

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

State Route (SR) 41 in San Luis Obispo County

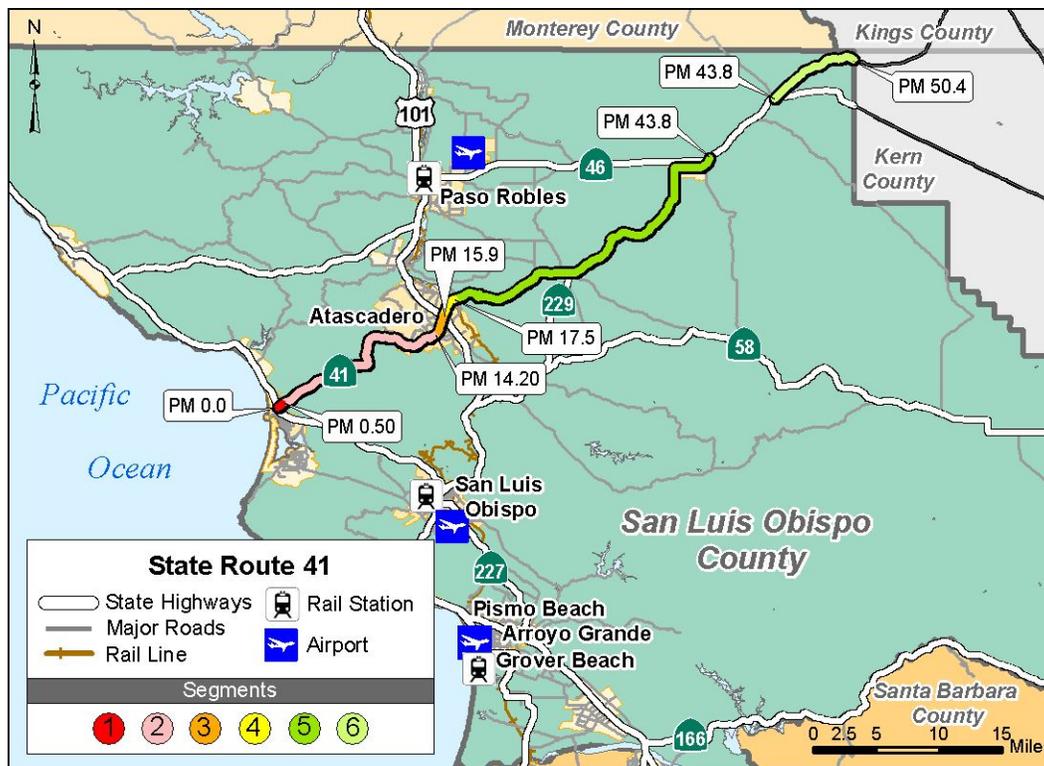


Purpose of this Transportation Planning Fact Sheet:

Transportation Planning Fact Sheets provide one comprehensive summary document that captures physical, social, political, and development characteristics along State Routes and provides web links to various planning resources and documents. Fact sheets are to be used as supplemental planning documents to Transportation Concept Reports (TCRs) and to future Corridor System Management Plans (CSMPs)

Route Description:

According to the 2004 [Transportation Concept Report: Prepared for State Route 41, Located in San Luis Obispo County](#), SR 41 is approximately 50 miles in length and divided into seven segments. However, SR 41 extends through the Counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern, Kings, Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa (Caltrans Districts 5, 6, and 10). In San Luis Obispo County, SR 41 begins at its junction with SR 1 in the City of Morro Bay and extends northeasterly to its junction with US 101 in the City of Atascadero. This is known as SR 41 West. SR 46 East continues northeasterly from US 101 through the community of Shandon before breaking at its junction with SR 46. The route then resumes east of Cholame, at the “wye” with SR 46 before terminating at the San Luis Obispo/Kern County Line - reference map below.



- Traffic: ranges between commuter, local urban, recreational, regional and interregional
- Access Control: conventional highway
- [Functional Classification](#): alternates between urban collector, rural major collector, rural minor arterial, urban minor arterial, rural other principal arterial, and urban other principal arterial
- Terrain: transitions between flat and rolling

Traffic Volumes:

- 2015 ADT: 850 - 33,500
- 2030 ADT: 1,600 - 44,000

Truck Traffic:

- Peak Hour: 3% - 9%
- ADT: 3.8% - 19.5%

Route Designations:

- Focus Route
- Freeway and Expressway System
- High Emphasis Route
- Interregional Road System
- [National Highway System](#)
- [Scenic Highway System](#): Eligible Route
- [Truck Designations](#): Terminal Access, CA Legal 40' KPRA, Advisory <30' KPRA and Advisory <34' KPRA

Future Concept:

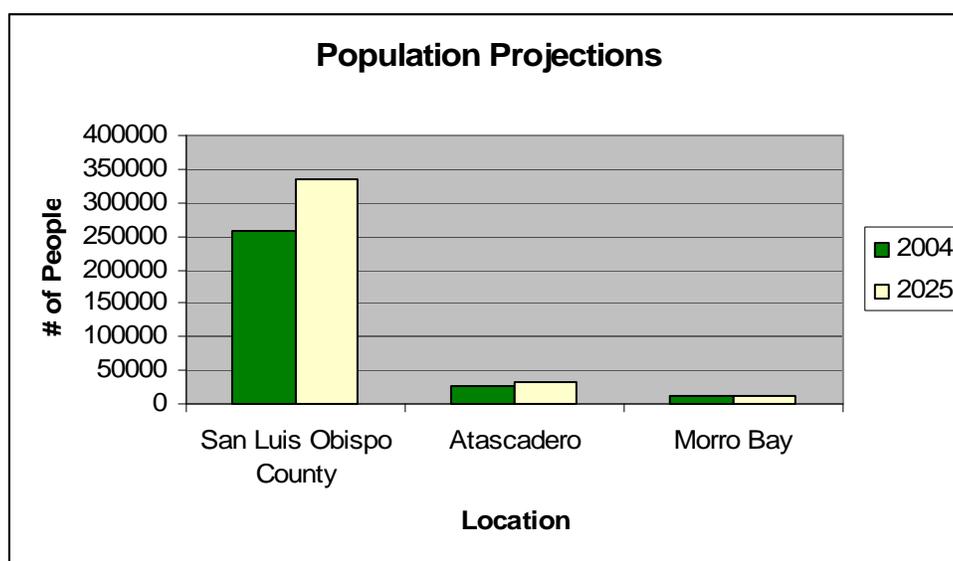
According to the 2004 *Transportation Concept Report: Prepared for State Route 41, Located in San Luis Obispo County (p.4)*, the summary of Route 41 Segment Considerations and Concept LOS for 2023 are listed as follows.

Segment	Begin Postmile	End Postmile	Description	Major Considerations	Route Concept
1	0.00	0.50	SR 1/41 interchange to Morro Bay urban boundary line	The Route Concept for Segment 1 is to remain a 2-Lane conventional highway with the existing continuous left-turn lane and improvements at the SR 1/41 interchange.	Peak LOS C
2A	0.50	10.58	Morro Bay urban boundary line to Atascadero urban boundary line	Segment 2A will remain a 2-Lane conventional highway with improvements such as climbing lanes and left-turn pockets to alleviate congestion	Peak LOS E
2B	10.58	14.20	Atascadero urban Boundary line to San Gabriel Road	Segment 2B will remain a 2-Lane conventional highway with operational improvements such as left-turn pockets and shoulder widening. Widening should be considered and measures taken to protect future right of way adjacent to the highway.	Peak LOS E
3	14.20	15.9	San Gabriel Road to SR 41/101 Interchange	Segment 3 will be widened to a 4-Lane conventional highway while retaining the existing two-way left turn lane.	Peak LOS A
4	15.9	17.5	Route 41/101 Interchange to Templeton Road	Segment 4 will remain a 4-Lane conventional highway with the existing two-way left turn lane between US 101 and Santa Ysabel Road and a 2-Lane conventional highway between Santa Ysabel and Templeton Road.	Peak LOS C

5	17.5	43.8	Templeton Road to Intersection of SR 41/46	The Route Concept for Segment 5 is to remain a 2-Lane conventional highway. Operational improvements as funding and need allow include left-hand turn pockets, passing lanes, and standard shoulder widths. The possibility or re-routing exists in the Shandon area.	Peak LOS D
6	43.8	50.4	Intersection of SR 41/46 to Kern County Line	The sixth segment of SR 41 is a Focus Route that will eventually be widened to a 4-lane expressway. The widening project is currently in the planning phase. A planning initiation document (PID) and funding for the widening project have not been allocated at this time.	Peak LOS A (Northbound) and Peak LOS B (Southbound)

County Profile:

- [San Luis Obispo County](#) consists of seven incorporated cities. In San Luis Obispo County, SR 41 is located primarily within unincorporated area but extends through the [City of Morro Bay](#), the [City of Atascadero](#) and the community of Shandon (web links connect to County General Plan).
- According to the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) 2005 [Regional Transportation Plan \(RTP\)](#), San Luis Obispo County's annual growth rate is 1.24%. If this remains constant, population growth between 2004 and 2025 is expected to increase from 258,208 to 334,775 - reference chart below.



(SLOCOG, 2005 RTP)

- Approximately 15.2% of San Luis Obispo County residents speak another language other than English at home (US Census Bureau).
- San Luis Obispo County is a coastal area surrounded by the counties of Monterey, Kern, and Santa Barbara. According to the SLOCOG 2005 RTP, in the 1970's, the creation of new jobs in the San Luis Obispo region spurred an increasing growth trend in the area. Today this is further impacted by the migration of retired and semi-retired people to the area. Additionally, with the population boom of the 1970's, the proportion of people commuting by carpool, bike and transit has decreased, while

individual car trips have increased. This trend has resulted in increased strain on the transportation systems in the region, projected to impact the Level of Service (LOS) at specific intersections and worsen congestion over time.

Bicycle Access:

- According to the 2004 *Transportation Concept Report: Prepared for State Route 41, Located in San Luis Obispo County*, it is indicated in under “Major Considerations” that Class II bike lanes be implemented along the segments of SR 41 as funding allows.
- According to the Caltrans-District 5 2004 [Bicycle Map: For State Highways of the Central Coast](#), all of the State Highways are open to bicyclist except at a few sections of freeways. There are no restrictions for bicycle use on SR 41.
- According to the 2006 [San Luis Obispo County Bike Map](#), SR 41 is designated as a recreational route for bikes from its intersection with Creston Rd. just east of Shandon to its junction with SR 46.
- San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) has yet to develop a regional bike plan. The County of San Luis Obispo’s existing 2005 [County Bikeways Plan](#) is intended to be updated by 2010. The City of Morro Bay and City of Atascadero have yet to develop master bike plans.

Public Transportation:

Currently, in San Luis Obispo County there are minimal existing regional transit and/or local transit services along the SR 41 corridor, however:

- [Greyhound](#) offers intercity bus service between San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles.
- [Ride-On Transportation](#) provides social services clients’ and the general public with transportation alternatives including shuttles and vanpools
- [Runabout](#) provides Americans with Disabilities (ADA) complementary paratransit service

Park and Ride Lots:

A region wide inventory of park and ride lots conducted by SLOCOG in July 2008 found fifteen formal park and ride lots throughout the county. Nine are located in North County, two are located on the North Coast, one is located in Central County and three are located in South County. Of the nine park and ride lots in North County, one is located along SR 41 in the City of Atascadero.

Intercity Rail Service:

[Amtrak](#) serves San Luis Obispo County in providing rail and bus service from Los Angeles to Seattle. Their newly improved [Coast Starlight](#) train offers an all encompassing travel experience, complete with diner, sleeping and entertainment focused cars. Caltrans [Pacific Surfliner](#) also offers two trains a day with service from southern California to San Luis Obispo. The closest rail stations to SR 41 in San Luis Obispo County are located south of the route in the City of San Luis Obispo and north of the route in the City of Paso Robles.

Airport:

Three airports are located throughout San Luis Obispo County and include: [Paso Robles Municipal Airport \(PRB\)](#), [San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport \(SBP\)](#) and [Oceano County Airport \(L52\)](#). San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport (SBP) provides the most extensive public regional airline service in the County. The closest airports to SR 41 are PRB and SBP.

Transportation Agencies:

- [San Luis Obispo Council of Governments \(SLOCOG\)](#) - MPO/RTPA
- [San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority](#)
- [South County Area Transit](#)
- [San Luis Obispo Regional Rideshare](#)

TCR General Recommendations:

According to the 2004 *Transportation Concept Report: Prepared for State Route 41, Located in San Luis Obispo Count (Appendix C)*, recommended actions for the segments of SR 41 are provided as follows:

- Segment 1 (PM 0.00 to PM 0.50) is to remain a 2-Lane conventional highway with the existing continuous left-turn lane and major improvements at the SR1/41 interchange. Operational and landscaping improvements to SR 41 frontage road.
- Segment 2 (PM 0.50 to 14.20) will remain a 2-lane conventional highway with improvements such as left-turn pockets to alleviate congestion associated with adjacent development. If historical growth in traffic volumes continues, widening should be considered and measures taken to protect the right of way adjacent to the highway.
- Segment 3 (PM 14.2 to 15.9) will be widened to a 4-lane conventional highway while retaining the existing two-way left turn lane. Improvements such as standard shoulder widths and Class II bike lanes will also be added.
- Segment 4 (PM 15.9 to R17.5) is to remain a 2 to 4-Lane conventional highway with the existing continuous left-turn lane between El Camino Real and Santa Ysabel Road. Improvements at the 41/101 interchange will bring the future LOS to C or better.
- Segment 5 (PM 17.5 to PM 43.8) is to remain a 2-lane conventional highway. Operational improvements as funding and need allow such as left-hand turn pockets and passing lanes help mitigate additional traffic volumes due to increasing development activities including viticulture and tourism business. The possibility of re-routing exists in the Shandon area.
- Segment 6 (PM 43.8 to PM 50.4) should eventually be widened to a 4-lane expressway. The widening project is currently in the planning phase. A planning initiation document (PID) and funding for the project has not been allocated at this time. Interim projects (passing lanes) should be implemented as funding allows.

State Highway Projects:

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along SR 41 in San Luis Obispo County, click the Caltrans District 5 *Status of Projects* web link: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/pdf/d5sop.pdf>

- For more information about Caltrans San Luis Obispo County highway projects, visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/#slo>
- Transportation Projects identified in the SLOCOG 2005 Regional Transportation Plan: http://www.slocog.org/cm/Publications_and_Reports/Regional_Transportation_Plan.html
- Local Agency STIP Projects - Caltrans Local Assistance Website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/local/stip_index.html

Caltrans Contact:

- Larry Newland larry.newland@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3103
San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara County - Systems Planning
- Pat Mickelson pat.mickelson@dot.ca.gov (805) 683-1460
Santa Barbara County - Regional Planning
- Chris Shaeffer chris.shaeffer@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3632
Santa Barbara County - Development Review
- Claudia Espino claudia.espino@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3640
Travel Forecasting