



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013

District: 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIGHWAY 101/SANTA MARIA RIVER BRIDGES PROJECT RAMP CLOSURE

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY – Construction to widen the U.S. Hwy. 101 Santa Maria River Bridges will result in a closure of the **southbound Hwy.101 on-ramp from State Route 166** for up to a two week period beginning Monday, Feb. 25.

Motorists headed westbound on State Route 166 will detour onto northbound Hwy. 101 to Tefft Street before returning south on Hwy. 101. It is recommended that trucks use the new Willow Road Interchange instead of Tefft Street to reduce congestion.

Motorists headed southbound from Hutton Road will be redirected north to Tefft Street via the frontage road. An electronic message board will be located at the intersection of Orchard Road and Southland Street to direct traffic north during this closure.

Cyclists should be aware of limited shoulder space on the bridge at all times during this phase of construction and should use the recommended detour. Cyclists traveling southbound can detour along Thompson Avenue to Highway 166 East to Bull Canyon Road to Donovan Road. Those traveling northbound can detour along Donovan Road to Bull Canyon Road to Highway 166 West to Thompson Avenue.

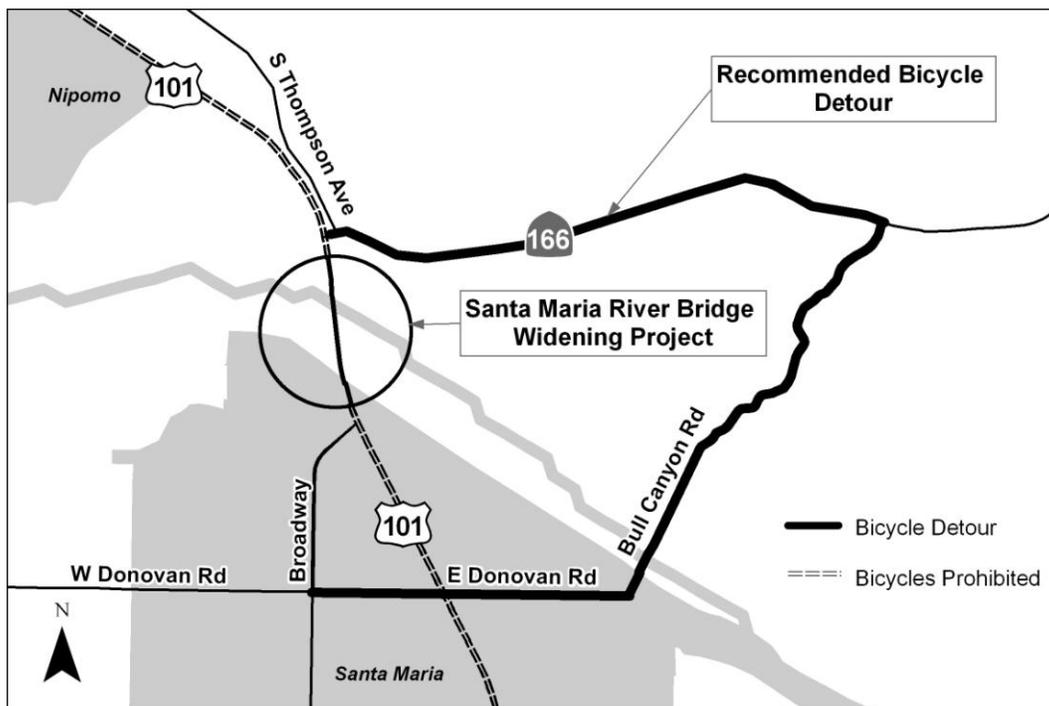
This project will widen the bridge from two to three lanes in each direction with inside/outside shoulders and will include a bicycle path near the southbound lanes behind a concrete barrier. In addition, all existing traffic lanes will be resurfaced.

The contractor for this \$31 million project is Flatiron West Inc. of San Marcos, CA. The project is about 75% complete. It is expected to be completed in early 2014.

(more)



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The public may view the Caltrans Live Streaming Video of the Santa Maria River Bridge at: <http://video.dot.ca.gov/>.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway work zones

For traffic updates on other state highways in San Luis Obispo County, motorists can call Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at 805-549-3318 or can visit the District 5 website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/road_information.htm

