Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

State Route (SR) 217 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 *Route Concept Report: Route 217 In Santa Barbara County*, SR 217 is approximately 3 miles in length. The constructed portion of SR 217 begins at the point east of the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) Campus, and travels northeasterly through a residential area to its junction with Route 101 in Goleta – reference map below. An adopted but unconstructed portion of the route connects with US 101 west of the University near Ellwood and then to the existing route at UCSB.

- Traffic: ranges between commuter and local
- Access Control: freeway and conventional highway
- Functional Classification: urban other principal arterial
- Terrain: flat

Traffic Volumes:

- 2015 ADT: 17,200 - 26,100
- 2030 ADT: 17,400 - 27,400

Truck Traffic:

- Peak Hour: 1%
- ADT: 2.5%

Future Concept and TCR General Recommendations:

According to the *Route Concept Report: Route 217 In Santa Barbara County, the future concept and TCR general recommendations that are still relevant for SR 217 are defined by Level of Service (LOS).*

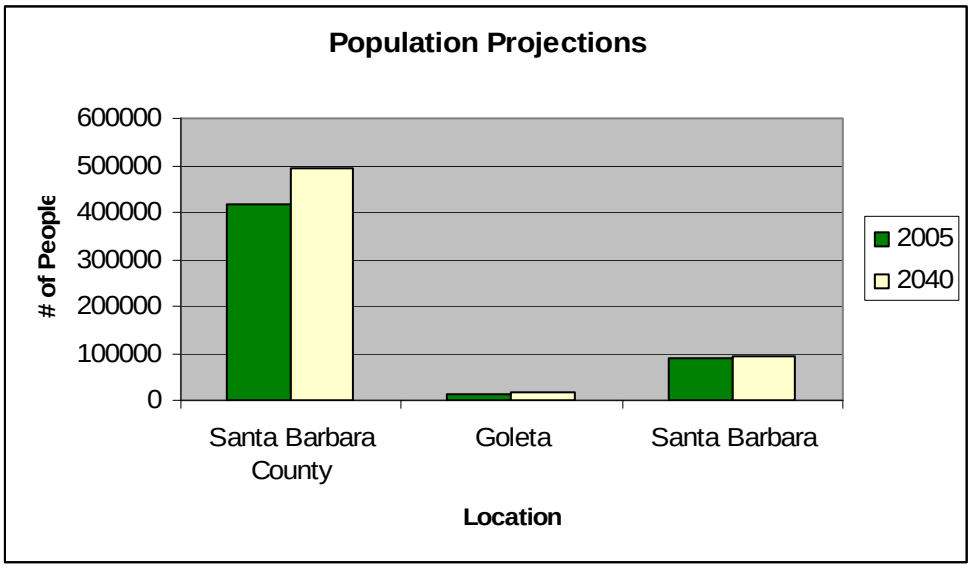
Segment	Begin Postmile	End Postmile	Route Concept	Proposed Improvement
1	0.0	3.0	LOS C	No Change-Maintain Existing
Notes:				
It should be noted that the Concept LOS may not agree with any LOS established by the local planning agencies. The Concept LOS, for the most part, is based on present traffic conditions. In some instances, this may vary depending on traffic needs and/or financial and technical considerations.				

Route Designations:

- Freeway and Expressway System
- National Highway System
- Truck Designations: Terminal Access

County Profile:

- Santa Barbara County consists of eight incorporated cities. The SR 217 corridor extends through the City of Goleta, adjacent to the City of Santa Barbara, and to areas located just outside the city boundary (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, August 2007 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. No bicycles are permitted on SR 217. Use alternate route where bicyclists are prohibited.
- 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 County of Santa Barbara adopted a *Bicycle Master Plan* January 2005. Goleta has yet to adopt a bicycle master plan.

Public Transportation:

Public transit service along the SR 217 corridor in Santa Barbara County is limited. However, various providers offer public transit service on US 101 located north of SR 217. These services include the following:

- 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 are 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 provides travelers with service from southern California to San Luis Obispo, offering five trains a day.

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

Transportation Agencies:

- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) – MPO/Regional Transportation Agency
- 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 217 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

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