



# Harris Grade Road Vehicle Restrictions



*Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010*

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### Presentation Overview

- About Harris Grade Road
- Origin of request to restrict oversized vehicles
- California Vehicle Code
- Analysis
- Alternate Route
- Findings
- Recommendation

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### Harris Grade Road

- 2-lane rural major collector
- Runs north-south between State Route 1 north of Lompoc & State Route 135 south of Orcutt
- Avg. Daily Traffic = 1500 veh.
  - Less than 2% of veh. are over 30 feet long
- Contains many sharp curves
  - Currently posted



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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Request

- California Highway Patrol requested that the trucks with trailers advisory sign be replaced by a regulatory (enforceable) sign due to an increase in call-outs involving semi-trailers
  - Semi-trailers getting stuck
  - Collisions involving semi-trailers



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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### California Vehicle Code

- **21101 Local authorities, for those highways under their jurisdiction, may adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution on the following matter:**
  - (c) **Prohibiting the use of particular highways by certain vehicles, except as otherwise provided by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1031) of Chapter 5 of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code.**

#### Exempt Vehicles

Emergency vehicles & vehicles that have no other means of access to sites within the restricted highway

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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Analysis

- **Collisions involving semi-trailers increased in 2009**
  - 2000 - 2008 (average of 1 collision every 2 years)
  - 2009 (4 collisions)
- **Vehicles over 30 feet in combined length cannot stay in their own lane on the sharp curves**



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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Harris Grade

- Travel time = 16 minutes
- Travel Distance = 11.3 miles

### Alternate Route

- Travel time = 15 minutes
- Travel Distance = 14.1 miles



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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Bicycles

- A mountainous section of Harris Grade Road has no paved shoulders
- Is primarily used as a recreational route for bicyclists
- Two "Share the Road" signs exist, one on each side at base of grade
- Work with bike coalition



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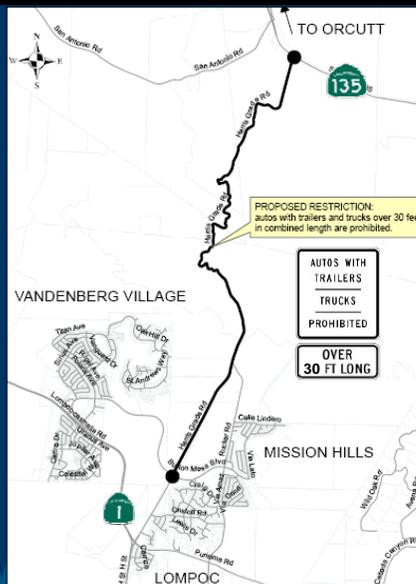
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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Conclusion

- Longer vehicles cannot safely traverse Harris Grade Road and the advisory signs are not effective.
- Restricting autos with trailers and trucks over 30 feet in combined length from using Harris Grade Road will reduce the number of collisions & allow enforcement.



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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



### Recommendation

The County of Santa Barbara Department of Public Works recommends that the Board adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 23 of the Santa Barbara County Code thereby prohibiting the use of highways by certain vehicles:

**HARRIS GRADE ROAD**, from Burton Mesa Boulevard to State Route 135:  
Autos with trailers and trucks over 30 feet in combined length are prohibited.

**Alternate Route for Prohibited Vehicles:** State Route 1.

**Fine for Violation:** \$100

**Exemptions:** Emergency vehicles & vehicles that have no other means of access to sites within the restricted highway

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Board of Supervisor's Hearing  
August 10, 2010



# Thank You!

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