Prunedale Improvement Project (PIP)

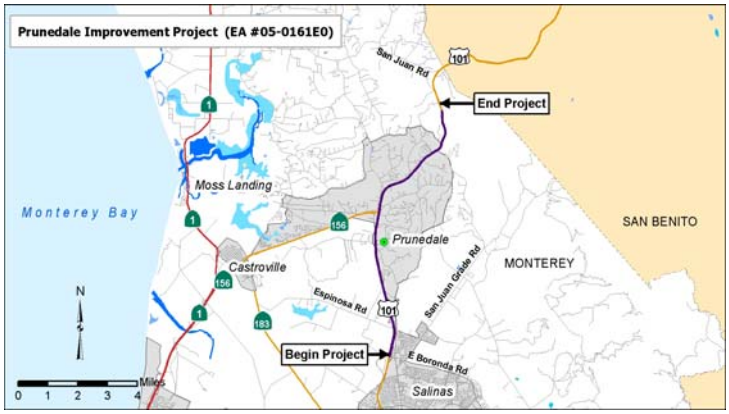
EA: 05-0161E **PPNO:** 0058G

Project Description: Construct Interchanges and Operational Improvements to improve safety and operations along the Route 101 corridor between Boronda and Echo Valley Roads.

District Contact: David Silberberger, PM Phone: (805) 549-3798

Project Proposal

The project proposes constructing major operational and safety improvements including interchanges to address the safety and congestion issues within the Prunedale Corridor.



Corridor Overview

US Route 101 is a major north-south highway between the San Jose Metropolitan Area and the Salinas Valley Area and a primary link in the highway network serving interstate traffic up and down the western United States. Route 101 is also the major north-south arterial in Monterey County, providing access to the agricultural areas of the Salinas Valley and serving recreational trips associated with the Monterey Peninsula, the Pacific Coast and the Los Padres National Forest. For residents in the Prunedale Area, it provides the only major arterial for the community. Studies on improving safety and relieving congestion have been ongoing for more that forty years.

Project Design Philosophy

The existing Route 101 Corridor within the project area is currently a 4-lane expressway with numerous at-grade intersections with both left and right-turn access. The combination of high speed through traffic on Route 101 conflicting with traffic trying to enter or exit the at-grade intersections provides a less than desirable operational and safety condition. To improve the operations and safety of the Prunedale Corridor, the following Design Principals were adopted:

Remove Left-Turn Access
One of the goals of this project is to increase safety by blocking all left-turn traffic both from Route 101 to local roads and from local roads to Route 101. This is accomplished by closing all remaining median openings with concrete barrier.

Provide Alternate Route 101 Circulation
With the removal of left-turn access onto Route 101, it was necessary to improve the major at-grade intersections with a new or improved interchange or overcrossing. The improved intersections then provide U-Turn opportunities for the traveling public that can now no longer turn left onto or off of the state route.

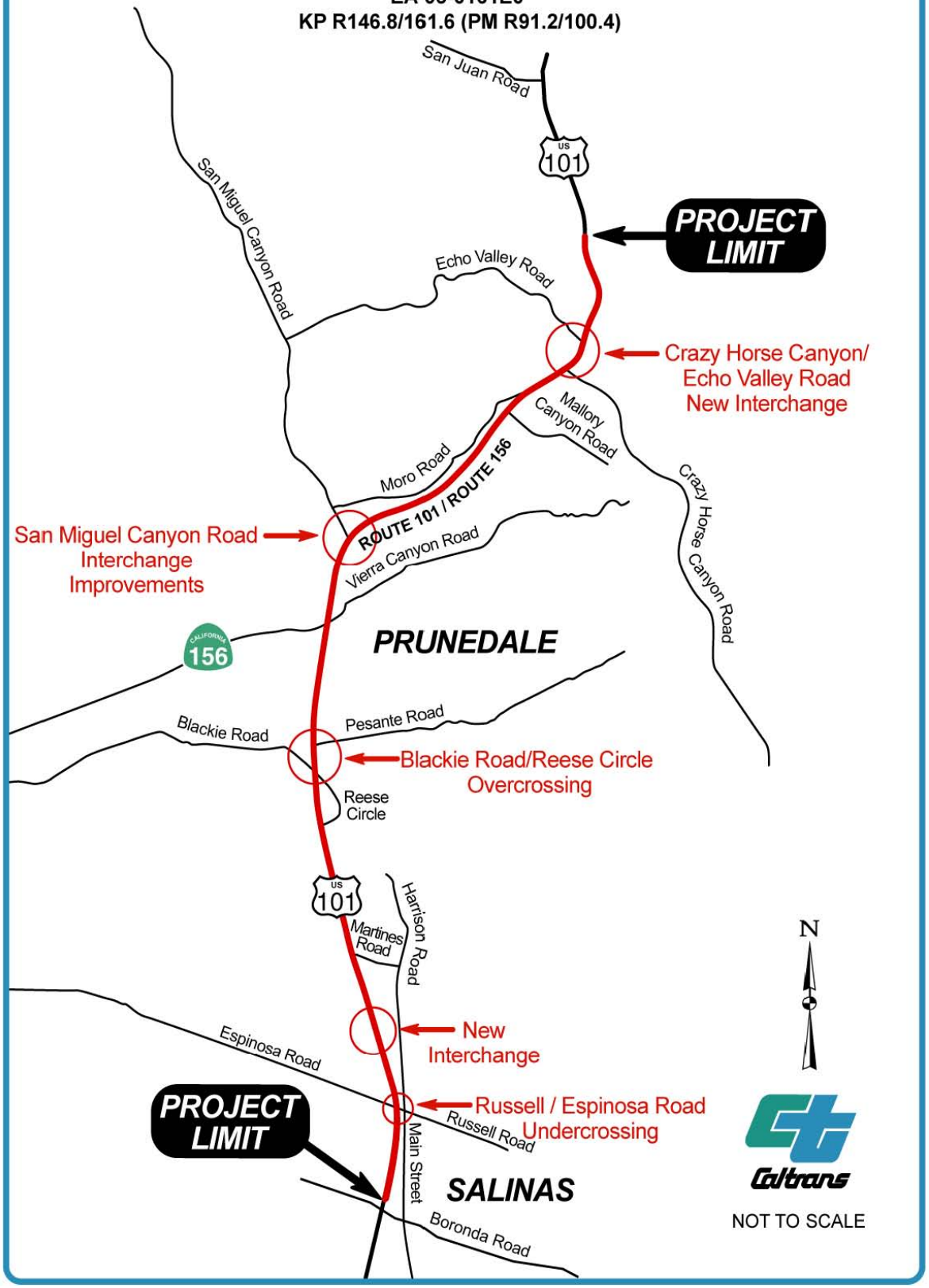
Remove Direct Route 101 Access For Key At-Grade Intersections
To further improve corridor operations, several key at-grade intersections were cul-de-sac'd. Because these roads could no longer access Route 101 directly, the local street system needed to be reconfigured or improved to prevent homes and businesses from being landlocked.

This project is a major advancement towards converting what is now an expressway with numerous at-grade intersections to a freeway with full access control. In order to achieve the cohesive benefits to the Route 101 Corridor, as described above, all of the project components need to be constructed in the same project.

Schedule / Cost Estimate (Escalated)

Approved Environmental Doc.	**03/22/2006 Actual**
Submit Project To HQ	**05/25/2010 Actual**
Right of Way Certification	**04/15/2010 Actual**
Project Ready For Bids	**09/01/2010 Actual**
Begin Construction	06/1/2011
End Construction	06/1/2015

PA&ED Support	19,400
PS&E Support	25,000
R/W Support	8,000
Construction Support	14,600
Construction Capital	81,000
Right of Way Capital	61,000
(All figures x $1000) Total	**$209,000**

Project Location Map

Route 101
Prunedale Improvement Project
EA 05-0161E0
KP R146.8/161.6 (PM R91.2/100.4)