



News Release

Date: Thursday, December 15, 2022
District: 05 – Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties
Contact: Alexa Bertola or Kevin Drabinski
Phone: (805) 549-3237 & (805) 549-3138

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE #7
**HIGHWAY 156 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
CONTINUES WITH EARTHWORKS AND SOIL STABILIZATION**

SAN BENITO COUNTY – Construction on the Highway 156 Corridor Improvement Project continues with much of the progress dependent on weather conditions.

Crews were successful in removing an abandoned utility gas line at Union Rd. which PG&E had flagged as potentially containing hazardous substances. Field tests revealed the 12-inch gas line to be free of toxins. Removal of the line means that roadway excavation near Union Rd. can proceed.

Earthwork between Mission Vineyard and Union Rd. will start with lime treatment of the original ground to help stabilize and harden the previously irrigated soil.

Evaluations of the wet grade are ongoing, and weather and soil conditions will continue to be factors in determining the progress of large scale earthwork efforts.

About the 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.

**All highway workers deserve to get home safely too.
Drive slowly and carefully in all 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>

| [#BeWorkZoneAlert](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

###