

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

State Route (SR) 129 in Santa Cruz County

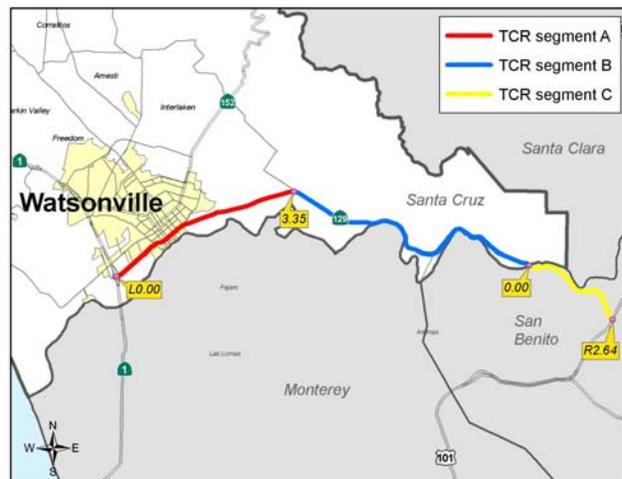


Purpose of this Transportation Planning Fact Sheet:

Transportation Planning Fact Sheets provide one comprehensive interactive 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 Caltrans Transportation Concept Reports (TCRs).

Route Description:

- Within Santa Cruz County, SR 129 (also called Riverside Drive) starts at SR 1 in the Watsonville and continues east until it reaches the San Benito/Santa Cruz County line. It then continues in San Benito County until it ends at SR 129/101 junction.
 - SR 129 is a commercial and recreational route. A high percentage of trucks utilize this route as a means to get to US Route 101 from the Watsonville area.
- The [SR 129 Transportation Concept Report](#) (TCR) divides SR 129 in SCr. County into two segments (A, B). There is also one segment (C) located in San Benito County – see segment map below
- Facility Type: 2-4 lane
- Terrain: Flat
- Truck Traffic: 6 to 28% (2005)
- See the [SR 129 Corridor Data Summary Sheet](#) for more route details
 - ❖ Note: Corridor Data Summary Sheet segments are **not always** consistent with TCR segments – check post miles



- **Future concept:** construct a **four-lane** divided facility from Walker Street in Watsonville to Carlton Road. Construct two-lane facility with passing lanes where required from Lakeview Road to Route 101.
 - ❖ Concept taken from the 1985 SR 129 TCR, but is still valid because no major improvement projects have been completed since then.

Route Designations:

- ❖ [Interregional Road System](#)
- ❖ [National Highway System](#) (PM L0.0/L0.51)
- ❖ [Terminal Access Route](#) to the National Truck Network
- ❖ [Bike Accessible](#)

Traffic Volumes:

- AADT ranging 9,500 to 18,900 (Highway Segment Inventory, yr. 2005)
- Future AADT ranging 11,013 to 14,358 (Forecasted, yr. 2030)

Transportation Agencies:

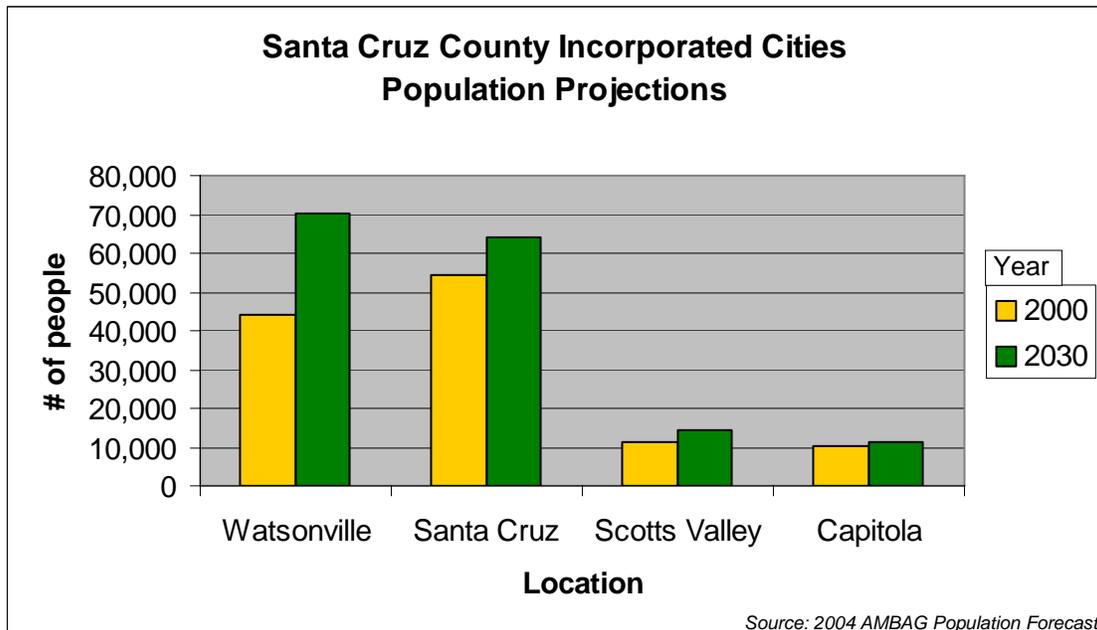
- [Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission](#) (SCCRTC)– Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA)
- [Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments](#) – Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- [Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District](#) (METRO)
- [Santa Cruz Area Transportation Management Association](#)
- [Community Bridges](#) – Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA)
- [Santa Cruz Bicycle Industry Coalition](#)

County Profile:

- [Santa Cruz County](#) consists of four incorporated cities: [Watsonville](#), [Santa Cruz](#), [Scotts Valley](#), [Capitola](#) (web links connect to City/County General Plan)
- The two most populated cities in the County are Santa Cruz and Watsonville, which can be accessed from SR 129
- Santa Cruz County: 19.3% projected growth between 2000 to 2030, from 255,602 to 304,847
 - Incorporated Cities: 32.9% projected growth between 2000 and 2030, from 120,276 to 159,816
 - Unincorporated Santa Cruz County: 7.2% projected growth between 2000 and 2030, from 135,326 to 145,031
- Within the county, there is substantial variation in age and income, as well as travel patterns and employment:
 - Population of those 65 and older are expected to grow by 143 percent through 2030
 - Seniors currently make-up about ten percent of the population and will make up about 21 percent of the population by 2030.
- Santa Cruz County has an extensive [network of bike lanes and paths](#) for commuters and recreational riders.
 - The area has an active bicycling community, which supports and promotes the provision of dedicated bicycle facilities on most arterials and collector routes.

Communities and Growth Trends:

- City of Watsonville, located on SR 1 near the south end of the County, is the fastest-growing city in the County:
 - State Routes 1, 152, and 129 converge in Watsonville, which lies in the heart of a fertile agricultural area
 - Very large bilingual (English/Spanish) or Spanish-speaking population
 - Hispanic or Latino of any race make up about 75% of the population (2000)



TCR General Recommendations:

- Construct a four-lane divided facility from Walker Street in Watsonville to Carlton Road.
- Construct two-lane facility with passing lanes where required from Lakeview Road to Route 101.

State Highway Projects

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along SR 1 in Santa Cruz 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 Santa Cruz County highway projects, visit:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/-scr>
- Highway Projects, Programs and Studies Identified by the SCCRTC:
<http://www.sccrtc.org/highway.html>
- Local Agency STIP Projects - Caltrans Local Assistance Website:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/local/stip_index.html

Regional Planning Efforts:

- **[Transportation Funding Task Force \(TFTF\)](#)**: Formed by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) - purpose is to engage the community in a discussion about transportation needs and funding, and ultimately, see if the county would like to pursue additional local funding for their transportation system.

Key Planning Issues:

- The Watsonville region, along with areas around the Cities of Watsonville and Gilroy (Santa Clara County), have experienced a large amount of growth over the past 20 years. Because of this, SR 129 has to sustain a greater amount of the traffic traveling between Watsonville and the Santa Clara Valley area because both SR 17 and 152 are at or near capacity. As this regional growth trend continues, SR 129 will continue to experience significant increased travel demand.

Caltrans IGR Involvement:

- Rte. 129, PM various - Pajaro River & Salsipuedes Creek Flood Maintenance project

Caltrans Contact:

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