



**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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December 6, 2016

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010
Ukiah, CA 95482

RE: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION (COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONER) OR HIS DESIGNEE TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE OR RESTRICT THE USE OF DESIGNATED ROAD SEGMENTS OF TEN MILE ROAD, NAVARRO RIDGE ROAD, AND FORT BRAGG SHERWOOD ROAD AS NECESSARY DUE TO SEASONAL WEATHER CONDITIONS. (BOONVILLE, FORT BRAGG, POINT ARENA, WILLITS AREAS)

Honorable Board Members:

In November 2002, the Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) brought before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) winter seasonal road closure policies for segments of Ten Mile Road, County Road (CR) 506, from Milepost (MP) 0.18 to MP 1.68, Navarro Ridge Road, CR 518, from MP 8.82 to MP 13.10, and Fort Bragg Sherwood Road, CR 419, from MP 5.08 to MP 27.54, for the period of December 1 to March 31. MCDOT has learned from nine years of operational experience that the rainy season is typically longer than December 1 to March 31 and MCDOT has, in fact, closed the roads sooner in the fall and left the closure later in the spring due to changing seasonal weather conditions. These seasonal road closures are authorized using the provisions from sections 942.5 and 942.6 of the California Streets and Highways (S&H) Code, which state:

942.5. The board of supervisors may restrict the use of, or close, any county highway whenever the board considers such closing or restriction of use necessary:

(a) For the protection of the public.

(b) For the protection of such county highway from damage during storms.

942.6. The board of supervisors may delegate the powers contained in Section 942.5 to the county road commissioner.

The subject Resolution now being presented for the Board's consideration will authorize the Director of Transportation flexibility in determining the beginning and ending the dates of the temporary road closures as needed due to seasonal weather conditions.

As required by Resolution 07-089 (May 15, 2007), the County Road Commissioner will continue to give the Board of Supervisors notice, as soon as possible, before or after a road closure takes place by email, public posting to the web page, and by the Director's Report, and will continue to do so if the action before you today is approved.

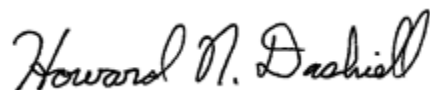
The MCDOT has for fourteen years prohibited vehicle use of portions of Ten Mile Road, Navarro Ridge Road, and Fort Bragg Sherwood Road, during the winter months, typically from November 15 through April 15. However, the County Road Commissioner has used his authority to move the closing and opening dates, as necessary, due to the actual weather conditions. By approving this action, the Board can endorse the adjustment of actual closure and opening dates, which will be determined by the County Road Commissioner based upon seasonal weather conditions.

The abovementioned road segments will be closed to vehicular traffic by locking the gate across the road at each end. The property owners and parties with an interest in the closures will continue to receive email notification. Property owners will continue to have limited permitted access with keys to the locked gates. The MCDOT web page and Facebook will continue to reflect the closures. There are no residences located between any of the gates.

Seasonal road closures have increased the lifespan of the road and drainage improvements, reducing repair costs funded by taxpayers, as well as, reducing sediment flow into our coastal watersheds, which include all or part of: Usal Creek, Wolf Creek, Indian Creek, Mattole River, Eel River, Noyo River, Big River, Navarro River, and the Garcia River.

I will, of course, respond to any questions that the Board may have.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard N. Dashiell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

HOWARD N. DASHIELL
Director of Transportation