

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

October 24, 2013

Mr. Robert "Red" Davis
President, Board of Directors
San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1585
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Dear Mr. Davis:

I am pleased to inform you that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the University of California, Davis, Pavement Research Center (UCPRC-Davis) have completed Phase 1 of the study for Highway 1 from Cambria to the San Luis Obispo/Monterey County line. This Phase 1 study measured the roughness of various chip seal strategies to help determine the rock sizes for future chip seal projects and minimize the rough surfaces experienced by bicyclists.

Under Phase 1, a variety of chip seal test sections were constructed with different rock sizes on Highway 198 in Monterey County in July 2013. Volunteer bicyclists were asked to ride over the chip seal test sections and rate the relative roughness of the various surface treatments. The bicyclists selected the sand seal treatment as the remedy to smooth Highway 1. This week, CalPortland of Santa Maria started construction of this sand seal project on Highway 1, which will be completed in November 2013.

Under Phase 2 of the study, the UCPRC-Davis will investigate and evaluate Caltrans' current chip seal specifications. Potential improvements may add smoothing techniques to chip seals and modify the asphalt binder layer and rock sizes along designated bicycle routes. These improvements will help provide a statewide Caltrans chip seal policy for bicycles while maintaining the benefits of the pavement preservation strategy.

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The UCPRC-Davis study has been posted on the Internet at <<http://www.ucprc.ucdavis.edu/PDF/UCPRC-TM-2013-07.pdf>>. Additional information can be found on the Caltrans District 5 Web site at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/chip_seal/index.htm>. Caltrans will continue to maintain a quality surface on which to push, pedal, or amble. Caltrans is working to find a timely and cost-effective solution that meets the shared needs of California's taxpayers, motorists, and cyclists.

Sincerely,



MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

Distribution:

Robert "Red" Davis, President, Board of Directors, San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club, Inc.
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