

# 40 Fact Sheet

STATE ROUTE 49 transportation concept report



## SR-49: California's Golden Chain

The Golden Chain Highway, SR-49 is a north/south 295 mile route originating at SR-41 in Oakhurst in Madera County and ending at SR-70 near Vinton in Plumas County. In District 10, SR-49 traverses Mariposa, Tuolumne, Calaveras, and Amador Counties (see corridor map on back page). SR-49 links the communities in the Sierra Nevada foothills known as the "Mother Lode" in California's Gold Country. It is the "Main Street" for many Sierra Mountain towns and communities. It leaves District 10 at the Amador/El Dorado county line north of the city of Plymouth. In addition to being used by Sierra Nevada commute traffic, SR-49 is also a highly desirable recreation and tourism route with considerable weekend traffic.

### SR-49 TCR Elements

- Current and Future Traffic Projections
- Major Land Uses along the Route
- Planned and Programmed Improvement Projects, including: Complete Street opportunities, Transit, Bike and Pedestrian Plans
- Route Concept

### Project Schedule

#### January 2010

Draft TCR Developed

#### Summer 2010

Draft TCR Public Review

#### Fall 2010

Update Draft TCR

#### February 2011

TCR Review and Completion

### Corridor Mobility Challenges

SR-49 is a significant interregional connector for natural resource based product shipments, including lumber and mining, and travelers seeking tourist and recreational destinations. The corridor also serves as a vital link to regional employment centers in neighboring counties in the Central Valley, and Sierra Foothills. Safety, mobility, and capacity are major issues on the SR-49 corridor. Other mobility challenges identified to date include:

- Congestion in local communities due to on-street parking and numerous private driveway intersections, and encroachments on state highways,
- Highway not widened to four-lanes with standard shoulders in appropriate areas,
- Limited parallel roadway capacity,
- Lack of cost-effective transit services for a dispersed population,
- Land use constraints at the airport; and
- Lack of a consistent network of bike paths and pedestrian facilities which link communities and visitor attractions to encourage the use of alternative transportation modes.

### Understanding TCRs

A Transportation Concept Report (TCR) is a long range planning document that identifies concepts for how the corridor will be developed and managed over a 20-year period. The TCR will articulate a vision for the future of the route and be used to identify needed road improvements.

A TCR is developed to:

- Review current and future traffic conditions and land use,
- Consider multimodal alternatives such as transit services, bicycle and pedestrian Facilities, railways, airports and highways,
- Identify planned projects and recommend future improvements; and
- Determine a Route Concept.

The TCR is developed by the Department with assistance from Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, Local Transportation Commissions, cities, counties, communities, Tribal Governments, private businesses, and the general public. The TCR incorporates community values, and uses the best historical, technical, and statistical data available.

A TCR is NOT:

- A funding document that provides money for specific projects,
- An environmental document that conducts an environmental review for specific projects; or
- A design document that identifies specific features.

## Related Efforts

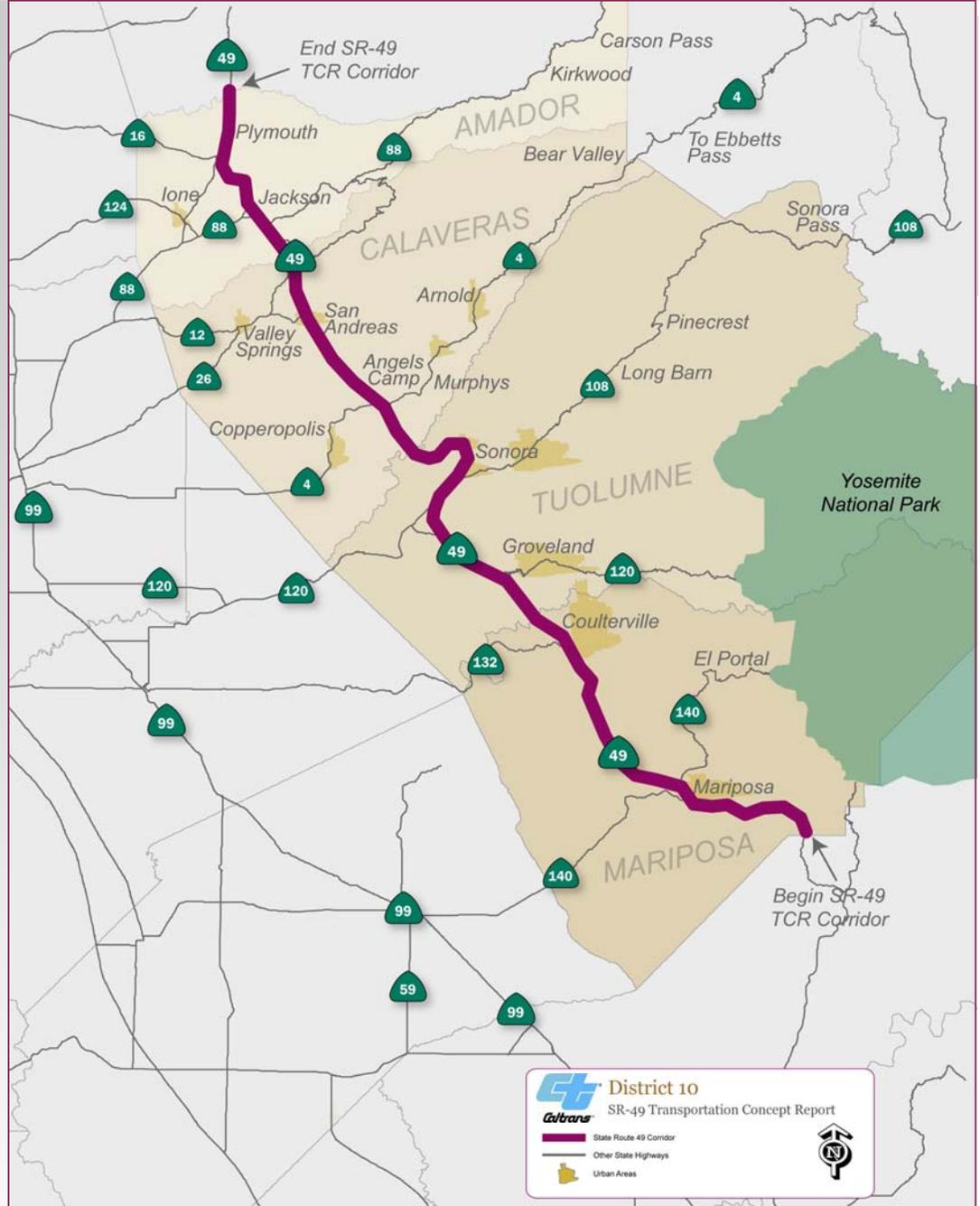
The TCR is related to a number of recently approved planning efforts or efforts in progress, including:

- Mariposa County 2008 Final RTP Update
- Tuolumne County 2006/2007 RTP Update
- Tuolumne County Blueprint
- Calaveras Council of Governments 2007 RTP Update
- Calaveras County Blueprint
- Angels Camp Bypass
- City of Angels Camp Bypass SR-49 Access Management Plan
- City of Angels Camp Current General Plan
- San Andreas Rural Mobility Plan
- Amador County 2004 RTP Update
- Amador County Blueprint
- Amador County General Plan Update

## Core Stakeholders

The development of the SR-49 TCR is guided by a Core Stakeholder team, including:

- Caltrans District 10
- Mariposa County Local Transportation Commission (MCLTC)
- Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC)
- Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG)
- Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC)
- Tribal Governments and Native American communities



If you would like a complete list of core stakeholders including Tribal Governments and Native American communities or have any questions regarding the TCR, please contact District 10 **Lynn O'Connor**, Office of System Planning and Goods Movement Chief at 209-948-3975, [lynn\\_oconnor@dot.ca.gov](mailto:lynn_oconnor@dot.ca.gov) or **Betty Kibble**, Associate Transportation Planner at 209-948-3929, [betty\\_kibble@dot.ca.gov](mailto:betty_kibble@dot.ca.gov)

Upon completion, the Draft SR 49 TCR will be available online at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist10/divisions/Planning/advancedplanning/pages/tcrs.html>