

DOWN ON MAIN STREET

What's the story on road construction?

By Vane

Traffic is backing up on Main Street between Sierra Park and Minaret Road owing to a \$3.9 million Caltrans grinding and repaving project.

The project began in early August at 395 and has been working its way up 203 toward the MMSA Main Lodge. The work will be done in four stages: 1) 395 to Sierra Park Rd: 4 days, 2) Sierra Park Rd to Minaret Rd: 4 days, 3) Minaret Rd to Mammoth Knolls Rd: 1 day & 4)

Mammoth Knolls Rd to MMSA Main Lodge: 6 days.

To complete the project, there will be shoulder backing, raising utility covers and striping, which will require lane closures. No parking will be allowed between the Knolls and Main Lodge on Aug. 19, when grinding operations begin. Vehicles parked in this section will be towed at the owners' expense.

There have been some delays in paving because of asphalt plant

breakdowns and issues with oil supplier Paramount Petroleum. The project should be completed about a week to 10 days later than expected, wrapping up in mid to late Sept. according to Caltrans District 9 Public Information Officer Florene Trainor.

The grinding and repaving operation is part of an effort to fix the mistakes made by Sierra Nevada Construction on the same stretch of road three years ago. Caltrans Maintenance Engineer

John Fox called the original problem with the Sierra Nevada Construction paving a "workmanship issue." That is, the project was constructed late in the season, and procedures that should have been followed, weren't. He added that there were also "doubts regarding the asphalt binder itself, and whether it was what we specified." Sierra Nevada Construction paved sections of the June Lake Loop, 395 in Lee Vining, and 395 south of Bridgeport. Each of these sites is exhibiting the same problems as Main Street. The current contractor, Granite Construction, will be doing "substantially more grinding" said Public Works Director Ray Jarvis, to get rid of the failing pavement. Granite Construction will then repave with a different formulation of hot mix asphalt.

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TRAIL DAYS

MAMMOTH LAKES TRAIL SYSTEM

Lake George Trailheads

Stewardship Saturdays continue with a morning of trail and shoreline enhancement around scenic **Lake George!**

WHAT: Maintenance on the Crystal Lake and TJ/Barrett Lake trails, plus lakeshore trash and fishing line cleanup, followed by lunch and raffle prizes for volunteers.

SATURDAY, August 27, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Meet in the Lake George parking area. Please carpool!

WHO: Volunteers of all ages and abilities! Work attire (close-toed shoes, long pants/shirt) is required; sun and bug protection recommended.











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