



## Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission Freeway Service Patrol Program

Fact Sheet  
March 2015

### Highlights

The Freeway Service Patrol roving tow trucks:

- **Reduce the number of traffic jams** by quickly clearing accidents, debris and other incidents
- **Lessen the chain of further accidents and bottlenecks** caused by passing drivers
- **Save fuel and cut air-pollution emissions** by reducing stop-and-go traffic
- **Help stranded motorists**

The professional FSP drivers are trained, certified and supervised by the California Highway Patrol.



### Program Description

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) operates the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) program in Santa Cruz County. This program consists of two tow trucks patrolling Highway 1 from Highway 9 to State Park Drive and Highway 17 from Mount Herman Road to the Santa Clara County Line (see map on reverse side). FSP tow trucks remove disabled vehicles from the highway at no cost to the motorists. They reduce the congestion on the highway by quickly clearing accidents, debris, and other incidents and allowing traffic to return to normal conditions. They commonly perform tasks such as changing a flat tire, jump-starting a vehicle, or providing gas. Service is available during weekday commute hours and on a limited schedule on weekends. The FSP program is designed to reduce congestion, improve safety, and reduce fuel consumption and auto emissions by minimizing the congestion associated with collisions and other incidents. The cost benefit ratio for the Santa Cruz County FSP program is 1:2. Funding for this program is provided by Caltrans and the RTC.

For more information or to sign up for eNews, please visit the RTC web site: [www.sccrtc.org](http://www.sccrtc.org) or call (831) 460-3200.

Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission,  
1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95060



## The Santa Cruz County Freeway Service Patrol is Here to Help You

### Highway Service

If you have car trouble while on the highway, the Santa Cruz County Freeway Service Patrol can assist you with the following, **free of charge**:

- changing a flat tire
- “jump starting” your car
- tapping hoses and refilling your radiator
- giving you a gallon of fuel

### Towing Off the Highway

If the Freeway Service Patrol cannot get your automobile running within a few minutes by providing the above services, it will tow your car, absolutely **free of charge**, to the nearest location designated by the California Highway Patrol.

### Contacting More Help

If needed, the Freeway Service Patrol driver will transport you to the nearest pay telephone, or call the California Highway Patrol to request additional assistance for you.

**For an emergency**, call 911. For a non-emergency on a Santa Cruz County highway call the California Highway Patrol (831) 796-2160.

### Survey

Share your experience by mailing the prepaid survey card or visit our website and fill out an e-survey at

[www.sccrtc.org/services/motorist/](http://www.sccrtc.org/services/motorist/)

## The Santa Cruz County Freeway Service Patrol Service Map



## Service Schedule

Weekdays during peak commute hours, and limited service on Saturdays and Sundays

- **17** — **Beat 1** Mt. Hermon Road to Santa Clara County line
- **1** — **Beat 2** Highway 9 to State Park Drive

For a complete schedule and on-line survey visit [www.sccrtc.org/services/motorist/](http://www.sccrtc.org/services/motorist/)

## Questions and Answers

**How will I recognize the Freeway Service Patrol drivers?**

All Freeway Service Patrol trucks are white and display the easily recognizable blue and yellow Freeway Service Patrol logo. Drivers wear blue uniforms with the Freeway Service Patrol logo.

**Are there any costs or tips involved?**

No. Drivers are not allowed to accept any compensation for their service but they do appreciate you filling out the survey and sending it in. The Program is already paid for using local and state funds.

**Will the Freeway Service Patrol tow me to a private repair facility?**

No. The Freeway Service Patrol can tow vehicles only to locations designated by the California Highway Patrol. Freeway Service Patrol drivers are prohibited from recommending tow service companies, or repair or body shops.

**Is there a number that I can call to reach the Freeway Service Patrol driver if I need help?**

The drivers cannot be reached by phone. They patrol the highways constantly during scheduled service hours looking to assist stranded motorists and to remove debris from the highway.

**Where can I find the Freeway Service Patrol?**

Freeway Service Patrol is located on portions of Highway 17 and Highway 1 in Santa Cruz County and can be found throughout California including in Santa Cruz's neighboring counties, Monterey, Santa Clara, and San Mateo.