



DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR'S REPORT – SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

PREPARED FOR THE OCTOBER 3, 2013 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

NEWSWORTHY

- Early this month, Caltrans opened the new east span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge with seismic-safety features for the more than 280,000 motorists that cross the structure each day. Caltrans has upgraded more than 2,200 bridges for seismic safety since the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and the 1994 Northridge earthquake. Many partner agencies worked with Caltrans to bring this project to fruition, including the Federal Highway Administration, California Transportation Commission and the California Highway Patrol.

- The federal government recently rewarded Caltrans \$155 million in additional funding for meeting all of its 2013 transportation project federal deadlines. Caltrans will share about \$58 million of this reward with local transportation agencies. The funding must be prioritized for projects that meet the federal deadline of Sept. 30, 2013. Each year, this funding becomes available for re-distribution when some states fail to meet their federal transportation spending deadlines. More information is available at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/paffairs/news/pressrel/13pr086.htm>

- Caltrans recently completed the 2013 *California State Rail Plan*. The plan establishes a vision, sets priorities, and presents implementation strategies to enhance passenger and freight rail in the public's interest. This is the first planning document fully integrating the planned high-speed rail system with improved conventional rail. It also serves as the basis for federal and state investments toward high speed and intercity passenger rail in California. More information is available at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/serp.html?q=California+State+Rail+Plan&cx=001779225245372747843%3Auh1ozfcfcdcu&cof=FORID%3A10&ie=UTF-8&siteurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dot.ca.gov%2F>

- Caltrans and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife remind motorists to remain alert while driving to improve safety for both travelers and wildlife. The California Highway Patrol recently reported more than 1,800 wildlife-vehicle collisions in 2010, resulting in about \$1 billion in property damage. More than 200 people are killed each year in collisions with deer, elk, and other wildlife with an estimated 1.5 million animals hit annually, according to the Defenders of Wildlife, a national non-profit agency dedicated to protecting native animals and plants. More information is available at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/paffairs/news/pressrel/13pr085.htm>

- Caltrans is partnering with the California State University-Sacramento's College of Continuing Education and the University of California-Berkeley to provide training and technical assistance to transportation professionals from the state's cities, counties and regional transportation agencies. Fundamental and advanced training is available for such courses as traffic engineering and operations, traffic signals and control, work zone safety, infrastructure and pavement design, maintenance, planning, funding, environment, project development, management and compliance, pedestrian facility design and bicycle transportation. More information is available at:
<http://www.cce.csus.edu/conferences/caltrans/localAssistance/index.cfm>

Please Submit Maintenance Service Requests at the Following Link: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/maint/mrssubmit/>

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