

January 28, 2015

LOOMIS NEWS

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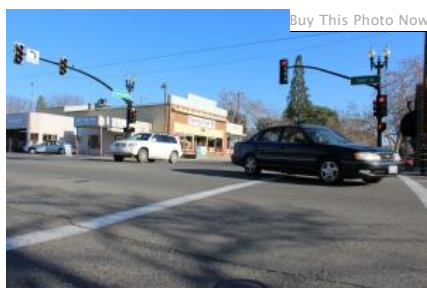
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Local businesses anticipate Raise80 project

By: Jordan P. Hales Of the Loomis News



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With Interstate 80 scheduled to be closed in both directions on Jan. 27 and Jan. 28 from the hours of 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. and then temporarily from Jan. 25 through Feb. 9, locals are preparing for the change in traffic patterns.

The project, dubbed "Raise80," is funded and executed by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans).



It seeks to increase the vertical clearance of nine freeway over crossings in south Placer County.

RAISE 80
CONSTRUCTION ON OVERCROSSINGS
RESUMES LATE JANUARY 2015
IN SOUTH PLACER COUNTY

Caltrans

raise80 @Raise_80

"I think we absolutely need it," said Vicki Lynn, owner of Loomis Basin Barber & Beauty on Horseshoe Bar Road, near one of the to-be raised overpasses. "They're old. We (local drivers) put a lot of wear and tear on them."

While Lynn's business will be closed during the hours of construction for the first construction phase, she said the roadway improvements will

affect her clientele in their commutes.

"My clients come from all over," Lynn said. "They commute from Newcastle, Loomis, Roseville, El Dorado Hills, Granite Bay, Sacramento. Any improvements will be worth the inconvenience in the long run."

Other businesses are not anticipating much effect on business or clientele.

"We get our dinner rush between 6 and 7:30 (p.m.)," said Grayson Lee, owner of Il Pizziolo wood-fired pizza on Taylor Road, less than one mile from a to-be modified onramp. "Loomis is a tight-knit community. If you're here, you know how to get around."

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Lee, who owns two other locations in Placer County, expressed curiosity as to how detours may affect local business and specifically mentioned retail locations in parts of Rocklin, where one of his restaurants is located.

“We don’t have any freeway signs or anything,” Lee said. “Some of the other businesses are more impulse buys. I think it will affect them.”

Some customers are hopeful that the diverted traffic may bring attention to roads and highways in the city itself, as they said those streets are in need of improvements.

Lynn noted that roads, sidewalks and crosswalks along Taylor and Horseshoe Bar Road have presented issues “for some time and posed issues” to pedestrians during Loomis’ annual eggplant festival in October.

“There are lots of dips, potholes, everything,” Lynn said of Taylor Road.

John Russell, a Loomis barber, concurs.

“Taylor Road, from Ophir all the way down, needs improvements,” Russell said. “But any traffic funneled through Taylor, near Loomis’ small businesses, is probably a good thing.”

Keywords:

Raise I80 CalTrans local businesses placer county Loomis businesses brace road detours diverted traffic attention Jordan Hales Loomis ophir Rocklin PENRYN

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