



Safe on 17 Traffic Operations Systems

Project Description

The Highway 17 corridor was identified as a high collision corridor in 1998 as a result of collision data analysis and recommendations of local, regional, county and state agencies. The Safe on 17 Task Force was formed to develop and implement collision reducing strategies, such as additional CHP enforcement, traffic safety improvements, and public education. These strategies focus on preventing the occurrence of the top five Primary Collision Factors in fatal and injury collisions including driving at unsafe speeds, vehicle right-of-way violations, improper turning and improper lane change.

The Task Force is comprised of representatives from the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC) and the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the California Highway Patrol (CHP), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), local police and fire departments, legislators' offices and the media. SCCRTC and MTC provide \$50,000 annually for enhanced CHP enforcement using Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) funds. SAFE funds come from a \$1 registration fee on all vehicles in the region and fund the highway call box system, Freeway Service Patrols on Hwy 1 and 17 in addition to extra CHP enforcement on Hwy 17 and other motorist-aid services.



Project Highlights

- ▶ Multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional effort to reduce injury and fatal collisions on Highway 17
- ▶ Encourages safer driving and deters traffic violations with extra CHP enforcement
- ▶ Implements road safety improvements to reduce wet weather and run-off-road collisions through guardrail upgrades, shoulder widening projects, and pavement surface treatments
- ▶ Increases safe driving practices, especially on mountainous highway roads, through education and public outreach

Meeting Schedule

The Safe on 17 Task Force meets twice a year to share information about transportation projects and collisions on Highway 17 and traffic operation systems in Santa Cruz County. Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

SAFE ON 17 MEETINGS	LOCATION	ADDRESS
3rd Wednesday in March	CHP San Jose	2020 Junction Ave, San Jose CA
3rd Wednesday in September	SCCRTC office	1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA



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Current Highway 17 Projects

PROJECT	COUNTY	LOCATION	TIMELINE
Pavement Restoration	Santa Cruz County – Caltrans D5	Granite Creek Road to Santa Clara/ Santa Cruz County line	March 2019 – October 2019
Wildfire Prevention/ Fuel Reduction	Santa Clara County – SCFD	Bear Creek Road to Santa Clara/ Santa Cruz County line	April/May 2019 – December 2019
Ramp Safety Improvements	Santa Cruz County – Caltrans D5	Fishhook (Hwy 1/Hwy 17) to Pasatiempo overcrossing	Spring 2020
Pavement Restoration & Safety Improvements	Santa Clara County – Caltrans D4	Alma College Road to Santa Clara/ Santa Cruz County line	January 2021 – October 2021

