

*the identification of a specific project that bears a relationship to the Forest Ranch area. Any agreement shall be subject to review and approval by the County of Placer.*

### **3.6 CIRCULATION/TRANSPORTATION**

This section analyzes the transportation and circulation impacts associated with development in accordance with the Forest Ranch project including roadways, freeway intersections, transit services, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. As shown on the site plan (Figure 2-3), access to the project site is proposed via three locations onto Foresthill Road. The westernmost location accesses Foresthill Road via a connection to Yankee Jim's Road. The other two access points are directly onto Foresthill Road.

The scope of this traffic analysis is intended to conform to Placer County guidelines. The study includes assessment of the impacts of developing the site relative to current and future traffic conditions in the vicinity of the site. Toward this end, "Existing" traffic conditions have been evaluated through observation of current weekday daily traffic volumes, and "Existing" operating Levels of Service have been calculated. Probable project trip generation has been estimated. Utilizing an expected trip distribution, project-generated traffic was assigned to the study area street system. Levels of Service were then recalculated to determine the anticipated impacts of proposed development on "Existing" traffic conditions.

This study also analyzes the four key intersections in the vicinity of the Interstate 80/Auburn Ravine Road/Foresthill Road interchange, as well as the freeway mainline and the freeway ramps at that interchange. The analysis specifically reflects input received from Caltrans, District 3 in a January 28, 2002 letter from Jeffrey Pulverman, Chief - Office of Regional Planning, which is included in Appendix A of this EIR.

The intersection analysis focused on the AM and PM peak hours for existing conditions and the PM peak hour for cumulative conditions (representing the level of development anticipated in Placer County in the year 2020). For both time periods, analyses were performed both with and without buildout of the proposed Forest Ranch land uses.

In the future, impacts resulting from development of the project site were compared to the draft Foresthill Divide Community Plan traffic and circulation element that is currently under consideration. Improvements to offset project impacts have also been described. The full text of the traffic studies completed by kdAnderson Transportation Engineers and Martin Rivett & Olson is included as Appendices G and H, respectively.

#### **3.6.1 SETTING**

##### **Streets and Highways**

##### **Functional Classification**