Moss Beach
STATE ROUTE 1 CONGESTION & SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT UPDATE
PUBLIC MEETING AND OPEN HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

SCHEDULE:
6:00 – 6:30 Open House
6:30 – 7:00 Presentation
7:00 – 7:40 Open House
7:40 – 8:00 Wrap-Up
Agenda

• Location & Background
• Needs & Goals
• Project Overview
• Conceptual Alternatives
• Preliminary Traffic Analysis
• Preliminary Environmental Analysis
• Schedule & Next Steps
• Questions & Open House
Project Team

Project Sponsor

Funding and Implementing Agency

State Highway System Owner/Operator
Background

For more than a decade, the County of San Mateo and partners have engaged in transportation planning along State Route 1:

2009  Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Improvement Study (Phase 1)
2012  Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Improvement Study (Phase 2)
2012  Local Coastal Program
2015  Highway 1 Congestion and Safety Improvement Project Preliminary Planning Study
2022  Connect the Coastside: The San Mateo County Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan
2023  Conceptual Designs and Caltrans Coordination for SR 1 in Moss Beach

Early implementation project to come out of the Connect the Coastside
Project Vicinity Map
Identified Issues

• High Speed Traffic on SR 1
• Few pedestrian crosswalks
• No bicycle facilities

Leads to:
• Difficulty for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross SR 1
• Difficulty accessing local businesses
• Difficulty to enter SR 1 from local streets
• Unpredictable travel times
Project Goals

• Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities
• Encourage environmentally friendly transportation options
• Improve multimodal connections to coastal resources
• Improve the operations and safety for all users at key intersections
Phases of a Project

- Long Range Planning
- Project Approval and Environmental Studies
- Construction
- Project Design & Right-of-Way
- Project Initiation Phase

We are here
What happens during Project Initiation?

Outcome

• Develop project alternatives
• Conduct Preliminary Environmental Assessment
• Conduct Preliminary Traffic Assessment
• Identify Preliminary Right-of-Way/Utilities Impacts
• Develop initial cost estimates
• **Initial coordination with Stakeholders:**
  – Community
  – Midcoast Community Council
  – Permitting Agencies
  – Caltrans
  – CHP
  – Bicycle Advocacy
• Completed Project Study Report (Caltrans)
• Allows Project to move forward to the Project Approval and Environmental Document Phase
Project Overview

Improvements may include:

• Pedestrian walkways
• High-visibility crosswalks
• Multimodal trail
• Bike lanes
• Bus stop enhancements
• Roundabouts and/or traffic signals
• Dedicated turn lanes
Project Alternatives

• No project
  – Do nothing

• Project Build Alternative 1
  – Signal at 16th St, Roundabouts at California Ave and Cypress Ave

• Project Build Alternative 2
  – Signals at 16th St, California Ave, and Cypress Ave

• Two options for addressing 16th St / Carlos St intersections with HWY 1

• Build Alternative 1 has options for raised center median or center turn lane

• Both alternatives include pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvements
Pedestrian & Bicycle Features – All Alternatives

Walkways

Walkway
Pedestrian & Bicycle Features – All Alternatives

- Bike Lane
- Multimodal Trail
Crosswalks
Project Alternative 1, Options A & B

Roundabouts

Traffic Signal
Project Alternative 2
Preliminary Traffic Review - Existing

Key Observations

- Example two-way stop-controlled intersection

Average **17,000 vehicles** a day drive on HWY 1 in Moss Beach (highest on weekends)

It only takes an average of **1.5 minutes** to drive through Moss Beach on HWY 1 but the side-street delay can be as long as **7 minutes**

All intersections with HWY 1 are two-way stop-controlled so HWY 1 has the right-of-way (right to go first)
Preliminary Traffic Review - Alternatives

• Existing vehicular wait times will get worse in the future without any new infrastructure
• Signals and roundabouts both create more gaps in flow of traffic for cars to enter/exit highway
• Signals and roundabouts have different tradeoffs
  • Both will help calm traffic
• Adding new pedestrian and bicycle facilities will increase safety and access to community resources and bus stops
Video Simulations

• Informational tool to help everyone understand how roundabouts and/or traffic signals could work on HWY 1

• The simulations demonstrate *weekend* midday traffic in 2050

• Each alternative would reduce wait times at the intersections by an average of **40%** compared to a No Build Alternative

• With roundabouts and/or traffic signals, it could take an extra **30 seconds** to drive through Moss Beach on HWY 1
Key Findings

- Biologically sensitive area including three creeks, wetlands, and endangered species habitat
- Potential buried archaeological resources
- Project likely to require Coastal Development Permit, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Permit, California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Fish and Game Permit
- Anticipated Mitigated Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment for CEQA/NEPA
Project Schedule

* Phases after Project Initiation will move forward when funding is available
Next Steps

- Caltrans, County, & SMCTA working together to finalize the *Project Initiation Document (PID)* that will move the project to next phase (*Project Approval and Environmental Studies*)

- *Your feedback will be submitted as part of this report*

- The County has submitted an application to the SMCTA for funding of the next phase

- *This project will be presented to Midcoast Community Council on October 11, 2023*
Thank you!

For questions or comments about this project, please contact:

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To learn more about this project, please visit: www.smcgov.org/planning/Moss-Beach-SR-1