true for all signalized intersections along Lithia Way.

Based on these evaluations, we have determined that in order for Lithia Way to operate as a two-way facility, it would have to be widened to accommodate a minimum of two westbound travel lanes and one eastbound travel lane; further analysis may also reveal the need to signalize some unsignalized locations as well as provide separate left-turn lanes to accommodate major street left-turn movements. In addition, the two intersections located and the east and terminus of the couplet would need to undergo significant changes to allow for eastbound traffic.