



Highway Corridor: Highway 1 Aux Lanes, BOS (41st Avenue to Soquel Drive), and Chanticleer Bicycle/Pedestrian Overcrossing

Project Description

The project constructed northbound and southbound auxiliary lanes and bus-on-shoulder improvements between the 41st Avenue and Soquel Avenue/Drive interchanges, and constructed a new bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing at Chanticleer Avenue. Historically, this section of Highway 1 has been the busiest in the county, serving over 100,000 vehicles a day, providing access to the primary regional commercial/retail activity centers on 41st Avenue and regional medical facilities located on Soquel Drive. The auxiliary lanes connect the on-ramps with the next off-ramp, thereby extending the weaving and merging distance between the ramps, improving traffic operations, and reducing cut-through traffic diverting to local streets and neighborhoods.

The bicycle/pedestrian overcrossing at Chanticleer Avenue provides an alternative route for bicyclists and pedestrians currently using the Soquel or 41st interchanges to cross over Highway 1. The overcrossing is lighted, 12- to 14-foot wide, and incorporates aesthetic treatments consistent with the visual character of the corridor and the adjacent community.

Unified Corridor Investment Study

Recognizing the need to address both existing transportation problems and future needs of Santa Cruz County, a Unified Corridor Investment Study (UCS) was undertaken to consider transportation options between Santa Cruz and Watsonville along three of the most important north to south transportation routes in the County, including the Highway 1 corridor. The study provides a rigorous analysis of how various groups of projects or scenarios advance the transportation goals of Santa Cruz County.



Project Highlights

- ▶ Improves traffic operations on Highway 1
- ▶ Improves bicycle and pedestrian connectivity to regional destinations and transit by providing a dedicated crossing for active transportation users at Chanticleer Avenue
- ▶ Adds infrastructure for buses to travel in the auxiliary lanes between interchanges and on the outside shoulder through interchanges
- ▶ Measure D funds are being used to accelerate the project development process
- ▶ Construction began in 2023 and was completed in 2025.

Project Delivery Strategy

The RTC led the delivery of this project. Measure D-Highway Corridor funds and other RTC discretionary funds were used to complete the work necessary to ready the project for construction, and as a match for SB1 construction grants. This project received funds from Cycle 2 of the SB1 Solutions to Congested Corridors Program and Local Partnership Program competitive funds.



PROJECT FACT SHEET

Updated March 2026

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Project Funding

Project Cost	\$	43.9M
Funding Sources		
Measure D (Highway)	\$	7.5M
Other Secured*	\$	36.4M

*Includes STIP, SB1 (SCCP and LPP programs) and HIP funds.



Project Status/Schedule

Construction was substantially completed in July 2025, with completion scheduled for Spring 2026.

