

Crescent City/ Del Norte County Chamber of Commerce

1001 Front Street ~ Crescent City, CA 95531 Phone 707-464-3174 FAX 707-464-9676 www.delnorte.org chamber@delnorte.org

September 5, 2013

Tamera Leighton Director Del Norte Local Transportation Commission 1301 B Northcrest Dr. #16 Crescent City, CA 95531

Re: Last Chance Grade

Dear Ms. Leighton,

This letter is being written to urge the DNLTC to confer with all agencies and companies involved with the ease of egress to build a route around Last Chance Grade.

It is only a matter of time before U.S. Highway 101 at Last Chance Grade collapses and slides into the ocean. When this happens it will have a dire economic impact on Del Norte County. The tourism industry will take a huge hit as visitors traveling north will simply not journey any further on Hwy. 101 but will use Hwy. 299 to travel inland. Likewise those traveling south from Oregon on Hwy. 101 will use Hwy. 97 and 199 to continue their trip.

Del Norte County would be split in two isolating the town of Klamath from our County Offices and Courthouse. Likewise students in Klamath wouldn't be able to attend schools in Del Norte County. It would take 7-9 hours to drive from Crescent City to Klamath.

Millions are being spent by Cal Trans on a band aid approach to fixing this problem. When the road collapses Cal Trans would then start to build a new road most likely going through the area where a road could be started now. We can't afford to wait the estimated 18-36 months for completion of a new road after the collapse. We should begin immediately and hope for completion before the inevitable disaster.

Sincerely,

Jeff Para Executive Director on behalf of;

The Crescent City-Del Norte County Advocacy Committee and Board of Directors.

CC: Jay Sarina, Gene Palazzo, Richard Young, Don Olson, Kara Miller, Dale A. Miller, Thomas P. O'Rourke, Charlie Fielder, Talitha Hodgson, Jim Nielson, Wes Chesbro, Jared Huffman