

**From:** [Board Of Supervisors](#)  
**To:** [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Hiway 17 safety issue  
**Date:** Monday, March 24, 2025 8:13:46 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Millers [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2025 10:42 AM  
To: info-d5@dot.ca.gov; stateroute17ra@dot.ca.gov  
Cc: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>  
Subject: Hiway 17 safety issue

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Hello—

I once again had the unpleasant necessity of driving over Hiway 7 at night. It may be a function of my aging, but facing the on-coming traffic headlights creates a dangerous situation, at least for me. There are several times when my vision was lost for seconds as I faced directly at car headlights in the opposite direction. On a curving road like 17, a few seconds of lost vision can be critical.

There are some patches of Hiway 17 where the directional barriers are high enough (48"?) to block opposite traffic lights but much of it has lower barriers (36"?). Seems to me that a relatively easy fix would be to install up-right "paddles" every 12" on the lower barriers.

I notice that the new construction on Hiway 1 includes 48" dividing barriers all along. I assume that is the new standard, for safety reasons. Hiway 17, with the many curves bringing drivers into face-on encounters with incoming lights, has a great need to reach that safety standard.

I hope you can make such a retro-fix a priority for safety reasons.

Thank you,

Steve Miller