



News Release

Date: Wednesday October 19, 2022
District: 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE #4
**HIGHWAY 156 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
CONTINUES WITH CLEARING AND FENCING**

SAN BENITO COUNTY – A project to construct a new four-lane expressway adjacent to Highway 156, between San Juan Bautista and Hollister, continues this month with clearing operations.

Crews continue to take preparatory steps for embankment and roadway work which will be followed by rough grading. Drainage system work is scheduled to begin the week of October 24.

Primary project activities are taking place behind K-rail barriers south of the current alignment of Highway 156 and work is progressing from 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.



Groundbreaking event for the Highway 156 Corridor Improvement Project was held Oct. 7 at Grillin & Chillin Roadhouse in Hollister. With the official groundbreaking shovels, from left to right, Richard Rosales, Caltrans Deputy District Director; Brandy Rider, Caltrans Office Chief for Planning; Terry Thompson, Caltrans Project Manager; CA State Asm. Robert Rivas; CA State Sen. Anna Caballero (Emcee for the event); Kollin Kosmicki, San Benito County Supervisor; Ignacio Velasquez, Mayor of Hollister; Mary Teichert, President of Teichert Inc.; Tim Gubbins, Caltrans District 5 Director; Veronica Lezama, San Benito Council of County Governments; Commander Phil Cooper, CHP Gilroy.

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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