

DRAFT  
**Alternative Route Plan**  
for  
**San Mateo County**  
June 19, 2007



# *San Mateo County Alternative Route Plan-DRAFT*

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## **I. OVERVIEW**

### **A. Purpose**

The purpose of the Alternative Route Plan is to increase the coordination between Caltrans, CHP, local agency public safety, and local agency public works staff in San Mateo County during an incident when it is desirable to direct traffic off the freeway and onto an alternative route on local streets. These alternative routes were chosen with input by local agencies and seek to contain and/or minimize the impacts of the diverted traffic onto the local street network. The alternative routes use parallel arterial streets that are the best candidates for moving a higher demand of traffic during incidents.

Alternative Routes for the following freeway segments are included in this handbook:

- United States Route 101 (US 101)—from San Francisco County border to Santa Clara County border
- Interstate 280 (I-280)—from San Francisco County border to State Route 92
- Interstate 380 (I-380)—from US 101 to I-280
- State Route 92 (SR-92)—from I-280 to the San Mateo Bridge

This handbook includes the following information to be used in the support of implementation of alternative routes:

- Alternative Route Implementation Checklist
- Local Agency Public Safety and Public Works Contacts
- Emergency Operation Center (EOC) locations
- Freeway Changeable Message Signs (CMS) locations
- Alternative Route Plans

### **B. Implementing an Alternative Route**

#### **1. Alternative Route Elements**

Alternative routes typically consist of several components: freeway off-ramp, local street connector to the parallel arterial street, parallel arterial street, local street connector from the parallel arterial street and the freeway on-ramp and freeway on-ramp. The following elements are used to support the implementation of alternative routes along these components. Although some of these elements do not currently exist along the alternative routes, they will be part of the overall system deployment at some time in the future.

**Fixed CCTV Cameras (future)**—Monitors traffic flow and conditions at key signalized intersections along the alternative route.

**PTZ Cameras (future)**—Monitors traffic flow and conditions along the alternative route.

**Electronic trailblazer signs (future)**—Provides route guidance for the diverted freeway traffic along the alternative route. Also directs local street traffic away from entering the impacted freeway section.

**Static detour signs**—Provides route guidance for the diverted freeway traffic along the alternative route and directs local street traffic away from entering the impacted freeway section.

**On-Ramp Metering (future)**—Adjusts on-ramp flow rates upstream and downstream from the incident to facilitate changes in traffic demand due to the incident. Flow rate for on-ramps upstream of the freeway incident are more restrictive, while flow rate for on-ramps at the end of diversion routes are less restrictive (or turned off) to help the diverted traffic clear local streets.

**Traffic signal flush plans (future)**—Provides increased throughput capacity for local streets by adjusting the signal timing to provide extended green times along the parallel arterial street and the local street connectors to and from the freeway to move greater amounts of traffic.

**Police Deployment**—Provides direction and enforcement of diversion at key decision points along the alternative route. This role may also be fulfilled by other public staff (e.g. public works.).

**Freeway Changeable Message Signs (CMS)**—Provides incident and route guidance information upstream from the incident. These devices are controlled by Caltrans and are an integral part of disseminating traffic and incident information to drivers on the freeway. A map showing relevant CMS signs is included in Section V Freeway Changeable Message Signs for reference only.

## **2. Communications Flow and Local Agency Responsibilities**

The following graphic illustrates the communications flows between Caltrans, CHP, local agency public safety and local agency public works in implementing the alternative routes in response to an incident on the freeway. This flow of information is important to understand as incident management and response is coordinated between stakeholders.

Table 1 outlines the general tasks that may occur on local streets during the implementation of an alternative route. The local agency public works department will likely participate in these activities during an incident as traffic is routed along the local street. Additional details on these tasks are covered in Section II. ALTERNATIVE ROUTE IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST.



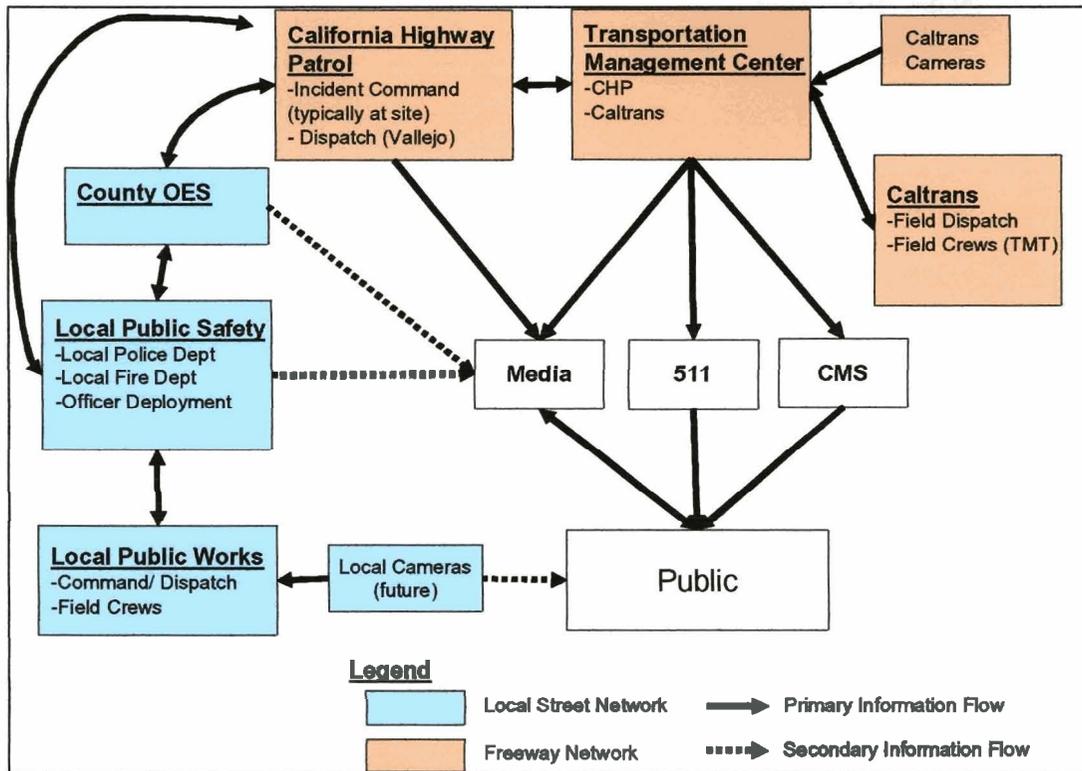


TABLE 1: Local Public Works Alternative Route Implementation Tasks

Task
Field check alternative routes
Close local streets and/or freeway-on ramps
Install static detour signs
Direct traffic on local streets
Monitor traffic flow and conditions and provide feedback through field crew and officer deployments
Activate trailblazer signs (future)
Adjust signal timing / Activate flush plans (future)
Monitor traffic flow and conditions using field cameras (future)
Monitor CHP reports regarding status of incident (including when incident is clear). Coordinate actions with CHP and local agency public safety

## II. ALTERNATIVE ROUTE IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST

The following checklist provides details for the general tasks outlined in Table 1. This checklist focuses on the implementation of alternative routes and does not include items relating to emergency response, staging areas, incident severity level determination, etc.

<p><b>Task: Field check alternative routes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there any construction activity along the route that impacts lane capacity?</li> <li>• Are all traffic signals along the route operational?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task: Close local streets and/or freeway on-ramps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which ramps or local streets should be closed?</li> <li>• Is there a detour path for the local traffic? How is this communicated to the drivers?</li> <li>• What is the trigger (e.g., procedure or time) to re-open the local streets or freeway on-ramps?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task: Install static detour signs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At what locations should the detour signs be installed? In what order should the detour signs be installed?</li> <li>• What signs should be included at each location? Have you considered both diversion traffic exiting the freeway and local traffic going to the freeway?</li> <li>• Is there a trigger (e.g., procedure or time) where the signs need to be taken down?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task: Direct traffic on local streets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At what locations and directions should personnel be placed to direct traffic? In what order should the deployment take place?</li> <li>• What is the trigger (e.g., procedure or time) to relieve personnel deployments?</li> <li>• What is the trigger (e.g., procedure or time) to end the personnel deployments?</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task: Monitor traffic flow and conditions and provide feedback through field crew and officer deployments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At what locations are conditions being monitored?</li> <li>• What information should the field personnel be looking for?</li> <li>• Who do they provide this information to?</li> <li>• How do they provide this information?</li> <li>• What is the trigger where monitoring is no longer necessary?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p><b>Task: Activate trailblazer signs (future)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are their trailblazer signs along the alternate route?</li> <li>• Which trailblazers (location, direction, message) should be activated?</li> <li>• What signs should be included at each location? Have you considered both diversion traffic exiting the freeway and local traffic going to the freeway?</li> <li>• What is the trigger (e.g., procedure or time) where the signs need to be taken down?</li> <li>•</li> </ul>



**Task: Adjust signal timing/ Activate flush plans (future)**

- Is there communications to the traffic signals along the route?
- Are there pre-programmed flush plans along the route?
- What is the trigger for signal operations to return to normal?
- 

**Task: Monitor traffic flow and conditions using field cameras (future)**

- At what locations are conditions being monitored?
- Who to public works contact to provide monitoring information?
- What is the trigger where monitoring is no longer necessary?
- 

**Task: Monitor CHP reports regarding status of incident (including when incident is clear). Coordinate actions with CHP and local agency public safety**

- Are the regularly scheduled updates coming from CHP on the incident, or will local public safety need to regularly check in?
- What actions are CHP and local agency public safety taking to manage incident and traffic? What actions should local agency public works take to assist in the response?
- Note long until the incident will be declared clear.
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### III. SAN MATEO COUNTY ALT. ROUTES CONTACT LIST

May 12, 2007	Emergency Coordinator	Police Chief	Fire Chief	Public Works Director	City/Town Manager
<b>Atherton</b>	Eric Grimm 752-0520	Robert Brennan 752-0506	Harold Schapelhouman 688-8426	Duncan Jones 752-0532	Jim Robinson 752-0500
<b>East Palo Alto</b>	Rahn Sibley 853-3160	Ronald Davis 853-3160	Harold Schapelhouman 688-8426	Anthony Docto 853-3117	Alvin James 853-3100
<b>Menlo Park</b>	Lacey Burt 245-8335	Bruce Goitia 330-6300	Harold Schapelhouman 688-8426		Kent Steffens (Int) 330-6610
<b>Portola Valley</b>	Steve Willis 851-1700 ex 18	Sheriff's Office 364-1811	Armando Muela 851-1594	Howard Young 851-1700 ex 14	Angela Howard 851-1700 ex 15
<b>Redwood City</b>	Jim Skinner 780-7400	Louis Cobarruviaz 780-7124	Gerry Kohlmann 780-7400	Larry Barwacz 780-7464	Ed Everett 780-7300
<b>San Carlos</b>	Heidi Morrison 802-4448	Greg Rothaus 802-4228	Doug Fry 802-4255	Parviz Mokhtari 802-4202	Mark Weiss 802-4228
<b>Woodside</b>	Janet Keolsch 851-6790	Sheriff's Office 364-1811	Armando Muela 851-1594	Ken Dewell 851-6790	Susan George 851-6790
<b>Belmont</b>	Pat Halleran 595-7430	Don Mattie 595-7400	Doug Fry 802-4254	Ray Davis 595-7425	Jack Crist 595-7408
<b>Burlingame</b>	John Parkins 558-7600	Jack Van Etten 777-4124	Don Dornell 558-7600	George Bagdon 558-7230	James Nantel 558-7204
<b>Foster City</b>	Tom Reaves 286-3350	Craig Courtin 286-3300	Tom Reaves 286-3350	Ray Towne 286-3270	Jim Hardy 286-3220
<b>Half Moon Bay</b>	Clayton Jolley 726-5213	Ike Ortiz 726-8288	Paul Cole Acting 726-5213	Paul Nagengast 726-8260	Marcia Raines 726-8270
<b>Hillsborough</b>	Bill Reilly 740-7400	Matt O'Connor 375-7468	Don Dornell 558-7600	Open	Anthony Constantouros 375-7400
<b>Millbrae</b>	Rick Ortega 259-2400	Tom Hitchcock 259-2300	Dennis Haag 259-2400	Ron Popp 259-2339	Ralph Jaeck 259-2334
<b>San Mateo</b>	Tom Murray 522-7910	Susan Manheimer 522-7700	Brian Kelly 522-7900	Larry Patterson 522-7300	Arne Croce 522-7000
<b>Brisbane</b>	Randy Breault 415-508-2130	Thomas Hitchcock 415-508-2170	Ron Myers 650-991-8138	Randy Breault 415-508-2130	Clayton Holstine 415-508-2110
<b>Colma</b>	Bob Lotti 997-8344	Bob Lotti 997-8344	Geoff Balton 755-5666	Richard Mao 757-8888	Diane McGrath 997-8309
<b>Daly City</b>	Matt Lucett 991-8139	Gary McLane 991-8142	Ron Myers 991-8138	Peter Gleichenhau 991-8038	Patricia Martel 991-8127
<b>Pacifica</b>	Fernando Realyvasquez 738-7314	Jim Saunders 738-7314	Ron Myers 991-8138	Scott Homes 738-4660	William Norton (Int) 738-7300
<b>San Bruno</b>	Dan Voreyer 616-7096	Neil Telford 616-7142	Dan Voreyer 616-7096	Scott Munns 616-7160	Connie Jackson 616-7056
<b>South San Francisco</b>	Dave Quasney 829-3950	Mark Raffaelli 877-8900	Phil White 829-3950	Terry White 877-8550	Barry Nagel 877-8500



**IV. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) LOCATIONS**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Physical Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>
County OES	555 County Center, 4th Floor Redwood City, CA 94063-1665	
Belmont	One Twin Pines Lane Belmont, CA	
Brisbane		
Burlingame (shared with Hillsborough)	Burlingame Corp Yard 1361 N. Carolan Burlingame, CA	
California Highway Patrol (CHP)		
Caltrans District 4		
Colma		
Daly City	333 90 <sup>th</sup> Street Daly City, CA 94015	
East Palo Alto		
Foster City	610 Foster City Blvd Foster City, CA	
Hillsborough (shared with Burlingame)	Burlingame Corp Yard 1361 N. Carolan Burlingame, CA	
Menlo Park		
Millbrae		
Redwood City	1301 Maple St Redwood City, CA	650-780-7100
San Bruno		
San Carlos	600 Elm St San Carlos, CA 94070	650-802-4321
San Francisco International Airport (SFO)		
San Mateo	San Mateo PD Delaware Street	650-522-7700
San Mateo County (unincorporated areas)	400 County Center Redwood City, CA	
South San Francisco	West Orange Library 840 West Orange, South San Francisco, CA 94080	650-829-3860

