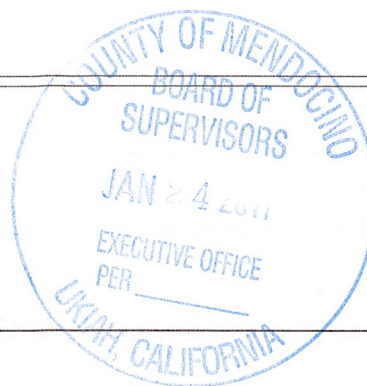


Kristan Ramos - Fwd: Philo Speed Limit

From: Clerk of the Board Office
To: COBSupport@co.mendocino.ca.us
Date: 1/24/2017 11:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: Philo Speed Limit
Attachments: Philo Downtown Pedestrian Map.png



>>> Mary Zeeble <mary@crewy.com> 01/24/17 11:18 >>>

Hi Dan,

I am a long time resident of Philo and have grave (*no pun intended*) concerns about the proposal to raise the speed limit in downtown Philo. Speeds in excess of the posted 30 MPH are already being driven through Philo and are a hazardous issue.

Many of the owners of these parcels and businesses have discussed with me recently the need to **REDUCE** the posted speed limit from 30 to 25, and to **EXTEND** that 25 MPH zone to east of Madrones and west of downtown. **This stretch should be 25 MPH throughout and have proper crosswalks and warning lights, like those that exist in Boonville.**

Increasing the speed limit through any section of Philo is ill advised because of the many existing dangerous situations, and those that are also about to change:

1) I own a property in downtown that is very much at risk with an increase in speed limit in Philo, the old Philo Pottery Inn at 8550 Highway 128. I know from the multiple letters the previous owner Monika Fuchs had written to the AVA newspaper, and saw for my own eyes the ruined aftermath, that the front of the property and fence when they owned it had been hit **many** times by cars careening through downtown at a high rate of speed. They run right off the busy thoroughfare and into the front yard fences. It has happened repeatedly.

There are a lot of pedestrians, and an ever increasing number of them, crossing the highway between the east and west sides. Next to the Philo Pottery Inn is Baxter tasting room and the Anderson Valley Inn. The Philo Post Office, Libby's & Lemon's are on the east side directly across the highway. Once the Pottery Inn is reopened for guest rooms and events & weddings there will be even more.

2) A couple hundred feet east of the heart of downtown on the highway, you have a steep incline with VERY limited visibility as you enter downtown from the Boonville side. On one side of the incline The Brambles is being developed as guest rooms, and next to that the old mill sits, which is being redeveloped for a number of purposes so there will be traffic entering and exiting both the mill and Bramble's sites and there will be pedestrians where there has been no activity for years as both those properties have been shuttered for so long. That is all going to change. If you go down there and have a look and imagine pedestrians walking from Lemon's Market across the highway to the old mill, or to The Brambles, or Indian Creek Park, on the narrow highway with poor visibility, no sidewalks or safety shoulders, you will immediately sense the danger. A speed increase is simply not safe. It is not safe as it is!

3) And there is more. Just on the east end of town you have another dangerous situation. The Madrones complex is at 9000 Highway 128 and next to it is Goldeneye. Across from those two businesses is the Balo tasting room and the new Domaine Anderson tasting room. That stretch of highway has a big curve in it limiting visibility and the opportunity to slow down if needed. This is another place that has increased pedestrian traffic going across the highway and people roar through that stretch too.

Something has to be done or someone undoubtedly will die again. This has already happened. As we all know people are drinking in the valley which just increases the chances for a deadly accident. Late last year there was a very bad head on collision right outside of The Madrones. There are A LOT of high speed accidents on the highway. As locals we all are aware of the danger of being on that road at any time. Efforts must be put toward lowering the speed limit to 25 MPH east of Goldeneye and west of Anderson Valley Inn and add crosswalks with signage and proper lights.

I will add one tragic irony here. Many years ago, after the preposterous REMOVAL of the old Philo crosswalk, two radar report signs were added that are posted at 30 MPH and display your speed in numeric lights. Well, some of the people who drive through there like to see how FAST they can go and how HIGH they can get the number. A few of years ago there was a disastrous accident involving four young men trying to make the radar signs show "00" by going 100MPH! What they succeeded in doing was racing up the incline and hitting a tree at the top of the run, exploding the car on impact and killing themselves. **All four men died.**

There have been other fatalities in downtown as well.

So I'm not sure why an increase in speed is even being considered. It is a reckless idea that is surely going to end in more deaths.

I have attached a map I've made notes on illustrating the points I've mentioned.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

The other folks signing this letter are:

Phil Baxter from Baxter tasting room
Michele Mullins & Molly Crangle from Balo
Brian Snelling from Domaine Anderson
Jim Roberts & Brian Adkinson from Madrones

Thanks!

Mary

Mary Zeeble

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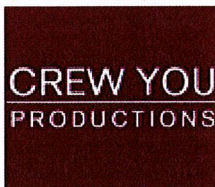
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