

# Highway 101 Operational Improvements

## Ortega Hill Auxiliary Lane & Bike Path

Fact Sheet • November 2005



### Project Overview

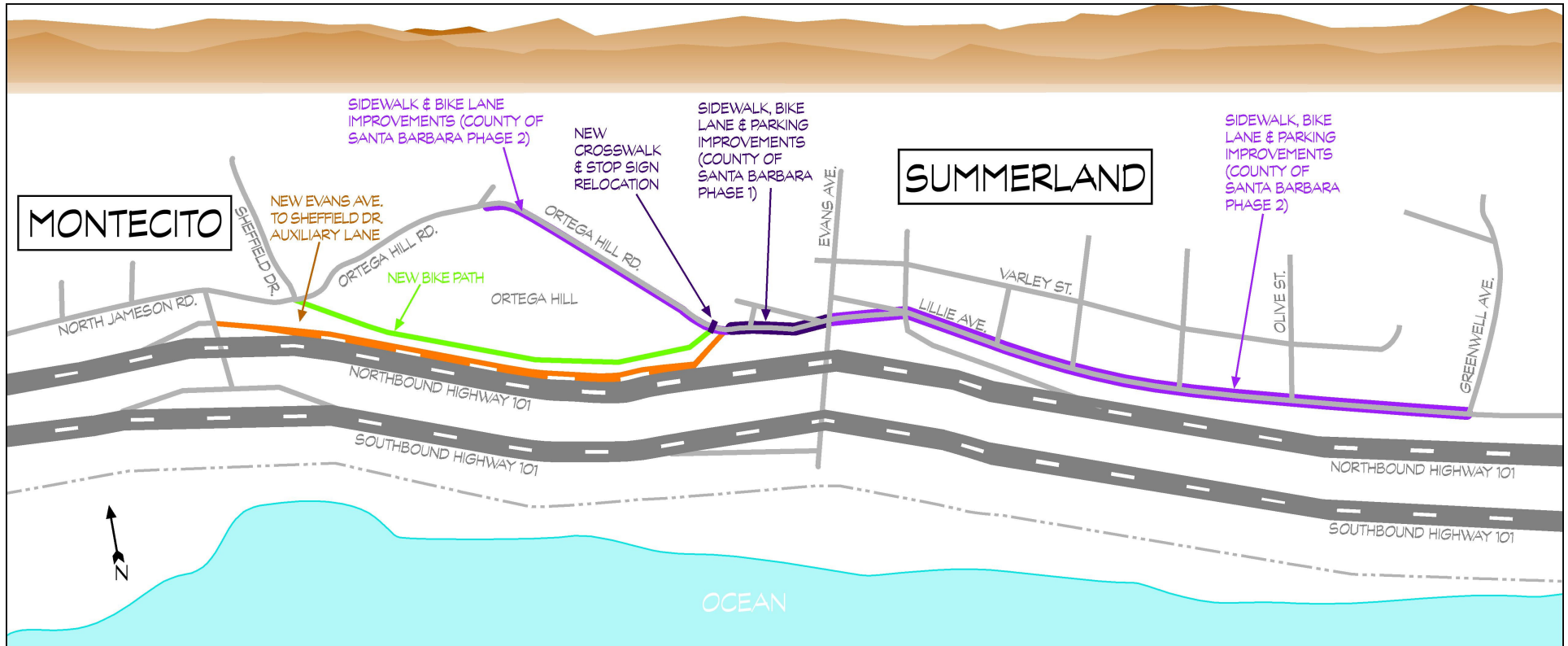
This project includes the construction of an auxiliary lane to connect the northbound Highway 101 on-ramp at Evans Avenue and the northbound Sheffield Drive off-ramp. Auxiliary lanes are ramp-to-ramp lanes that improve traffic flow by allowing drivers more time to merge on and off the freeway. This project also includes the construction of a Class I bikeway next to the new auxiliary lane. The new bikeway will be separated from vehicle traffic with an elevated surface and a retaining wall. The bikeway also includes aesthetic enhancements such as lighting, landscaping, and architectural treatments on the walls.

**Construction is slated to begin in 2006 and will last approximately 1 year. The Highway 101 on-ramp at Evans Avenue will be closed for 1 month near the end of the project. During the daytime, all freeway lanes on Highway 101 will remain open. There may be intermittent nighttime lane closures as needed.**

### Project Components

- New auxiliary lane between northbound Highway 101 on-ramp at Evans Avenue and northbound Sheffield Drive off-ramp
- New Class I bikeway adjacent to the new auxiliary lane separated from traffic by an elevated surface and retaining wall

As part of the Summerland Downtown Circulation Plan, the County of Santa Barbara will be improving sidewalks, bike lanes, and parking in Summerland. Project limits are shown below and additional information is included on the back of the fact sheet.



For additional project information, please call: 1.888.SB ROADS (1.888.727.6237)

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### Purpose

The purpose of this project is to improve traffic operations and reduce merging conflicts on northbound 101 over Ortega Hill. Additional benefits will include improved ramp access and safety, as well as a dedicated Class I bikeway to improve the regional bikeway network and connection between Carpinteria and Santa Barbara.

To learn more about near-term and long-term solutions to improve traffic congestion for the Highway 101 corridor, please visit the *101 In Motion* website at [www.101InMotion.com](http://www.101InMotion.com).

### Partners



### Background and Milestones

- **1989** - Measure D, a ½ cent sales tax, is approved to fund SB County transportation projects
- **1996** - SBCAG approves the Ortega Hill Auxiliary Lane and Class I Bikeway project as one of eleven "101 Operational Improvement" projects
- **2001 – 2003** – County of Santa Barbara review period and project changes to account for aerially deposited lead found on Highway 101
- **2002 - 2003** – Community outreach meetings are conducted in Summerland and Montecito; comments are incorporated into the project
- **2003** – SBCAG board approves an amendment to include this project in the Measure D expenditure plan
- **2003** - The EIR is certified
- **2006** - The Ortega Hill Auxiliary Lane and Bike Path project is slated to begin construction in 2006

### Other Projects

#### Summerland Downtown Circulation Improvements

The County of Santa Barbara is moving forward with the Summerland Downtown Circulation Improvements. This project has been separated into two phases. The initial phase (described below) will be constructed at the same time as the Ortega Hill Auxiliary Lane and Bike Path project. SBCAG and the County of Santa Barbara will continue to coordinate these two projects to minimize conflict and disruptions to the traveling public.



#### Evans Avenue to Hwy 101 On-ramp (Phase 1 - 2006)

Improvements in this area include new sidewalks, bike lanes, and parking. A crosswalk will also be installed across Ortega Ridge Road adjacent to the new Class I bike path and pedestrian walkway that will be built over Ortega Hill.

The second phase of the Summerland Downtown Circulation Improvements will extend work west up Ortega Ridge Road and east to Greenwell Avenue.

#### Ortega Ridge Road to Greenwell Avenue (Phase 2 - 2008)

Circulation improvements in this area will include new sidewalks, bike lanes, and updated parking on Ortega Hill Road, Lillie Avenue, and Via Real. This phase is still in the planning stages and anticipated to begin in 2008.

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