



Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

Director's Report – August 1, 2017

- **2016-2017 Storm Recovery Effort – Top Priority Projects Status:** MCDOT staff has been working closely with staff from the California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Federal Highway Administration Agency (FHWA). MCDOT is advancing some nine sites in the FHWA program and thirty-seven sites in the FEMA program which were reported on in detail, in the July 18, 2017, Director's Report.

MCDOT has three FHWA sites that are significant priorities: First, is Comptche Ukiah/Orr Springs Road, County Road (CR) 223, Milepost (MP) 39.20, where a temporary Bailey Bridge was installed. Second, is Mountain View Road, CR 510, at MP 22.02, is a culvert replacement and involves a stream and permitting delays will put that repair into next year. Finally, the third site is Branscomb Road, CR 429, MP 21.50. MCDOT received some good news on July 21, 2017, that Caltrans cleared National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements for both the Comptche Ukiah/Orr Springs Road and Mountain View Road sites.

MCDOT is now pushing against the limits of a late construction season to complete construction of pile wall(s) at Orr Springs Road, MP 39.20, and Branscomb Road, MP 21.50.

The Branscomb Road, MP 21.50, project can be constructed leaving as least one lane open with normal 20 minute delays during daytime activities of the contractor.

The Orr Springs Road project presents a more difficult challenge, as there will need to be at least a five day complete road closure. MCDOT is striving for a Monday to Friday closure in order to be open by the weekend. In addition, there will be up to a ten day partial closure while the temporary Bailey Bridge is dissembled. It is anticipated that half of the tieback pile wall can be constructed next to the bridge and backfilled to form a single lane. Then the process of deconstruction of the temporary Bailey Bridge can be accomplished to the side so that a portion of the ten day partial closure can be curtailed to only midday with one lane open overnight and on weekends to allow for morning and evening commute during the day. The construction will be disruptive in any case, but the County and the contractor plan to post signs well in advance of the closures, and pass hand bills to local traffic with projections for closure times in order to mitigate inconvenience to the public. MCDOT will also update its web page and Facebook page during the construction.

Mendocino County's top FEMA site is Peachland Road, CR 128, MP 0.95, where we still await NEPA clearance but we are poised to advance as soon as we can.

The Orr Springs Road, Branscomb Road, and Peachland Road, projects all require financial approval. In the case of the Orr Springs Road and Branscomb Road projects, the request for authorization has been submitted. It is very late in the construction season and if approved MCDOT will advance construction bidding with the minimum two weeks advertisement. MCDOT will preface the contracts with requirements to accelerate construction schedules. Furthermore, the contracts will contain bid additives to suspend and re-mobilize work should winter return early before work can be done. There is a point in late August and early September where depending on the capacity of the successful bidder that MCDOT may delay project start to avoid the risk grounds disturbance and non-stable site over winter. In this case construction will be delayed to next year.