



SANTA CRUZ HIGHWAY 1/17 MERGE LANE PROJECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)

1. Project scope?

- Add 3 Auxiliary Lanes at the State Route 1/ State Route 17 Interchange.
- Widen, Replace, or Construct new, 5 Bridge Structures.
- Construct Soundwalls throughout the Project Area.
- Replace the metal beam median barrier with a concrete median barrier.

Note: This project did not change the actual fishhook at the interchange

2. Project purpose? The purpose of the proposed project is to target specific areas within the Route 1/Route 17 interchange where cost effective improvements could be implemented to address localized safety and operational deficiencies. The project substantially lengthens the merge distances at three locations in the interchange to improve safety and traffic flow.

3. Project Construction Cost? \$50.2 Million

4. Construction Duration? The construction contract was completed in 2.5 years

5. Project Enhancements?

- Use of Open-Graded Asphalt as the final paving layer reduced noise from highway traffic.
- Paving an existing trail under the Carbonera Creek Bridge used as a temporary detour improved bicycle/pedestrian access across the highway.
- Adding sidewalks, where missing, along City Street detour routes improved pedestrian access during and post construction.
- Sack concrete used to stabilize banks of Carbonera Creek was removed to allow for more natural creek conditions and improved fish passage.

6. Project Coordination with the City of Santa Cruz?

- Sharing the Public Awareness Campaign responsibilities between CT and the City allowed for a local presence, local contact, and a better understanding of local concerns of the highway project.
- Providing funding for a City Police Officer allowed for patrols of construction detours on the City Streets.

