

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

State Route (SR) 144 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:

According to the 1990 [Route Concept Report: Route 144 In Santa Barbara County](#), SR 144 is approximately 2 miles. However, since the approval of the RCR, a portion of the route (PM 0.00 to PM 0.9) was relinquished to the City of Santa Barbara. This reduced the Caltrans managed portion of the route from PM 0.9 to PM 1.95. In the City of Santa Barbara, beginning from PM 0.9, the route travels northerly through a commercial and residential area to the junction of SR 192 - reference map below.



- Traffic: local
- Access Control: conventional highway
- [Functional Classification](#): urban collector
- Terrain: rolling

Traffic Volumes:

- 2015 ADT: 4,100
- 2030 ADT: 4,500

Truck Traffic:

- Peak Hour: NA
- ADT: NA

Future Concept and TCR General Recommendations:

According to the 1990 [Route Concept Report: Route 144 In Santa Barbara County](#), the future concept and general recommendations that are still relevant for SR 144 are defined by Level of Service (LOS):

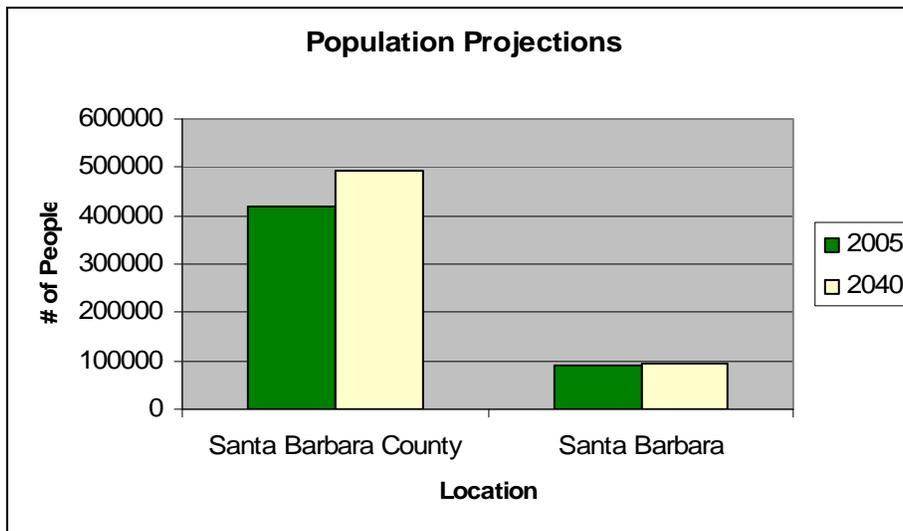
Segment	Begin Postmile	End Postmile	Route Concept	Proposed Improvement
1	0.0	2.0	LOS D	No Change
Notes:				
Since the 1990 SR 144 RCR, a portion of the route was relinquished to the City of Santa Barbara. Initial interest in relinquishment of the entire route began in 1995 and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was agreed upon between the City and Caltrans. A landslide occurring in the upper portion of SR 144 in 1999 altered these plans by dividing the relinquishment in two phases. The first phase of relinquishment was completed in 2000, extending from PM 0.0 to PM 0.87, and second phase for relinquishment, PM 0.87 to PM 1.95, was placed on hold due to ongoing geological conditions.				

Route Designations:

- [Truck Designations](#): Advisory > 30' KPRA for entire route

County Profile:

- [Santa Barbara County](#) consists of eight incorporated cities. SR 144 is located entirely within the city limits of the [City of Santa Barbara](#) (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, 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. There are no restrictions for bicycle use on SR 144.
- According to the [Santa Barbara County 2006 Bike Map](#), a small segment located between the SR 144/Alisos St. junction and SR 144/Milpas St. junction is recognized as part of the Santa Barbara County's "Cross Town Route", a Class III on-street bike route designated by signs. Also, a segment located between the SR 144/Quinientos St. junction and the SR 144/US 101 junction is designated a Class II on-street painted bike lane.
- 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 [City of Santa Barbara](#) adopted the Bicycle Master Plan October 1998 and the County of Santa Barbara adopted their [Bicycle Master Plan](#) January 2005.

Public Transportation:

Public transit service along the SR 144 corridor in Santa Barbara County is limited. However, various providers offer public transit service on US 101 located south of SR 144. These services are included as follows:

- [Central Coast Shuttle](#) provides transportation from Santa Maria, Buellton, Santa Barbara, and Ventura to LAX.
- [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.
- [Santa Barbara Air Bus](#) offers service from Goleta, Santa Barbara and Carpinteria to LAX.
- [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.

Intercity Rail Service:

[Amtrak](#) provides rail and bus service from Los Angeles to Seattle and 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.

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 SR 144 corridor is closest in proximity to SBA in the City of Goleta, near the University of California Santa Barbara Campus.

Transportation Agencies:

- [Santa Barbara County Association of Governments \(SBCAG\)](#) – MPO/RTPA
- [Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District \(SBMTD\)](#)

State Highway Projects:

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along SR 144 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

Caltrans Contact:

- Larry Newland larry.newland@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3103
San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties - Systems Planning
- Pat Mickelson pat.mickelson@dot.ca.gov (805) 683-1460
Santa Barbara County - Regional Planning
- Chris Shaeffer chris.shaeffer@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3632
Santa Barbara County - Development Review
- Claudia Espino claudia.espino@dot.ca.gov (805) 549-3640
Travel Forecasting