



# SR 166

## COMPREHENSIVE CORRIDOR STUDY

Guadalupe to Santa Maria

## State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### ABOUT THE PLAN

##### What is the purpose of the State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study?

**Answer:** The State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study comes at the request of the Santa Maria City Council and multiple SBCAG Directors to identify opportunities for improvement along the SR 166 corridor between the cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe in northern Santa Barbara County.

The purpose of the State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study is to identify a package of prioritized multimodal system improvements to improve safety and mobility while facilitating essential agricultural trucking operations on State Route (SR) 166 between the Cities of Guadalupe and Santa Maria and the surrounding area.

The study will address all road users and will consider planning for safety, mobility, access management, vehicle emissions reduction, dust abatement, and agricultural goods movement. The project is necessary to improve the lives of those in the study area, including disadvantaged and underserved communities.

##### Who is responsible for the State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study?

**Answer:** The State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study is being conducted by the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) in partnership with Santa Barbara County, the Cities of Guadalupe and Santa Maria, and Caltrans.

##### How much does the study cost and how is it being paid for?

**Answer:** Funding for the SR 166 Comprehensive Corridor Plan was made available through a Caltrans planning grant awarded to SBCAG. Of this amount total grant award, \$275,000 is being provided for consultant services led by DKS Associates with Psomas Engineering.

##### How long will it take to complete?

**Answer:** Completion of the study is anticipated by October 2025 (approximately 18 months).

### What are the plan's project limits?

**Answer:** The study corridor area boundaries are (See Map):

West: SR 166 juncture with State Route 1 in the City of Guadalupe  
East: SR 166/Main Street juncture with Depot Street in the City of Santa Maria  
North: Santa Maria River Levee  
South: Betteravia Road (Guadalupe to Santa Maria)



### How is this plan different from the 2012 Route 166 Safety and Operational Improvements Project?

**Answer:** The State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study is specifically focused on the corridor area between the Cities of Guadalupe and Santa Maria – including all parallel and side access roads. The previous study examined approximately 75 miles of SR 166 between its junctures with SR 1 and I-5. The State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study will build-off the safety improvements identified as part of the 2012 Plan by taking a performance-based approach to identify new improvements and re-evaluate the benefits and return on investment of past improvement concepts. It will also consider more recent multimodal facility design concepts and treatments that were not considered in 2012. Lastly, the plan will develop technical information pertinent to state and federal competitive grant applications that will allow the participating agencies to better compete for State/Federal funding (i.e., have “grant ready” improvements for future transportation grant funding cycles).

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

### **How can I participate in the State Route 166 Comprehensive Corridor Study?**

**Answer:** There will be multiple opportunities for the public to provide input, including attending public workshops, public meetings, presentations, and utilizing the project webpage - [www.sbcag.org/project/sr-166-study/](http://www.sbcag.org/project/sr-166-study/) to review project information, take our survey, and provide input. Using our interactive mapping tool, anyone can log on and identify places in the study corridor where safety, biking, walking, or access issues currently exist and provide written comments on the issues and what improvements are needed. All public outreach materials will be provided in both English and Spanish. The interactive mapping tool provides multiple language options.

### **How many public workshops are being held for the study?**

**Answer:** There will be three “pop up” events where we go where the people are. These can be at popular community events such as Farmers Markets (Guadalupe or Santa Maria), Mexican Heritage Day in the City of Guadalupe, Santa Maria Street Fair, the Elk Rodeo etc. The purpose of these outreach events is to bring awareness of the study and solicit input from the community. In addition, a public workshop will be held (Summer 2025) to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on the proposed improvements.

### **What is the Stakeholder Advisory Committee?**

**Answer:** The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be made up of key representatives from various organizations to guide the planning process by contributing to the study and reviewing project deliverables. Stakeholders will be appointed by the SBCAG Board and will make formal recommendations to the Board regarding the study. The role of the Committee will be to review interim deliverables, help guide the development of the plan and communicate specific interests and perspectives as they relate to the corridor. The list of members will be made available on the project webpage.

## **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

Maya Kulkarni  
Transportation Planner  
*Santa Barbara County  
Association of Governments*  
MKulkarni@sbacag.org  
(805) 961-8915

Kendall Flint  
Outreach Task Manager  
*DKS Associates*  
kendall.flint@dksassociates.com  
(650) 455-1201