



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1523 PACIFIC AVENUE, SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060-3911 (831) 460-3200 FAX 460-3215

SERVICE AUTHORITY FOR FREEWAY EMERGENCIES (SAFE)

May 7, 2007

Steve DiGrazia
Department of Transportation
50 Higuera Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-5414

RAIL/TRAIL AUTHORITY

RE: Bicycle Improvements on the Highway 152 Watsonville Rehab Project

COMMUTE SOLUTIONS

Dear Mr. DiGrazia:

I am writing on behalf of the Bicycle Committee of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission to urge you to consider improvements for bicyclists traveling on Highway 152 as part of the current rehabilitation project. The Bicycle Committee received a presentation on projects impacting cyclists in the City of Watsonville and the surrounding area and understands that the Highway 152 improvement project will rehabilitate roadways and pedestrian facilities. The California Driver handbook states that bicyclists on public streets have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers, which includes sharing roadways and following all the traffic laws. Consideration should therefore be given to bicyclists as an integral part of any road rehabilitation project. Specifically, the Committee recommends the addition of Class II bike lanes where road width allows on the sections of Highway 152 currently being improved. Simple striping additions to designate shoulders and/or bike lanes would function as a big safety and operational improvement. Where lane widths prevent bike lane striping, the placing of "Share the Road" signage should be considered.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY WORKSHOP

BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

INTERAGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we support your continued efforts to provide safe routes for cyclists and pedestrians.

Sincerely,

BICYCLE COMMITTEE

Daniel Kostelec
Chair, SCCRTC Bicycle Committee

ELDERLY & DISABLED TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

cc: Maria Rodriguez, City of Watsonville
Jennifer Wilson, Caltrans Resident Construction Engineer
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission's Bicycle Committee

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