



COMMITTEE FOR
GREEN FOOTHILLS

March 16, 2015

Mr. Bijan Sartipi
District Director
Caltrans District 4
111 Grand Avenue
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Roadside spraying by Caltrans on State Highways 1, 35, 84, 92, 101 and 280 in San Mateo County

Dear Bijan,

I write on behalf of Committee for Green Foothills to request that Caltrans cease the practice of broadcast spraying with herbicides along the six State Highways in San Mateo County, and instead mow to control roadside weeds, and only if absolutely necessary, use spot spraying to treat small areas of invasives that can't be controlled by mowing.

In 2012, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors terminated broadcast spraying of herbicides along County-maintained roads. The County's reasons for eliminating broadcast spraying included concerns regarding impacts on health of residents and visitors, health of the County's sensitive habitats including wetlands, streams, and watersheds, and protection of wildlife species, particularly endangered species. As you may be aware, San Mateo County's natural habitats are home to over 40 endangered or threatened species, or species of special concern. We all need to do everything possible to ensure that these species survive, and that human health is not compromised.

Committee for Green Foothills commends Caltrans District 1 for ceasing roadside spraying in several counties in the rainiest part of the state, and urges District 4 to do the same – beginning with San Mateo County. The people and critters of San Mateo County, will be eternally grateful.

With best wishes,

Lennie Roberts, San Mateo County Legislative Advocate

cc: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Senator Jerry Hill
Senator Mark Leno
Assemblymember Rich Gordon
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin
Assemblymember Phil Ting

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