



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** Monday, June 16, 2014  
**District:** District 2 - Redding  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CALTRANS ASKS DRIVERS TO BE "WORK ZONE ALERT"

**REDDING** – The California Department of Transportation, Caltrans District 2, is asking drivers in the Bella Vista/Diddy Wells area on State Route 299, to please slow down and pay close attention to Work Zone safety signs. On Friday, June 13, 2014, the California Highway Patrol pulled over ten drivers who failed to wait for the pilot car leading traffic through the Bella Diddy project. The officer also ticketed one motorist who drove 80 miles per hour through the work zone. Disobeying traffic laws in a construction zone is very dangerous not only for the workers, but the public, as well. It is important to remind motorists that fines are doubled in construction zones.

This warning comes as Caltrans, the California Office of Traffic Safety and California Highway Patrol unveil a new public awareness campaign called "Be Work Zone Alert". The campaign features the family members of Caltrans workers asking drivers to "be alert because their mom or dad is at work." District 2's Anthony Ortiz's three children appear on one of the billboards that will be displayed in Chico, Oroville, and Redding:

**Chico:** 7/05/14-9/04/14 Highway 99, 1 mile northeast of Eaton Rd.  
**Chico:** 7/05/14-9/04/14 Highway 32, 200 feet west of Nord Highway  
**Oroville:** 7/05/14-9/04/14 Highway 70, .4 miles south of Ophir Rd.  
**Redding:** 8/11/14-8/09/15 I-5, .2 miles north of Redding

The Ortiz billboards will also appear in Los Angeles and San Diego. "These billboards help remind everyone that highway workers have families and many have children at home," said District 2 Director John Bulinski. "If we can get motorists to think of those children and how they would be impacted if their mother or father were hurt, then maybe drivers will take extra care as they approach work zones."

Caltrans would like to remind the traveling public to please move over if safe or slow down when they see Caltrans vehicles flashing warning lights along the side of the highways. It is the law.

**NOTE:** An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news.htm>