San Benito County is home to about 60,000 residents who rely on our transportation system to get to work, school, home, and so much more every day. Our transportation funding needs are a shared responsibility of federal, state, regional, and local sources including commercial, residential, and industrial developer fees. Even with this, we have a funding shortfall to address our most critical issues. The fact is, San Benito County roads rank among the worst in the state, and average daily traffic on Highway 25 has doubled since the mid 1990s.

The detailed Roads and Transportation Safety Investment Plan outlines the most pressing needs and a prudent solution to address them with a 1% sales tax over the next 30 years to ensure a stable source of local funding for San Benito County that will qualify us for state and federal matching funds to leverage taxpayer dollars even further.

Strong taxpayer safeguards are part of the Plan, including annual audits and citizen oversight to ensure prudent and transparent use of public funds.

Our Needs
- Reduce traffic congestion and increase safety on Highway 25.
- Maintain local streets and roads.
- Repair potholes and roadway cracking.
- Increase pedestrian and bike safety.
- Protect and enhance bus and paratransit services for seniors, people with disabilities, and youth.
- Intersection improvements, slurry sealing, and overlays.

Built with community input. The Expenditure Plan is not only reflective of the Council of Governments’ policy goals and Regional Transportation Plan, but also includes the suggestions expressed by community groups, policy makers, partner agencies, stakeholders, and the public.

Visit sanbenitocog.org/sbcog/TransportationNeedsConversation to read the full Expenditure Plan, the Regional Transportation Plan, Frequently Asked Questions, and the full ordinance adopted by the COG board.
2018 San Benito County Roads and Transportation Safety Investment Plan
Summary

Projects based on the following priorities:

- **Widen Highway 25 to relieve traffic and improve safety**
  The Council of Governments shall conduct an environmental study, design and construction of the Route 25 4-Lane Expressway Project, building a new 4-Lane highway between Hollister and Santa Clara County. Local funds will be used to qualify for state and federal matching funds and already-approved traffic mitigation fees to leverage taxpayer dollars further.

- **Maintain local roads, repair potholes, and improve traffic flow**
  Local street and road repair, maintenance, and rehabilitation to improve safety and traffic flow throughout San Benito County, including the City of Hollister, the City of San Juan Bautista, and the unincorporated areas of San Benito County including Aromas, Ridgemark, Tres Pinos, Bitterwater, and Dunneville. Local neighborhood street and road maintenance based on the priorities outlined in the pavement index study and capital improvement projects of each jurisdiction, to be re-evaluated on an annual basis with repairs occurring annually.

- **Mobility, Transit, Paratransit, Future Planning, and Administration**
  - Pedestrian and bicycle safety
  - Mobility, bus and paratransit services for residents, including seniors, people with disability, and youth
  - Future planning and contingency
  - The existing COG will administer the Expenditure Plan. Administration capped at 1%