

June 7, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: At the US 101 Traffic Safety Town Hall held in Salinas June 6, representatives of Caltrans District 5, CHP Monterey Area Office, Monterey County Public Works and TAMC shared truck diversion route maps and other information to be used in informing, educating and training commercial drivers who operate vehicles along the US 101 corridor south of Salinas, about the recent restrictions on commercial vehicles for left-hand turns and U-turns.

Caltrans pointed to collision data, including accidents with injuries and fatalities for this stretch of US 101 between Gould Road and Esperanza Road, that grossly exceeds statewide averages, as the justification for these restrictions.

CHP Monterey Area Office representatives offered to assist area businesses with their traffic safety education and training so their commercial drivers are aware of the new restrictions intended to decrease accidents, including fatalities, at these impacted intersections. CHP also offers several other traffic safety and education opportunities to the community, including Driver Safety Courses for All Groups – Defensive Driving, Distracted Driving Awareness, DUI Prevention, and Rules of the Road (Presentations may be tailored to the needs of your group).

In 2018, CHP issued nearly 1,700 tickets for speeding on US 101 between Spence Road and Gonzales. Speeding is the leading cause of accidents along this corridor, followed by unsafe turns, unsafe lane changes, DUI (alcohol and drugs), failure to yield right-of-way, and other types of infractions.

For more information, please contact the S.O.S. US 101 Traffic Safety Alliance at sos101trafficsafetyalliance@gmail.com or on their Facebook page "South of Salinas Hwy 101 Traffic Safety Alliance"

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