

Sign on...

I recieved an announcement in the mail for comments on the proposed program to add a stop light and an interchange on U.S. 101 between Arcata and Eureka. I am disabled as you regular listeners know, so instead of attending any meetings, I e-mailed my thoughts on the matter to CalTran's representative of the project. As I said, the plan calls for a traffic signal at one point and an interchange at Indianola Road. As I see it, there are very few accidents on the highway between Eureka and Arcata for the amount of traffic on that section of highway 101. An overpass at Indianola would mean, I think, moving the highway inland a ways to allow for the structure. I could be wrong, of course, but that would be a very costly procedure. A signal light at one of the entrance roads could cause more accidents than it might prevent, as people are just getting going, then have to stop. The traffic lights at 5th and V streets cause breaks in the flow and crossing just takes a little patience to get an opening. In my humble opinion, increasing the presence of CHP or Eureka Police officers keeping the traffic at the posted 50 mph speed limit would be a better use of the funds, and would be much less expensive.//As long as I'm talking about 101, I took a drive to Crescent City last Sunday to visit friends, and it is a mess going over the last hill into Crescent City. Everyone is urging us to contact our state representatives to get this bypass project started. There is one place where some of that money from the Eureka/Arcata project could be used- and quickly,

too!//My friend in Crescent City is wheelchair bound and her husband, like my wife, is responsible for her care, and doing a good job of it. We talked about some of the things we do to make our existence a little easier. Her husband is a handyman type and has made some alterations in their very nice home, as have I. Some of mine are: my Jeep is sort of high, and even though it raises and lowers, sort of like the city busses, if there is no sidewalk, getting into it from the wheelchair is a job. I drew up a sketch for a small platform with a sloping front so that we can push the chair up to the edge of the slope and raises me up just a couple of inches so I can get in easier. Works great! \*We also went to Broadway Med-ical and bought an 8' foot and 2' folding ramps so I can get up steps and the little rise from the porch to the floor of the house in the wheelchair. I also designed a tool to turn on faucets and one to turn on light switches from the chair.\* I love to tinker and design and create tools, but now, I can't even get into the garage, and my hand strength is gone, so even that part of my life is gone.//It's a new year, so let's all go out and make the best of it! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sign off.....