

Caltrans District 5



Acting District Director Richard Rosales

Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability.

SPRING 2018

District Director's Report

A quarterly publication for our transportation partners



Storm Damage Recovery Ongoing Catastrophic winter spurs travel options

Caltrans continues recovery work from major storm damages in January that buried portions of US 101 in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties while also rendering Highways 192, 33 and 150 impassable. Major work includes rebuilding four bridges and repairing two others, and removing heavy boulders and debris from creek beds and culverts. Completion for most bridge construction, estimated at \$30 million, is expected in spring 2019. Some highway segments remain closed. Caltrans is accelerating work where possible on all impacted highways.

During the two-week closure of US 101, various transportation options became available for the traveling public. Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner added rail cars from Northern and Southern California to meet high travel demands. Santa Barbara Airbus featured daily LAX shuttle trips (five-hours duration) via Interstate 5 and Highway 166. Condor Express also offered daily round-trip emergency ferry services between the Santa Barbara and Ventura harbors. The deadly Montecito mudslide—which took the lives of at least 21 people—followed the December 2017 Thomas Fire that destroyed many structures and burned 300,000 nearby acres.



SB 1 Investment Supports Central Coast

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is recommending \$183.8 million for Santa Barbara County Association of Governments' (SBCAG) US 101 Multimodal Corridor project, which will improve the highway for nearly 16 miles from Ventura County to Santa Barbara. Major work includes completing a High Occupancy Vehicle Lane, filling gaps along the California Coastal Trail, providing peak-hour rail service from Ventura County, enhancing transit services, adding Transportation Demand Management and Intelligent Transportation Systems, and installing new, 40-year highway pavement. The CTC recently adopted both the 2018 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (\$18 billion) and the State Transportation Improvement Program (\$3.28 billion) for projects covering the next five

years. This includes \$197 million for improving Highway 46 East, a major east/west trade corridor, in San Luis Obispo County. SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, invests \$54 billion over the next decade to rebuild streets, freeways and bridges in local communities statewide while funding transit and congested trade/commute corridors. More information: http://rebuildingca.ca.gov/

New Acting District Director

Richard Rosales is now acting District 5 Director. He has 31 years of Caltrans civil engineering experience, including two years as Deputy District Director of Program Project Management; 15 years as a project manager in four of the District's five counties; and capital delivery, including encroachment permits, construction, design and hydraulics. He holds a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from California State University-Cal Poly, Pomona.

Rosales will serve as District Director until Timothy Gubbins returns from San Diego where he is now interim District 11 Director while recruitment is under way to fill that position—formerly held by the new Caltrans Director Laurie Berman before her appointment to Chief Deputy last fall. Rochelle Vierra, PLS, PMP is acting Deputy District 5 Director of Program Project Management. She has 31 years of Caltrans experience, including Project Management Support Unit and Project Resources Chief and Schedule Management (PRSM) Manager, project manager and land surveyor.



Freight Mobility Plan

Caltrans seeks early public input on the 2019 California Freight Mobility Plan. The statewide long-range plan will provide a framework for safe, sustainable, reliable and efficient movement of freight, people and services over the next 20 years. The freight system contributes about \$2.2 trillion annually to the economy and growth is expected. Major challenges include addressing congestion and making the network more environmentally and economically sustainable.

Caltrans is developing the plan in partnership with the California State Transportation Agency, California Freight Advisory Committee and multiple stakeholders. Focus group sessions are scheduled statewide April through June 2018 in the South/North Central Valleys, Sacramento, San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Bernadino and the Inland Empire. The plan's completion is scheduled in December 2019. More information:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/

Truck Parking Survey

The Caltrans is implementing the 2016 *California Sustainable Freight Action Plan*.

The plan cites truck parking shortages and related issues as top priorities. As such, Caltrans is asking local government agencies and industry representatives to provide input on a 7-question survey now being distributed statewide.

Caltrans will incorporate the survey results, compiled by each District, into its upcoming *Statewide Truck Parking Study.* The scheduled release date is not yet determined.

More information:

http://dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/cs_freight_action plan/theplan.html





May is Bike Month

Caltrans will host a commuter station from 7 to 9 a.m. on Friday, May 18, at the District Office in San Luis Obispo. Refreshments will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis and free giveaways are subject to availability. The event, one of a dozen planned throughout San Luis Obispo County, supports bicycling and greenhouse gas emission reduction for cleaner air, healthier lifestyles and more sustainable transportation. More information: https://rideshare.org/program/btwd/





User-Oriented Transit Travel Planning Project

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) recently completed its joint transit planning grant project with Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District. The \$150,000 project developed an individualized marketing toolkit to increase transit ridership and decrease solo-driving. The federally funded (FTA 5304) grant project targeted high-activity employment centers and neighborhoods near major transit stops. The successful plan is applicable in Santa Cruz County and statewide. More information: https://sccrtc.org/



Halcyon Road Complete Streets Plan

The City of Arroyo Grande recently completed its *Halcyon Road Complete Streets Plan.* The \$150,000 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning grant project developed a Complete Streets blueprint for the Halcyon Road corridor located within the city limits and San Luis Obispo County. The plan focuses on improving safety, mobility and accessibility for all users. It also included extensive public outreach to help identify and prioritize both deficiencies and needed improvements. More information: http://halcyoncompletestreets.com/



Call for Projects Coming

Caltrans expects a call for projects for the 2019 Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 4 in May 2018. An estimated \$440 million in federal and SB 1 funding is anticipated for this grant round. In 2013, California created the ATP to encourage more walking and bicycling throughout the state. The program supports both infrastructure and education projects to further these goals.

The California Transportation Commission is scheduled to adopt the ATP Guidelines and Fund Estimate on May 16, 2018. Applications are due to Caltrans <u>July 31, 2018</u>. More information:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/cycl e-4.html