



# News Release

**Date:** Thursday September 15, 2022  
**District:** 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties  
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UPDATE #2  
HIGHWAY 156 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
CONTINUES WITH CLEARING AND EXCAVATION

SAN BENITO COUNTY – A project to construct a new four-lane expressway adjacent to Highway 156, between San Juan Bautista and Hollister, continues with primary work taking place behind K-rail barriers south of the current alignment of Highway 156.

Crews in the next two weeks will continue with roadway excavation and potholing for underground construction as well as demolition of old guardrail. As part of environmental stewardship practices, crews will soon begin installing areas of wildlife exclusion fencing. Additionally, tree stump removal, clearing, and grubbing will continue behind the K-rail barriers.

Work continues to progress starting at The Alameda and continuing in an eastbound direction. Only occasional traffic control is anticipated on an as needed basis for the first several months of this project.

The San Benito Route 156 Improvement Project will construct a four-lane expressway immediately south of the existing Hwy. 156 alignment. This 5.2-mile project will begin in San Juan Bautista at The Alameda and continue to just east of Hwy. 156 Business Route (4th St.) in Hollister.

During construction, access will be closed from Hwy. 156 to Mission Vineyard Rd. in San Juan Bautista. Also, travelers will not be able to access San Juan Hollister Rd. from Union Rd.

Updates for the San Benito Route 156 Improvement Project can be found on the Transportation Updates page of the Council of San Benito County Governments at:  
<http://sanbenitocog.org/transportation-updates/>

The contractor for this project is Teichert Construction of Sacramento, CA. This project is expected to conclude in Summer 2025.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway work zones.

For traffic updates on other state highways in San Benito County, travelers may contact Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at 805-549-3318 or can visit the District 5 website at:  
<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5>

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