

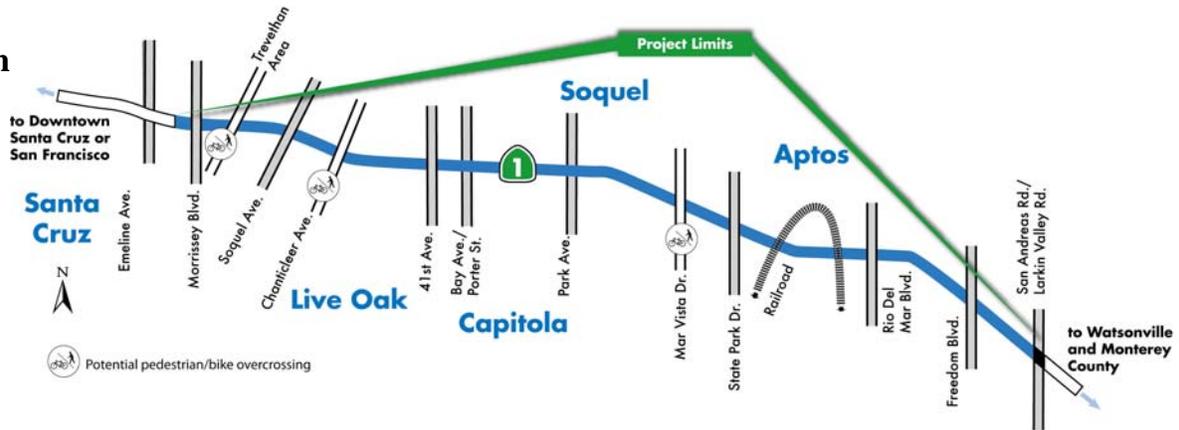


Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Highway 1 Corridor Investment Program

Fact Sheet
March 2015

Program Elements:

- ❖ Auxiliary Lanes
- ❖ 3 Bike/Pedestrian Bridges
- ❖ Upgraded Interchanges
- ❖ Ramp Metering
- ❖ HOV/Carpool/Transit Lane



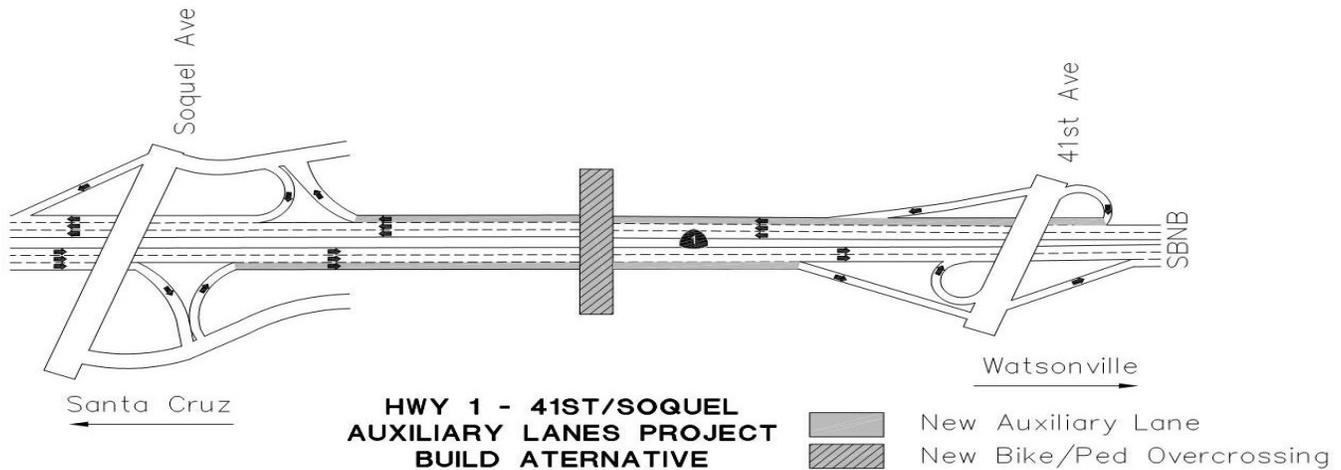
Existing Conditions

Highway 1 is the most heavily traveled roadway in Santa Cruz County. As travelers know, the roadway is congested several hours a day creating unpredictable travel times, emergency response delays, and spill-over effects on local streets and neighborhoods. Since 1997, starting with the Mission Street Widening project, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) has been working with Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration, local jurisdictions, and other partner agencies to implement projects that increase the efficiency and safety of the Highway 1 corridor, and keep longer distance trips on the highway.

While Highway 1 is a state highway, the state does not fund more than ongoing roadway safety and operational repairs. Capacity improvements or the construction of additional travel lanes on the corridor is the responsibility of the RTC with funds received from the state and federal government. Unfortunately, funding to meet the current demand on Highway 1 is well beyond the amount our region typically receives on an annual basis. Moreover, the amount of funds received is not reliable or predictable, and therefore it is not possible to construct all the desired project elements as one complete project on the corridor. Instead the RTC is moving forward with a series of smaller projects that can be paid for as funding becomes available (such as auxiliary lanes) as a way of working towards the long term goal. If voters approve a local, reliable source of transportation funding (as has been done in 19 counties throughout the state representing over 80% of the state's population) projects on the corridor can be delivered quicker and take advantage of economies of scale.

Current Activities

The RTC is working with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on a Tiered Environmental Impact Report that will identify cumulative impacts, costs, and benefits of projects on the Highway 1 corridor from Santa Cruz to Aptos. Through this report the community will choose the preferred longterm configuration of the highway. Analyzing the cumulative environmental impacts of the longterm goal for the corridor is called a Tier 1 environmental analysis. This document will also include detailed analysis and documentation (referred to as Tier 2 environmental study) to allow construction to move forward on the next project in the corridor: auxiliary lanes between 41st Avenue and Soquel Drive and a bike/pedestrian overcrossing of Highway 1 at Chanticleer Avenue.



This section of Highway 1 is the busiest in the county carrying on average over 108,000 vehicles a day, between the busiest intersections in the county carrying 24,000 on Soquel Drive and 46,000 on 41st Avenue. The bike/pedestrian crossing will provide a safer alternative to cross Highway 1 thereby promoting alternative travel modes, while improving the efficiency of the existing corridor, reducing conflicts at the existing interchanges, and improving traveler safety.

Estimated Project Costs

(Figures are shown in rounded, 2015 dollars)

Project Components	Total Cost
Environmental Review	Secured
Final Design & Specifications	\$2,850,000
Right-of-Way Acquisition	1,550,000
Construction Management & Survey	3,500,000
Construction	19,500,000
Total Cost	\$27,400,000

*Funds Secured for Environmental Review only.
Of the \$27.4 million total needed \$6.0 million has been programmed to date.

Milestone Schedule

<i>Complete Technical Studies</i>	2015
<i>Public Review of Draft Environmental Document</i>	2015
<i>Publish Final Environmental Document</i>	2016

----- *If Funding is Secured* -----

<i>Final Design/Right of Way Acquisition</i>	2016 - 2018
<i>Construction</i>	2019 - 2020

Stay Informed About Highway 1 Projects

If you wish to receive information, contact the SCCRTC at:

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phone (831) 460-3200 ~ fax (831) 460-3215
email: info@sccrtc.org ~ website: www.sccrtc.org

To continue receiving information about Highway 1 and other projects, subscribe to the E-newsletter on the SCCRTC website: www.sccrtc.org/enews.