



Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

Director's Report – March 13, 2012

- **County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Conference:** The MCDOT Director will participate in the 2012 Public Works Officers Institute (PWOI) from Tuesday March 20th through Thursday March 22, 2012. Conferences provide an opportunity to meet and discuss common issues with other Transportation officials from cities and counties throughout the State. PWOI is held each spring rotating south to north; this year we are San Jose. The meetings are devised to update local agencies on current news as well as provide a networking opportunity.
- **Road Division Activities:** MCDOT Road Division personnel are moving forward with spring plans. Crews will return to a 4 day (10 hours a day) week schedule with the return of daylight savings time March 12, 2012. This increases efficiency as longer working days allows for better travel time vs. production time ratio for projects during the construction season. During most winters (sadly, not so much this winter due to the lack of rain) crews are needed five days a week for storm related activities (land slides, down trees, flooding, ice, snow, etc.). I might add designated Road Maintenance Staff are available 24 hours a day 7 days a week (24/7) to respond to emergencies (CHP, EMS and call outs) all year.
- **Caspar Closed Landfill – Future Central Coast Transfer Station Topics for Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC):** On Wednesday, March 14, 2012 the Caspar JCC will meet. The committee is officially comprised of two Fort Bragg City Council members – Doug Hammerstrom and Dan Gjerde, along with two County Supervisors – Kendall Smith (4th Dist.) and Dan Hamburg (5th Dist.). Ex officio members are Fort Bragg City Manager Linda Ruffing, County Chief Executive Officer Carmel J. Angelo, Contract County Solid Waste Director Mike Sweeney and County Transportation Director Howard Dashiell. Topics for discussion are: 1) Caspar Landfill leachate alternative approaches to long-term leachate generation and handling, 2) Impacts to land owned by County and or City/County, 3) Caspar Transfer Station greenwaste, 4) Consideration of proposal from Solid Wastes of Willits to redirect greenwaste from Cold Creek Compost to Pacific Recycling Solutions, and 5) Report on siting project for new Fort Bragg area transfer station.
- **Laytonville Lighting District:** MCDOT, after a long process delay, has received a new matching light pole. The lights are repaired and fully operational along Highway 101 in Laytonville.
- **Retirement of John Kaijankoski, Daniel Elsberry and Steven Romberg:** Three long time Road Maintenance Services Division staff has announced their plans to retire from County service, effective the end of March 2012. John and Dan have both worked for Mendocino County for over twenty one (21) years and Steve for thirteen (13) years. Dan and Steve both achieved Senior Equipment Operator positions in the Willits Service Area. John came to the County with many years of experience as a private mechanic and self-employment. He has been a tremendous asset the MCDOT as the sole Heavy Equipment Mechanic in the Fort Bragg Service Area. All three will be missed at MCDOT but we wish them well in retirement.