

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

U.S. Route 101 in Santa Barbara 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:

In Santa Barbara County, US 101 is approximately 91 miles in length. According to the 2001 *Transportation Concept Report for U.S Route 101 In Caltrans District 5*, the route is divided into three primary segments - reference map below. In Santa Barbara County, US 101 begins at the Ventura/Santa Barbara County Line and extends to the Santa Barbara/San Luis Obispo County Line. In its entirety, US 101 extends through California, Oregon and Washington.



- Traffic: ranges between commuter, recreational and interregional
- Access Control: transitions between freeway and expressway
- [Functional Classification](#): alternates between urban other freeway or expressway, rural other principal arterial and urban other principal arterial
- Terrain: alternates between flat, rolling and mountainous

Traffic Volumes:

- 2015 ADT: 23,400 - 142,600
- 2030 ADT: 30,300 - 151,300

Truck Traffic:

- Peak Hour: 3% - 10%
- ADT: 5.79% - 14.48%

Route Designations:

- High Emphasis Route
- Interregional Road System
- Focus Route
- Freeway and Expressway System
- [National Highway System](#)
- [Scenic Highway System](#): Eligible
- [Truck Designations](#): National Network, State Hwy Extra Legal Load

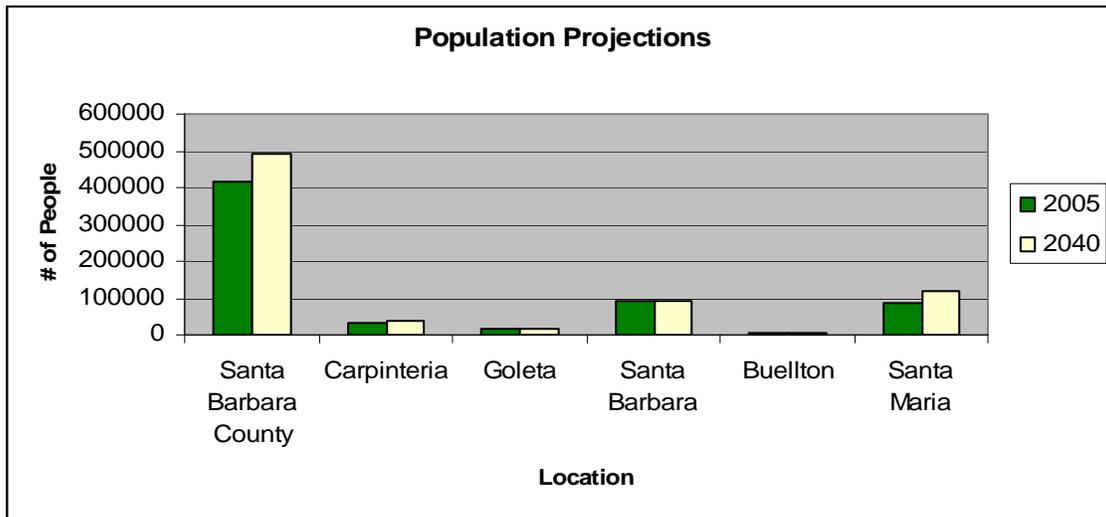
Future Concept:

According to the 2001 *Transportation Concept Report for U.S Route 101 In Caltrans District 5*, the transportation concept for US 101 in Santa Barbara County is defined by Level of Service (LOS):

Segment	Begin Postmile	End Postmile	Description	Route Concept
1	0.00	27.77	Ventura/SB County Line – Santa Barbara Urban Boundary End	Peak LOS D
2	27.77	81.05	Santa Barbara Urban Boundary End-Santa Maria Urban Boundary Start	Peak LOS C
3	81.05	90.98	Santa Maria Urban Boundary Start-SB/San Luis Obispo County Line	Peak LOS D

County Profile:

- [Santa Barbara County](#) consists of eight incorporated cities. The [City of Carpinteria](#), [City of Santa Barbara](#), [City of Goleta](#), [City of Buellton](#), and [City of Santa Maria](#) are the five incorporated cities located along the US 101 corridor in Santa Barbara County (web links connect to city/county general plans).
- According to the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) 2007 [Regional Growth Forecast 2005 - 2040](#), 18% growth in Santa Barbara County between 2005 and 2040. This is a projected increase of 417,500 to 492,800 - reference chart below.



(Santa Barbara County Association of Governments, August 2007 Regional Growth Forecast 2005-2040.)

- Approximately 37% of Santa Barbara County residents speak another language other than English at home (US Census Bureau).
- Santa Barbara County is a coastal area surrounded by the counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and Ventura. According to the SBCAG 2007 *Regional Growth Forecast 2005-2040*, an increase in commercial development and a reduction of residential development in the 1980's resulted in a jobs/housing imbalance in Santa Barbara County. This created greater demands on the regional transportation system, increasing the volume of highway commuters from northern Santa Barbara and Ventura County.

Bicycle Access:

- 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. Bicycles are prohibited on SB PM 56.45 to 60.05, SB PM 70.9 to 72.58 and SB PM 84.32 to 90.74.
- In efforts to increase bicycle ridership which has been declining in Santa Barbara County since the 1980's, SBCAG produced the 2008 [Draft Regional Bike Plan](#). The County of Santa Barbara adopted their *Bicycle Master Plan* January 2005. The City of Santa Barbara adopted [The Bicycle Master Plan](#) October 1998, which received an amendment in 2003. The City of Buellton adopted a bicycle master plan in November 1993, and the City of Santa Maria adopted a bicycle master plan in 1992, which is currently being updated. Goleta and Carpinteria have yet to adopt bicycle master plans.

Public Transportation:

Urban transit and inter-city transit services provided along the US 101 corridor in Santa Barbara County are listed as follows:

- [Central Coastal Shuttle](#) provides transportation from Santa Maria, Buellton, Santa Barbara, and Ventura to LAX.
- [Clean Air Express](#) offers commuter bus service from Lompoc and Santa Maria to Goleta and Santa Barbara.
- [Coastal Express](#) provides commuter service between Oxnard, Ventura, Carpinteria, Santa Barbara, Goleta and UC Santa Barbara.
- [Easy Lift](#) serves residents from Ellwood to Summerland with Dial-A-Ride transit.
- [Greyhound](#) offers intercity bus service between San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles.
- [RTA-Route 10](#) provides bus transit services for Santa Maria, Nipomo, Arroyo Grande, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo.
- [Santa Barbara Air Bus](#) offers service from Goleta, Santa Barbara and Carpinteria to LAX.
- [Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District \(SBMTD\)](#) provides commuters service seven days a week. The Valley Express, created by the SBMTD in 2005, offers public transportation between the San Ynez Valley and the South Coast. It currently has four routes, and stops in Solvang and Buellton.
- [Santa Maria Area Transit \(SMAT\)](#) provides bus service in Santa Maria, Orcutt and Tanglewood.
- [Sliverado Coast Flyer](#) provides three trips a day with multiple stops from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to Long Beach.
- [Traffic Solutions](#) is a division of Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) which promotes alternatives to single vehicle ridership including walking, biking, carpooling, vanpooling and telecommuting through different transit services. [Park and Ride](#) is one example of a service provided by Traffic Solutions which offers meeting locations for people to park and carpool. Currently, five Park and Ride lots exist in Santa Barbara County with one located along the US 101 corridor on the southeast corner of Clark Ave. and Hwy. 101 in Santa Maria.

Intercity Rail Service:

[Amtrak](#) serves Santa Barbara 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 five trains a day with service from southern California to Santa Barbara. Two of these trains extend their route to San Luis Obispo. One of the five rail stations existing in Santa Barbara County is located near the US 101 corridor in Santa Barbara.

Airport:

Six airports are located throughout Santa Barbara County and include: [Santa Maria Public Airport District \(SMX\)](#), [Vandenberg Air Force Base \(VBG\)](#), [Lompoc Airport \(LPC\)](#), [Santa Ynez Valley Airport \(IZA\)](#), [Santa Barbara Municipal Airport \(SBA\)](#), and [New Cuyama Airport \(L88\)](#). Of these six, Santa Maria Public Airport District and Santa Barbara Municipal Airport provide the most extensive public regional airline services in the County. The US 101 corridor is closest in proximity to SMX and SBA.

Transportation Agencies:

- [Santa Barbara County Association of Governments \(SBCAG\)](#) – MPO/RTPA
- [Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District \(SBMTD\)](#)
- [City of Lompoc Transit \(COLT\)](#)
- [Santa Maria Area Transit \(SMAT\)](#)

TCR General Recommendations:

According to the 2001 *Transportation Concept Report for U.S Route 101 In Caltrans District 5*, the recommended actions for US 101 in Santa Barbara County include:

- Improve alternative and parallel routes in Segment 1.
- Implement Intelligent Transportation System components from the Central Coast Deployment Plan.
- Reduce demand by encouraging and improving alternative modes such as passenger rail, transit, vanpools and ridesharing; encouraging other transportation demand management measures and supporting demand-reducing land use patterns, especially in Segments 1 and 3.
- Facilitate goods movement with projects identified in the California Statewide Goods Movement Strategy. (See below.)
- Construct system-wide operational improvements.
- Ensure any improvements to the facility will accommodate a future 6-lane facility.
- Enhance intermodal facilities and services to improve interconnectivity.
- Widen Segment 3 to six lanes.
- Convert expressway sections of Segment 2 to freeway.
- Increase capacity on Segment 1 after the above measures have been fully implemented and if level of service continues to deteriorate.

State Highway Projects:

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along US 101 in Santa Barbara 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 Barbara County highway projects, visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/#sb>
- Transportation Projects identified in the SBCAG 2008 Regional Transportation Plan: <http://www.sbcag.org/publications.html>
- Local Agency STIP Projects - Caltrans Local Assistance Website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/local/stip_index.html

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