

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
PHONE (805) 549-3101
FAX (805) 549-3329
TTY 711

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/>



*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

March 28, 2013

Frank Mecham, President
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
1114 Marsh Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. President:

This letter responds to your correspondence of March 20, 2013, requesting that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) expedite actions to smooth the chip-sealed surface of Highway 1 for bicyclists.

Caltrans is wholly committed to addressing this situation in the best manner possible that is both responsive to the cycling community and responsible to the taxpayers. We will be prepared to provide a status of our activities to date at the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments Board meeting on April 3, 2013.

I would like to clarify some confusion regarding the timing of any work that may occur. We expect results in May from the testing currently being conducted, which includes rolling and other smoothing techniques. These results are necessary to define the next steps. If the test rolling proves to be an effective smoothing technique, extended rolling along the length of the chip seal could begin before the fall. However, strategies that may involve significant construction activity could not occur before the fall.

Like you, we are committed to resolving this expeditiously to the satisfaction of the traveling public. Thank you for your support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy M. Gubbins".

TIMOTHY M. GUBBINS
District Director

cc Brian Kelly, Acting Secretary, Business Transportation & Housing
SLOCOG Board members

San Luis Obispo Council of Governments



Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Rideshare Program / Census Data Affiliate
Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways

Arroyo Grande
Atascadero
Grover Beach
Morro Bay
Paso Robles
Pismo Beach
San Luis Obispo
San Luis Obispo County

March 20, 2013

Timothy M. Gubbins, District Director
Caltrans District 5
50 Higuera St,
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

SUBJECT: Hwy 1 Chip Seal Remediation to Ensure Comfortable Ride for Motorists and Cyclists

Dear Mr. Gubbins,

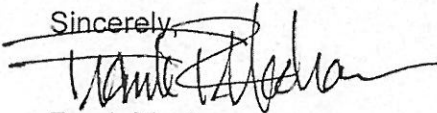
Last week, the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) Executive Committee convened, and your Deputy Director for Planning provided the committee more information on the remediation efforts to smooth the shoulder surface of Hwy 1 in north San Luis Obispo County, to be performed in coordination with the UC Davis Pavement Research Center. From the public comments received and media coverage provided on this issue, the community is anxiously awaiting to hear of the results of the Phase 1 work performed on the 1,000 foot section of Hwy 1. Your Deputy Director indicated it will take 4-5 weeks to determine if the rolling technique is effective or not.

It is important that the community, bicycle enthusiasts, and planners for large scale events along the coast fully understand the remediation schedule. The SLOCOG Board will discuss the status of Caltrans' work on April 3rd. Your Deputy Director also indicated that if the rolling treatment provides a favorable response then work would not commence until the fall, after the peak tourist season, to finish the 20-mile long chip seal segment. We request a further explanation of this schedule at our April 3rd meeting. If the process truly cannot be expedited so the entire section is rolled and smooth before June of this year, it is important that Caltrans convey this information to the public sooner than waiting for the findings and schedule to be released in the UC Davis report. It is our understanding the report would not be complete until May 2013.

We continue to strongly press the State of California to move as expeditiously as possible to have all work to smooth the shoulder surface on scenic Hwy 1 complete before the summer peak season. We look forward to a more descriptive status report on April 3rd and hopefully interim remedial actions that could immediately commence.

Thank you in advance for being responsive to the concerns raised by the community.

Sincerely,



Frank Mecham

President, San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG)

Cc: SLOCOG Board Members (email)
Brian P. Kelly, Acting Secretary, Business, Transportation & Housing Agency