



Hwy 101 Improvements between Milpas St. and Hot Springs Rd.

Project Update: December 28, 2008 - January 3, 2009

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Due to the holidays, we are sending out the project update for next week early. Please note, no work will occur on New Year's Day (Thursday, January 1st). Hwy 101 will have 2 lanes open during the day in each direction.

Project Funding:

The State of California is currently experiencing a statewide cash crisis due to the projected State budget shortfall and an inability to sell bonds to fund its daily operations. State-funded infrastructure projects may have to be halted until the Legislature and Governor adopt a plan to return the State to fiscal solvency. The Highway 101 Improvements between Milpas St. and Hot Springs Rd. is on the list of projects that may be impacted. The project team is monitoring this budget crisis and preparing contingency funding plans. These could include loaning funds from locally-controlled sources, such as Measure D, if State funds become unavailable. Plans keep the entire project intact, so that freeway and local street improvements would continue. **Currently, construction continues as scheduled.**

Click [here](#) to read more about how California's cash crisis and potential affects on local projects.

Northbound Hwy 101:

As weather permits, crews will continue laying aggregate base for the new northbound Hwy 101 merge lane between Cabrillo Boulevard and Salinas Street. Crews will also continue forming and pouring foundations for the new sound wall by the municipal tennis courts.

In preparation for the Cacique Street under-crossing, pile driving will occur between 7am and 4pm daily near the northbound Hwy 101 off-ramp at Milpas Street. Work will occur behind concrete barrier.

Southbound Hwy 101:

South of the Hwy 101 bridges over Milpas Street, crews will continue work on the retaining wall in preparation for the new southbound hook off-ramp. Crews are also constructing the new hook off-ramp and the updated southbound Hwy 101 on-ramp at Milpas Street (the on-ramp remains closed during this work).

On Hwy 101 southbound between Milpas Street and Olive Mill Road, crews will continue drainage work and installing aggregate base for the new third lane. Work will occur behind concrete barrier in the shoulder areas.

Montecito Roundabout:

Crews have begun vegetation clearing, and work will continue clearing and grubbing for the new Montecito roundabout near the intersections of Cabrillo Boulevard, Old Coast Hwy, and Hot Springs Rd. The majority of work will occur between 7am and 4pm.

As a part of the new roundabout and local street improvements, crews will continue excavation work

and begin forming for sidewalk and parkway improvements on Old Coast Hwy between the tennis courts and the new roundabout. Drainage work will also occur in the area. **While area intersections and streets remain open, motorists should anticipate 5 to 10-minute delays through the construction zone.**

Ongoing Ramp Closures:

The **southbound Hwy 101 on-ramp at Milpas Street** will remain closed. While the on-ramp is scheduled to close for up to five months (May 2009), crews are optimistic that they will be able to open the ramp ahead of schedule (weather permitting) due to work already completed. During the temporary closure, drivers can use the southbound Hwy 101 on-ramp at Garden Street (see map below).



▲ SOUTHBOUND HWY 101 ON-RAMP AT MILPAS ST.

This ramp will be closed for 5 months to build the 3rd southbound lane.
DETOUR: Take Milpas St. to Hwy 101 on-ramp at Garden St. (via Hwy 101 or Cabrillo Blvd).

The **southbound Hwy 101 off-ramp at Los Patos Way** (by the bird refuge) will remain closed for up to 12 months (September 2009). During this temporary closure, drivers can use the southbound Hwy 101 off-ramp at Hot Springs Road to access business and services on Los Patos Way.

Rideshare Incentives:

SBCAG and the project team are encouraging drivers to reduce single-occupant vehicle trips during construction with the Curb Your Commute program. [Curb Your Commute](#) with incentives and resources to help you reduce your time on the road and improve your quality of life. Traffic Solutions is offering carpool matching, enhanced bus service, commuter cash incentives, free vanpooling and employer assistance. Visit the rideshare page on www.SBroads.com.

Project Information:

The Highway 101 Operational Improvements between Milpas and Hot Springs include the reconstruction of two major interchanges, six new or improved bridges, freeway widening, and improvements to local streets and pedestrian pathways. The \$53 million construction and landscaping project is funded by Proposition 1B and \$13 million Measure D dollars. This project is a joint Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, Caltrans, and City of Santa Barbara highway and local street improvement program.

Construction is anticipated to take 4 years. The majority of construction will occur behind concrete

barriers during daytime work hours; some nighttime lane closures will occur. Motorists should expect an estimated 10 minutes of added travel time in each direction.

Additional Information...

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