



*Department of Transportation (MCDoT)*

**Director's Report – January 10, 2017**

- **Road Division Activities: December 10, 2016, through December 28, 2016, Storms Followed by Ice:** Mendocino County Department of Transportation Road Crews responded to a series of large rain storms that started on Thursday, December 8, 2016, with the peak of the storms occurring on Thursday, December 15, 2016. The storms continued into the early morning hours of Saturday, December 17, 2016. MCDoT Road Crew personnel responded in a skilled and noteworthy manner, and served Mendocino County and its citizens, with distinction. MCDoT Road Crews worked most nights and weekends during this time to keep our County Roads open. MCDoT office staff also pitched in to keep the County Web Page current with updates.

The rain was followed by cold, freezing air, which caused black ice and snow in the higher elevations of the County over the holiday weekend of December 24–26, 2016.

Many of MCDoT Road Crew employees volunteered to come in to work over the holiday. They came in at 3 a.m. to sand the County roads to ensure they would be safe for holiday travelers. These employees have my sincere appreciation, and I am sure, that of the County; for their efforts. They are listed below:

<b><u>Ukiah</u></b>	<b><u>Willits</u></b>	<b><u>Laytonville</u></b>	<b><u>Boonville</u></b>	<b><u>Point Arena</u></b>
Sterling Long	Cole Munderloh	Sean Leslie	W.T Johnson	Steven Archuleta
Kevin Weer	Jerry Harris	George Alexander	John Tindall	
Philip Crane	Bill Petersen			<b><u>Mechanics</u></b>
Tony Silveria	Richard Branch			John Hendricks

On December 20, 2016, MCDoT staff asked for, and was granted, the support of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in declaring a local emergency, thereby granting emergency powers under the Mendocino County Code. In the meantime, work with the Office of Emergency Services continues with scope and cost revision requests related to the damage caused by the December 2016 storms.

- **Caltrans Proposed Speed Zone Change, State Route Highway 128, Philo:** Pursuant to remarks from Supervisor Hamburg subsequent to the Director of Transportation Director's Report given at the BOS meeting of November 14, 2016, MCDoT has asked the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), to present information at a public hearing for Caltrans' proposed speed zone change on State Route Highway 128 in Philo, at the Board's regular meeting on January 24, 2017. The notice to be issued:

***NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN*** that the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing in their chambers at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, California on **Tuesday, January 24, 2017** starting at **9:00 a.m.** or as soon thereafter as possible, on the following: Caltrans has informed the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors that the results of a speed zone survey of State Route Highway 128 in the community of Philo support an increase in the speed limit from 30 miles per hour (mph) to 40 mph, between milepost (MP) 22.10 and MP 23.70. Based on

*California Vehicle Code §21400(b), Caltrans has incorporated a maximum 5 mph reduction and is recommending a 35 mph speed limit between MP 22.10 and MP 23.70. Caltrans is also recommending a decrease from 55 mph to 45 mph in the speed zones on each end approaching the proposed 35 mph speed zone.*

*California Vehicle Code §22354.5(b) provides for the Board of Supervisors to conduct a public hearing on proposed speed limit increases or decreases on state highways in its jurisdiction and Caltrans is required to take into consideration the results of the public hearing in determining whether to increase and/or decrease the speed limit.*

*The Board of Supervisors encourages the residents of Philo to attend the public hearing to learn more about Caltrans' proposal and to provide input on the proposed changes to the speed limit on State Route Highway 128.*

- **Main Street and Kasten Street, Mendocino – Projects Update:**

The construction of the Americans with Disabilities Act Ramp project is complete.

The *Schlosser, Newberger Architects*, designed stair project has been granted a permit by the Mendocino Historical Review Board. The designer provided final plans and technical specifications on December 29, 2017. MCDOT is in the process of requesting bids and construction of the stairs will proceed in February of 2017.

- **Mendocino County Department of Transportation Director Invited to Speak at Meeting of the Western Regional Association for Pavement Preservation:** MCDOT Director, Howard N. Dashiell, was asked to share Mendocino County's experiences using the Rubberized Chip Seal (cape seal) application method of pavement preservation. The Director will also compare and contrast traditional chip seal and asphalt overlay systems at the February 1, 2017 Pavement Preservation Workshop in Ontario, CA.

Mendocino County was encouraged to try these methods based on the advice of Supervisor Gjerde from his positive experience at the City of Fort Bragg. The Mendocino Council of Governments sponsored a training workshop - "Chip Seals & Asphalt Pavement Surface Treatments" on February 22, 2013. This course covered basic concepts on pavement preservation treatment. Ideas and advantages of mixing asphalt rubber as a layer of aggregate with rubberized chip seals were also discussed. MCDOT did our first project that summer.

The chief purpose for using cape seal for pavement preservation projects is to provide a preventive maintenance treatment to existing paved surfaces to extend the useful life of those surfaces and to prevent more costly complete reconstruction. Cape seal is a three-layer application method that produces fewer loose rocks than traditional chip seal, and smoother "asphalt like finish".

The County's existing road system is a very valuable asset and MCDOT has used pavement preservation application methods starting with Proposition 1B bond projects in 2008. MCDOT has treated 125 miles of roads, on road segments that were still in fair condition. The cape seal application method has also been successfully applied over the past five years on North/South State Street(s), East Road in Redwood Valley, Old River Road, Oak Knoll/South Dora area, and Despina/Zinfandel/ Chablis Drive (Wine Roads area).