



Somis Municipal Advisory Council

c/o County of Ventura
625 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Members of the Council:

Patrick Richards, Barbara Kerkhoff, Tyler Cobb, Jack Foss, Robert Fulkerson

September 12, 2018

Shirley Choate, Interim District Director
California Department of Transportation - District 7
100 South Main Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: URGENT NEED FOR SIGNAL AT SR118 AND BALCOM CANYON ROAD

Dear Ms. Choate,

On August 10, 2018, a tragic accident on SR 118 at Balcom Canyon Road in Somis sadly claimed the life of a 9-year old boy. The Somis Municipal Advisory Council has heard from residents as well as voiced concern about safety on SR 118 for many years, particularly at the intersection of Balcom Canyon Road. As you are aware, there has been a substantial increase in the volume of semi-trucks utilizing State Route 118 over the past several years. These trucks have no available "exit" should there be a need for a sudden stop or to avoid a collision due to limited shoulder areas and parallel drainage ditches along a majority of the highway.

We were disappointed when Caltrans informed us at our July 2018 meeting that construction of the signal would be delayed to next year due to higher than expected bids. We are writing to ask you to expedite the construction of a traffic signal at the intersection of Balcom Canyon Road and SR 118.

We believe Caltrans, in its duty to ensure the safety of State roads, should do everything within its power to expedite the installation of the traffic signal and make SR118 a safer highway for all drivers. We urge you to fast-track the Balcom Canyon Road/SR 118 traffic signal and any other measures that would ensure SR 118 is a safer highway for all drivers.

Thank you in advance for a quick response,

Pat Richards, Chair
Somis Municipal Advisory Council