The “Department Head Reports” from DOT for the November 7, 2023 meeting, are listed below:

- Road crews are back to repairing storm damage sites on Ruth Zenia Road. A piece of equipment broke and it took a long time to repair as it was difficult to locate and obtain the required parts due to the age of the equipment. This delayed the crew from completing repairs last month. Crews are currently working on the temporary repairs again, and expect to finish this week. Due to the amount and severity of road damage in Southern Trinity, the repairs are temporary. Permanent repairs require extensive design and construction due to the magnitude of the damage.

- Road crews are busy with routine preventative maintenance as they are getting ready for the winter storms. The Ruth crew will start ditch and culvert cleaning on all roads. The Hayfork crew finished cleaning ditches and culverts in the Hyampom area and will start removal of hazardous trees along county roads in Hayfork. The Weaverville crew finished brushing in Weaverville and are moving to Junction City for both brushing and patching. Half of the crew will be in Salyer replacing five burned culverts on Campbell Ridge Road.

- The High Friction Surface Treatment on Rush Creek Road has been completed, including striping and new reflective markers. The final administration is being completed, and the Notice of Completion will be submitted to the Board for approval. This project is paid (100%) with Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds.

- Trinity County DOT replaced 125 feet of guardrail and terminal end section, on post mile 9.7 Van Duzen Road, damaged by an errant driver. Staff applied for an additional $500k Federal grant funds for the guardrail safety improvement project. Engineering and accounting staff continue to review geotechnical reports and fill out the required documents for FEMA and Caltrans related to the 2023 storm damage events.

- Caltrans authorized construction funding for the 2017 storm damage repairs on Trinity Dam Blvd at post mile 22.9. Plans and specifications for the project are being completed and should go to bid this winter. Construction of the repair is anticipated to begin next summer.
- DOT selected Wood Rodgers as a consultant in a management position to help the Department with the hundreds of FEMA, OES and ER type storm damage from previous years located throughout county. The agreement is scheduled to be approved by the BOS on November 7, 2023.

- Engineering staff continues to work on form-filling and site inspections with FEMA for the recent 2023 storm damages. Much of the work for the January storm damage event is progressing through the sluggish FEMA process, while the procedure for the March storm damages has just begun.

- On the weekend of October 14, 2023, thieves cut the lock of a storage container in the Hayfork yard and stole two large chainsaws valued at approximately $4,000. The incident has been reported to the Sheriff’s department along with the serial number of each saw. The replacement saws will be stored at an alternate location to prevent future incidents.

- Transit recently selected Steve Whitacre as a part-time driver and Cameron Adams as a full-time driver. With the addition of new drivers, staff is considering revising the service to Hayfork from three days a week to four days a week.

- Transit staff is coordinating with the California Integrated Travel Project (Cal-ITP) to test satellite antenna (three-month trial period) as a solution to rural connectivity barriers. A Starlink satellite was installed on one of Trinity Transit’s buses and the connectivity will be tracked to identify dead zones. With a stable satellite connection, Trinity Transit could introduce real-time General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) and electronic fare payments, creating a more user-friendly system.

If you have any questions please let me know.