

Remedios, Douglas@DOT

Subject: FW: A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH-PLEASE VOTE NO

From: Andy Pham

Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:55 PM

To: Taylor, Tanisha@CATC

Subject: A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH-PLEASE VOTE NO

Dear Commissioner Taylor,

I am the only one fighting back on this project, and I need people like you on my side! Please, please vote NO this coming Thursday on the Caltrans underpass plan. We have paid over \$12 million in taxes to the county over the 16 years that we have been open and serving the community. My truckstop is an essential destination center for truckers all over the state. This design will put me out of business and render me unable to serve the thousands of truckers in our community. Please feel free to call me about this issue, I would love to hear your feedback. My cell number is (805) 400-0145, I am available 24/7, day or night.

Thank you again,

Andy Pham
Owner, San Paso Truck Stop
81 Wellsona Rd.
Paso Robles, CA 93446

URGENT: THIS IS A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH

Press Release:
Paso Robles CA
December 4, 2023

CALTRANS RUSHING NEW PLANS FOR THE 101 AND WELLSONA RD TO REQUIRE BIG TRUCKS TO CROSS DIRECTLY INTO ONCOMING TRAFFIC

Nicknamed "Undertaker Underpass", it is a big departure from safer plans already approved over 70-years ago

Truckstop owner predicts many lives to be lost in playing 'Dodgeball' with big semis.

In a highly unusual move, Caltrans is rushing Highway Commissioners to approve plans in the next 96 hours to redirect northbound large semi trucks and all other vehicles wishing to exit the 101 west on Wellsona Road directly into the oncoming lanes of southbound traffic on Wellsona Road. Although Caltrans purchased all the land necessary to build a 'cloverleaf' at the intersection over 70 years ago, Caltrans cost-cutting alternative is to try to save on building the costlier and safer cloverleaf, and instead is hoping southbound traffic can dodge the big trucks as traffic speeds by.

At the center of the controversy is San Paso Truckstop owner Andy Pham, who operates the truckstop at the Wellsona intersection for in excess of 3,000 big trucks per month, who rely on the truckstop for food and fuel. Pham was surprised that Caltrans abandoned the cloverleaf design in favor of the dangerous alternative. He tried to obtain the tightly guarded plans a year ago from Caltrans, to no avail. "I had to file two separate Freedom of Information requests to compel Caltrans to release the plans for their new exit and driveway", says Pham. "I was shocked to learn that Caltrans' new plan was routing the truckers directly into oncoming lanes of traffic. Now I can see why Caltrans kept these dangerous plans such a secret", Pham continued. "Now they are ramming the plans to a final Commission decision in the next 96 hours, and then it's decided forever. The Commissioners I spoke to don't even know the dangers, it's like Caltrans is pulling the wool over their eyes... who will answer for the new lives lost from this dodgeball driveway scheme?", he lamented.

Truckers that have heard of the plans from Pham are furious, Pham says. "I call it the 'Undertaker Underpass', because you can't play dodgeball with people's lives. They want my land but I'm the only one blocking their decision on Thursday" claims Pham.