

Transportation Planning Fact Sheet

U.S. Route 101 in Monterey County



Purpose of this Transportation 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:

In Monterey County, U.S. 101 is approximately 98.37 miles in length. According to the 2001 *Transportation Concept Report: Transportation Concept Report for U.S. Route 101 in Caltrans District 5*, U.S. 101 is divided into five segments in Monterey County. It originates at the Monterey/San Luis Obispo County Line and extends northwesterly through the interior of Monterey County. Passing through the City of Salinas, U.S. 101 changes direction, arching gradually into a northeasterly alignment. Passing through the community of Prunedale, U.S. 101 in Monterey County ends at the San Benito/ Monterey County Line.



- Traffic: commuter and interregional, and agriculture, trucking and other commercial
- Access Control: 2 to 4 lane expressway and freeway
- Functional Classification: rural and urban principal arterial
- Terrain: flat and rolling

Traffic Volumes:

- 2015 ADT: 18,000 - 87,000
- 2030 ADT: 23,700 - 103,700



Truck Volumes:

- Peak Hour: 8% - 13%
- ADT: 12.8% - 18.9%

Future Concept:

According to the [Route Concept Report: Route 101 in Monterey County](#), the transportation concept for US 101 in Monterey County is provided by Level of Service (LOS):

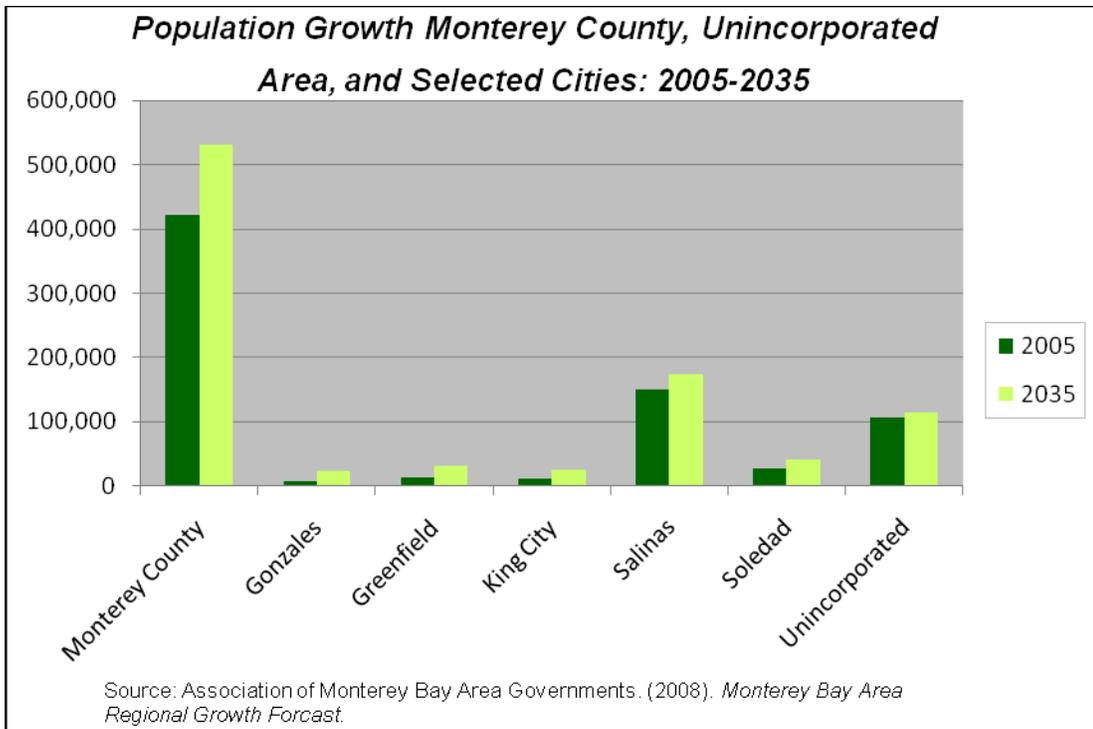
Segment	Begin Postmile	End Postmile	Description	Route Concept
Segment 1 (TCR Segment 7)	0.00	85.44	San Luis Obispo/Monterey County Line to Salinas South Urban Boundary	Peak LOS C
Segment 2 (TCR Segment 8)	85.44	R90.20	Salinas South Urban Boundary to Salinas North Urban Boundary	Peak LOS D
Segment 2 (TCR Segment 9)	R90.20	94.28	Salinas North Urban Boundary to Prunedale South Urban Boundary	Peak LOS D
Segment 3 (TCR Segment 10)	94.28	98.37	Prunedale South Urban Boundary to Prunedale North Urban Boundary	Peak LOS D
Segment 4 (TCR Segment 11)	98.37	101.32	Prunedale North Urban Boundary to Monterey/San Benito County Line	Peak LOS D

Route Designation:

- Focus Routes
- [National Highway System](#)
- Strategic Highway Corridor Network
- Truck Network Routes
- [High Emphasis Route](#)
- [Interregional Road System](#)
- Freeway and Expressway System

County Profile:

- Located on the Central Coast of California, [Monterey County](#) consists of 12 incorporated cities, 5 of which are located near SR U.S. 101: [Gonzales](#), [Greenfield](#), [King City](#), [Salinas](#), and [Soledad](#).
- The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' Monterey Bay Area Regional Growth Forecast projects the population of Monterey County will grow to 530,362 from 422, 632.



- 51% of Monterey County Residents over 5 years of age speak a language other than English at home.
- Government services and farming dominate the economy of Monterey County, employing approximately 49% of the workforce in 2007. Strawberries are the principal crops for agriculture and many of the public sector jobs are associated with California State University, Monterey Bay, and the state correctional facility in Soledad. Recreation and leisure, and professional services, while making up a small percentage of the total economy, experienced strong absolute growth in 2007.

Bicycle Access:

- According to the Caltrans-District 5 [Bicycle Map: For State Highways of the Central Coast](#) (2004) all of the State Highways are open to bicyclist except at a few sections of freeways.
- Bicycles are permitted along the sections of U.S. 101 that are outside urban areas (e.i. cities and census designated places). The prohibited are described below, beginning in the North, at the county line with Santa Cruz, and moving South, to the county line with San Luis Obispo. Bicycles are prohibited along U.S 101:
 - inside the City of Salinas, from Boronda Road to Russell Road;
 - Inside the City of Gonzales, from Associated lane to Gloria Road;
 - Inside the City of Soledad, between Soledad Prison to Camphora Road and again between North Soledad and the junction with SR146; and finally,
 - Inside the City of Greenfield, between North Greenfield and South Greenfield.

Public Transportation:

- [Monterey-Salinas Transit](#) provides urban transit service within and among the urban communities on the Greater Monterey Peninsula. MST also provides inter-city service for travel from the Peninsula east to Salinas and to Watsonville in Santa Cruz County.
- [Caltrain](#) will extend commuter rail service to Monterey County beginning in 2011, adding stops in the cities of Pajaro, Castroville, and Salinas.

- The [Monterey Peninsula Fixed Guideway Service](#) will provide inner-city rail service along the Monterey Peninsula and in the Salinas area beginning 2014. The system will connect to the proposed Caltrain extension in Salinas.

Intercity Rail Service:

[Amtrak](#) provides rail and bus service in Monterey County. For rail service, the [Coast Starlight](#) runs from Seattle to Los Angeles with three stations in Monterey: Salinas, Gilroy, and King City. Additionally, the Coast Starlight is contiguous with the [Pacific Surfliner](#) between San Luis Obispo and Los Angeles, providing the region access to that rail line, which runs from San Luis Obispo to San Diego. Finally, 7 Thruway Bus Stations are located in Monterey County: 1 in Carmel-by-the-Sea, 5 in Monterey, and 1 in Salinas. These stations connect the region to the Amtrak's nation rail network.

Airport:

Six airports are located throughout the Monterey County: The [Monterey Peninsula Airport](#), Clark Ranch, [San Ardo Field](#), [Salinas Municipal Airport](#), [Marina Municipal Airport](#), [Mea Del Rey Municipal Airport](#). Of these six, the Monterey Peninsula Airport provides the most extensive public regional airport services.

Transportation Agencies:

- [Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments](#) – MPO
- [Transportation Agency for Monterey County](#) - RTPA

TCR Recommendations:

According to the *Route Concept Report: Route 101 in Monterey County*, the recommended actions for US 101 in Monterey County include:

- Construct system-wide operational improvements.
- Implement Intelligent Transportation System components from the Central Coast Deployment Plan.
- Reduce demand by encouraging and improving alternative modes such as passenger rail, transit, vanpools and ridesharing (Extend Caltrain service from Gilroy to Salinas.)
- Facilitate goods movement with projects identified in the California Statewide Goods Movement Strategy.
- Ensure any improvements to the facility will accommodate a future 6-lane facility or a 4-lane bypass.
- Extend inter-city MST service to corridor cities south of Salinas.
- Enhance intermodal facilities and services to improve interconnectivity.
- Convert all expressway sections of Segment 7 to freeway standards.
- Widen Segments 8-11 to six-lane freeway or provide equivalent capacity in a bypass of Prunedale area.
- Implement measures identified in corridor study currently in preparation for Sub-segments 7B and 7C.

State Highway Projects:

For an updated list of State Highway projects (including State Transportation Improvement Plan/State Highway Operation and Protection Program) along U.S. 101 in Monterey County, click on the Caltrans, District 5, *Status of Projects* web link: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/>.

- For more information about Caltrans Monterey County highway projects visit: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/projects/#mon>

- Transportation Projects identified in the identified in the TAMC 2005 Regional Transportation Plan: <http://www.tamcmonterey.org/programs/rtp/index.html>
- Local Agency STIP Projects – Caltrans Local Assistance Website: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/local/stip_index.html

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