



EL DORADO COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

PLACERVILLE OFFICES:**MAIN OFFICE:**

2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667
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MAINTENANCE:

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To: The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Don Ashton, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Rafael Martinez, Director of Department of Transportation
Brian Mullens, Deputy Director, Maintenance and Operations

Subject: Emergency Road Repairs due to 2022 Storm Series Update as of 2/14/23

Please accept this memo as an update on the activities surrounding the Department of Transportation's emergency project to facilitate road repairs throughout El Dorado County due to the 2022 Storm Series.

SUMMARY

Starting December 30, 2022, severe storms fell on El Dorado County, bringing high winds, heavy snow, historical precipitation, high and fast-flowing streams, creeks, and rivers, resulting in power outages and damage to infrastructure. Department of Transportation (Transportation) immediately began working 24/7 operations to ensure roadways were safe for the public.

Public Contract Code section 22050, Contracts without Bids; Procedures, authorizes the Board of Supervisors to delegate authority by resolution to non-elected county officers to order actions to repair or replace a public facility and procure services for those purposes in the event of an emergency. Section 2.18.020 of the County Code of Ordinances designates the Director of Transportation as a county officer serving as the Road Commissioner. There is a significant risk if the standard Board approval process for design, plans, specifications, permission to advertise, and award of a public project is followed, the work would not be completed and pose an imminent threat to public safety. It is critical that the County make these emergency repairs immediately to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, or property. Therefore, on January 10, 2023 (Legistar #23-0136), staff requested that the Board find substantial evidence exists that this emergency will not permit the delay resulting from the normal process of award and that it is necessary to repair the damaged County roads as well as roads that fall within the Zones of Benefit. Staff further requested that the Director of Transportation, acting as the Road Commissioner, be delegated the authority to take all necessary actions to approve and award the emergency road repairs countywide.

Staff also recommended the Board find this emergency repair work is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Public Resources Code Sections 21060.3(4) and 21080 and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15269, 15301.

Subsequently, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #016-2023, which found an emergency existed.



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Below are the emergency repairs Transportation has already identified.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- Volcanoville Road experienced a culvert failure, and a portion of the roadway collapsed. Repairs are completed. The road has been reopened fully to the public.
- Latrobe Road also experienced a culvert failure which undermined the roadway, and staff immediately closed the road due to public safety. The road was closed and the repairs were completed. Since the repairs the road has been reopened fully to the public.
- Sweeney Road repairs are completed. Sweeney Bridge experienced a log jam that diverted the water and washed out a section of Sweeney Road. The log jam was cleared to allow the passage of water through the appropriate channels again. Shortly thereafter, staff evaluated the bridge and determined it did not appear to have suffered any damage. The roadway was reconstructed and is now open to the public.
- Another culvert failure occurred on Mining Brook Road, which caused the roadway to collapse. The road was closed to the public but has since been opened after the culvert replacement was completed.
- Lotus Road repairs are completed. A sinkhole developed and was immediately repaired to ensure there was no public safety concern. Staff believes there is a failed culvert at the location and will monitor the area to ensure emergency repairs are completed if the culvert is identified as being compromised.
- Green Valley Road experienced a roadway slip. The project has been completed.
- Beaver Pond Road in the Ryan Ranch Zone of Benefit also experienced a culvert failure that undermined the road. A temporary repair was completed to ensure residents were able to access their homes; however, the temporary repair was not sufficient. The culvert was replaced and the road was repaired.
- Transportation also required the additional help vactoring as many culverts as possible during the heavy rains to ensure proper disbursement of storm water. The countywide vactoring project supplemented Transportation staff's efforts.



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- Newtown Road experienced a culvert failure and required a culvert replacement to ensure public safety. The road was anticipated to be closed from January 30th to February 2nd, however the work was completed in three days and the road was reopened 24 hours earlier than expected.
- Grizzly Flat Road experienced a road slip. The repair was completed in a timely manner to ensure the road was safe for local residents.

IN PROGRESS

- Fairplay Road experienced a culvert failure and road slip. The repair was scheduled to begin the week of February 6th however, with the potential of rain, has been rescheduled but will start no later than the week of February 20th and is estimated to be completed within five working days.





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- Mount Murphy Road experienced a failed culvert and road slip. The road has been closed to the public but continues to erode and sluff off. Staff has visited the site multiple times and determined it is a project that should be addressed for public safety as well as ensuring the entire section of roadway is not lost. The project was started on February 14th and is anticipated to take 20 working days minimum to complete all repairs.



POTENTIAL PROJECTS

- Hassler Road slope failure repair was completed. The slope failed due to an uprooted tree. Further assessment has also indicated there is a possible failed culvert on Hassler Road. Staff continues to monitor the situation as the water recedes to determine the level of damage that may exist.



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- Jurgens Road which is considered “seasonally impassable” is washed out at Weber Creek. The Department has visited the site and determined debris which has washed into what was the road with a height of approximately six feet needs to be removed and the road repaired once waters have receded.



The emergency projects above are in the process of being written as a retroactive work order, or task order off of the fully-executed retroactive agreement with Doug Veerkamp General Engineering Inc, #7403. Transportation continues to monitor and assess damages from the storms. At this time, Transportation has not identified the full extent of the damages. Staff continues to complete pothole patching countywide, including the Tahoe Basin, and are documenting problem areas that will need permanent repairs during the summer construction season. Staff also continues to complete storm clean up and identify downed trees that are in the ROW that need to be removed.