

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

State Route (SR) 1 in Santa Cruz County



Purpose of this Transportation Planning Fact Sheet:

Transportation Planning Fact Sheets provide one comprehensive interactive summary document that captures physical, social, political, and development characteristics along State Routes and provides web links to various planning resources and documents. Fact sheets are to be used as supplemental planning documents to Caltrans Transportation Concept Reports (TCRs).

Route Description:

- Within Santa Cruz County (SCr.), SR 1 begins at SCr./Monterey County line and continues on along the Pacific Ocean coastline until it reaches the Santa Cruz/San Mateo County line.
 - Highways that originate/intersect at SR 1 in Santa Cruz County: SR 129 junction (Watsonville), SR 152 junction (Watsonville), SR 17 junction (City of Santa Cruz), SR 9 junction (City of Santa Cruz)
- The [SR 1 Transportation Concept Report](#) (TCR) divides SR 1 in SCr. County into seven segments/sub-segments (16, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18A, 18B, 19) – see maps at bottom of Fact Sheet
- Facility Type: 4-5 lane freeway / 2-4 lane conventional highway / 2-4 lane expressway
- Functional Class: principal arterial, urban principal arterial, urban minor arterial, minor arterial
- Terrain: Flat to Rolling
- Truck Traffic: 2 to 9% (2005)
- See the **SR 1 Corridor Data Summary Sheet** for more route details
- Future concept: **six-lane freeway** between SR 129 and SR 17 with HOV lanes in Santa Cruz urban region



Traffic Volumes:

- AADT ranging 8,000 to 109,400 (TCR figures – yr. 2000)
- Forecast AADT ranging 12,000 to 137,000 (TCR figures – yr. 2025)

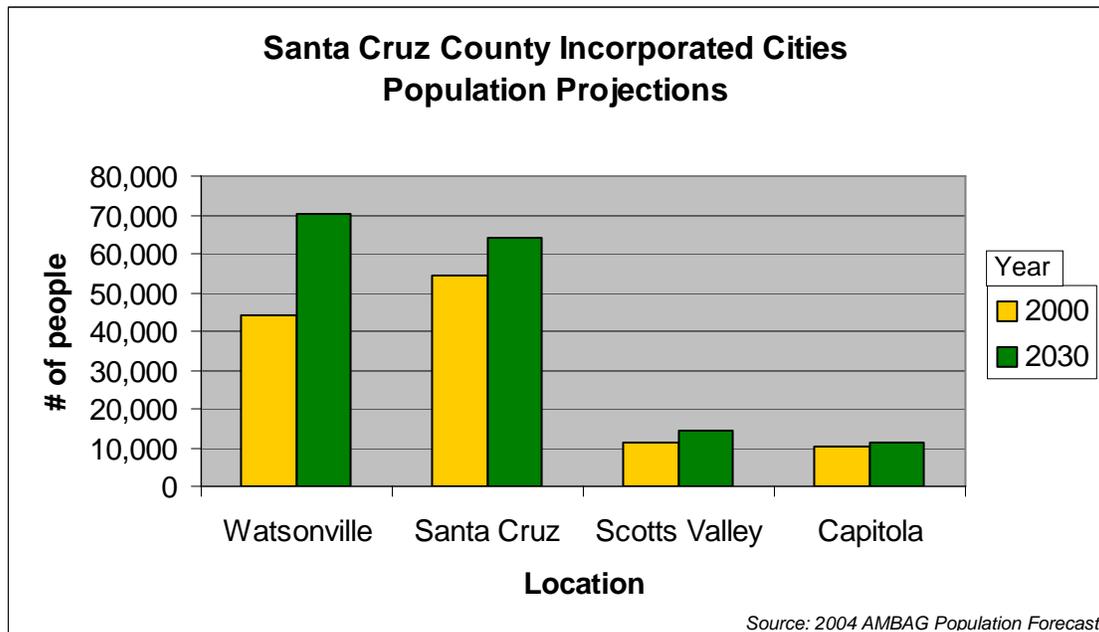
Route Designations:

- ❖ [Scenic Highway System](#) Eligible
- ❖ [Interregional Road System](#)
- ❖ [High Emphasis Route](#) (from SCr/Mon Co. line to SR 17)
- ❖ [National Highway System](#) (from SCr/Mon Co. line to SR 17)
- ❖ [Terminal Access Route](#) to the National Truck Network
- ❖ [Freeway and Expressway System](#) (SCr/Mon Co. Line to PM 20.6 in Santa Cruz)
- ❖ [Bike Accessible](#), from just beyond SR 1/9 jct. (PM 18.25) to Santa Cruz/San Mateo Co. line

County Profile:

- [Santa Cruz County](#) consists of four incorporated cities: [Watsonville](#), [Santa Cruz](#), [Scotts Valley](#), [Capitola](#) (web links connect to City/County General Plan)
- The two most populated cities in the County, Santa Cruz and Watsonville, are both accessed from SR 1
- Santa Cruz County: 19.3% projected growth between 2000 to 2030, from 255,602 to 304,847
 - Incorporated Cities: 32.9% projected growth between 2000 and 2030, from 120,276 to 159,816
 - Unincorporated Santa Cruz County: 7.2% projected growth between 2000 and 2030, from 135,326 to 145,031
- Within the county, there is substantial variation in age and income, as well as travel patterns and employment:
 - Population of those 65 and older are expected to grow by 143 percent through 2030
 - Seniors currently make-up about ten percent of the population and will make up about 21 percent of the population by 2030.
- Santa Cruz County has an extensive [network of bike lanes and paths](#) for commuters and recreational riders
 - The area has an active bicycling community, which supports and promotes the provision of dedicated bicycle facilities on most arterials and collector routes.

Communities and Growth Trends:



- City of Watsonville, located on SR 1 near the south end of the County, is the fastest-growing city in the County:
 - State Routes 1, 152, and 129 converge in Watsonville, which lies in the heart of a fertile agricultural area
 - Hispanic or Latino of any race make up about 75% of the population (2000)
- City of Santa Cruz – Urbanized, County seat, home of the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC):
 - State Routes 17 and 9 both originate at SR 1 in the City of Santa Cruz
 - Corridor from Watsonville to SR 17 includes one of the most heavily traveled stretches of four-lane highway in all of District 5

Transportation Agencies:

- [Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission](#) (SCCRTC) – Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA)
- [Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments](#) – Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- [Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District](#) (METRO)
- [Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association](#)
- [Community Bridges](#) – Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA)
- [Santa Cruz Bicycle Industry Coalition](#)

TCR General Recommendations:

- Continue to explore opportunities to site and develop park and ride lots along corridor
- Implement Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) components to aid operations: loops, closed-caption television cameras (CCTV), changeable message signs (CMS), ramp meters
- Pursue parallel passenger rail service
- Support intermodal connectivity among highway, rail, bicycle
- Support Travel Demand Management (TDMs) and intermodal facilities to reduce/manage demand
- Support incident management program to increase safety, mobility, and reliability
- Improve channelization where possible
- Minimize new access and consolidate existing points of access to highway
- Improve pedestrian access
- Synchronize signals

State Highway Projects

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along SR 1 in Santa Cruz County, click the Caltrans District 5 *Status of Projects* web link:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/pdf/d5sop.pdf>

- For more information about Caltrans Santa Cruz County highway projects, visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/-scr>
- Highway Projects, Programs and Studies Identified by the SCCRTC: <http://www.sccrtc.org/highway.html>
- Local Agency STIP Projects - Caltrans Local Assistance Website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/local/stip_index.html

Regional Planning Efforts:

- [Transportation Funding Task Force \(TFTF\)](#): Formed by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) - purpose is to engage the community in a discussion about transportation needs and funding, and ultimately, see if the county would like to pursue additional local funding for their transportation system.

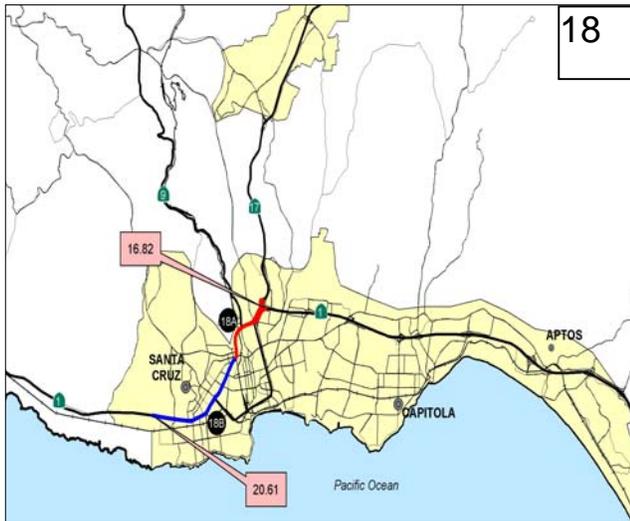
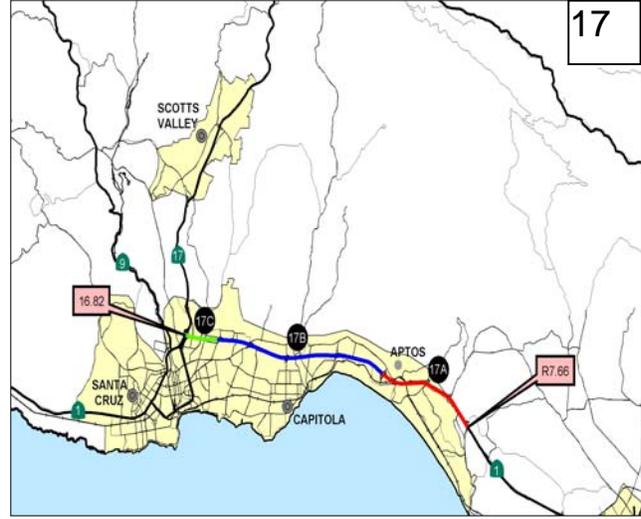
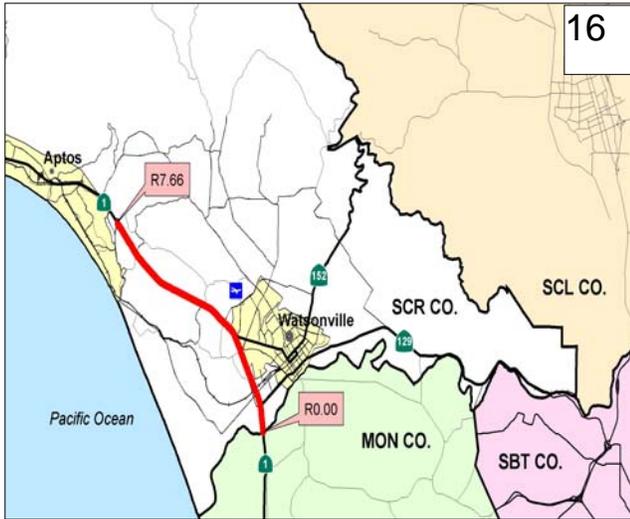
Key Planning Issues:

- Addressing continuously increasing traffic congestion in Santa Cruz County, specifically Santa Cruz Urban Region along SR 1. Possible solutions include SR 1 lane widening with High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes and the addition of auxiliary/merge lanes.

Caltrans IGR Involvement:

- Rte.1/9 PostMile (PM) varied – Salz Tannery site
- Rte. 1, PM varied – Manabe Wetlands Restoration project
 - PM 4.07 – Monterey Regional Waste Management District Master Plan update
 - PM 10.31 – Mar Vista Green
 - PM 10.54 – Seacliff General Plan Amendment
 - PM 10.54 – Valencia Creek Fish Ladder
 - PM 12.09 – Cabrillo Court development (AKA the Atherton Place development)
 - PM 13.60 – Ocean Honda and Store More Storage project
 - PM 13.62 – Home Depot and Safeway Development (AKA Redwood Square Shopping Center)
 - PM 16.37 – Branciforte Creek residential development
 - PM 18.06 – Bay Street Reservoir System Transmission Improvement project
 - PM 18.24 – La Bahia Beach Resort
 - PM 20.09 – UC Santa Cruz Biomedical Sciences facility
 - PM 20.09 – UC Santa Cruz 2005 Long Range Development Plan

SR 1 Transportation Concept Report (TCR) Segment Maps:



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