

Hello: I would like to comment on your Preservation Program – specifically the Killam Creek Culvert project. That project is slated to be completed 2026-2027 for which either a side diversion structure adjacent to Hwy 101 may be constructed for bypass or South Prairie Rd is slated for a detour during the construction. I have expressed my safety concerns about using South Prairie Rd as the detour to the Project Manager, Charlotte Berghoffer but I would also like to include them here.

Killam Creek. I live at 6990 South Prairie Rd between the two 35 mph signs. My house is between two sharp corners and is very close to the road. It is dangerous to pull out of. Our 150 year old maple tree and fence has been hit by cars – most recently several months ago. People miss judge the curves often. We are within walking distance of South Prairie school and the South Prairie store. I understand South Prairie Road is one detour option being considered for this project. The road is used by children (walking or biking) during the summer. Families also pull toddlers in wagons. IF the side diversion structure cannot be built for the Hwy 101 construction, is it possible to install stop lights on either end of South Prairie to limit the number of vehicles going through the detour? This would allow us time to pull out of our driveway. Can you lower the speed limit during the detour from 35mph to 20mph? Can you create walk/bike paths? One of our neighbors lives next door to Jandy Oyster near the South Prairie Store. He has a small business operating a concrete pump. He needs to back in his pump into his driveway every day. A 101 Hwy detour on South Prairie Rd. would have so much traffic all the time he would not have the access to do so.

After speaking with a neighbor we felt it was important to emphasize two issues with the ODOT design team. The first is in the summer months South Prairie road has more foot /bicycle traffic by kids. They access the playground and snacks from the store. The ball fields are used for informal practices and formal league games (softball, T-ball, and soccer). The second issue is the dense fog in the evening. The fog makes the sharp curves treacherous to navigate at best. Curves on the road are hard to maneuver no matter which direction you are headed. I am certain there are specific challenges to keep traffic flowing during construction. I would hope your team finds a way to work through the challenges to install the diversion structure adjacent to Hwy 101 for the benefit of lives. One other idea has come up and that is to use Port of Tillamook Bay property for part of the detour. Thank you – Monica Pyle

My phone number is (503) 801-7823. Many years ago, before the Hwy 101 left turn off, I was rear-ended turning left off of Hwy 101 onto South Prairie Road. My 3 year old son was in the vehicle. After, I sent requests to have a left turn lane and soon after the left turn lane was constructed. I do not want any accidents associated with the Killam Creek project. Thanks, Monica Pyle