

Work Proceeding On By-Pass of Watsonville

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Approximately 75 per cent of the work has been completed on the grading project on Cabrillo highway near Watsonville. This five-mile project, between 1.2 miles south of the Pajaro river and 2.3 miles northwest of Watsonville, will cost \$2,063,000. The facility is completely on new alignment passing westerly of Watsonville. Surfacing was not included in the present contract as the construction through the marshy terrain required placing a surcharge on fills to expedite settlement and assist in stabilizing the freeway embankment.

Two structures are being constructed as a part of this work; an overcrossing at Harkins Slough Road and a bridge across Struve Slough. Also included in the project is the rough grading of portions of Route 129 connecting the bypass to Main street in Watsonville.

At the present time the contractor is constructing the fill between Beach road and Watsonville Slough. He is also constructing drainage facilities and placing lining in various ditches. Major structure work consists of dry-finishing one structure and removing falsework from the other at Harkins Slough and backfilling abutments at Struve Slough Bridge. This work is expected to be completed in December.

Funds for paving this project are tentatively included in the proposed 1965-66 budget. This work will consist of removing the surcharge and completion of separation structures at the junctions of Route 1 with Route 129 and Route 152. The paving of 3.4 miles of four-lane freeway on Cabrillo Highway and of four lanes on 1.6 miles of Route 129 between Route 1 and 0.1 mile east of Main street in Watsonville is also included. An interchange facility will be provided between Routes 1 and 152. Freeway connections at Roache road, which have been suggested by the city and county, are under consideration.

Studies for the design of interchanges at Rio Del Mar boulevard (Aptos avenue) and Rob Roy junction, including frontage roads; and for the future addition of two lanes to the existing facility between Santa Cruz and Rob Roy are in progress. The latter project will include modification of existing interchanges. The conversion of the existing facility between Rob Roy and Watsonville Bypass to an initial four-lane (ultimate 6-lane) freeway is also under design study. Funds for this work are not anticipated to become available for several years.

A project for the construction of left-turn storage lanes and modifications to the existing signal system at the Route 1 freeway terminus and Mission street in Santa Cruz was recently completed. This work was administered by the City of Santa Cruz and was performed as a part of their improvement of Chestnut street as a major street. The state contributed \$18,000 towards the cost of the intersection improvement.

Design studies are in progress for 0.5 miles of reconstruction and resurfacing on Route 1 between Green street and Rigg street in Santa Cruz. This work is included in the proposed 1965-66 fiscal year budget.

Planning studies initiated some time ago for the portion of Cabrillo highway between Route 1/17 interchange and the west city limit of Santa Cruz are inactive, pending the completion of new traffic studies for that area. Such studies are currently in progress.

Other Routes

Work is presently in progress on resurfacing approximately 24 miles of various routes in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. This project is a part

interchange design and determination of rights-of-way for about three miles of four-lane freeway between the new alignment of Cabrillo highway west of Watsonville and a point one mile east of Casserly road on Road 152. The County of Santa Cruz by resolution of July 29, 1964 indicated they were willing to assist in financing interim projects on this route between the northeast city limits of Watsonville and Casserly road.

Purity



imits and Casserly road. This will involve widening about 2 miles in the vicinity of the Santa Cruz County Fair Grounds. This proposal is being studied.

Route studies for the location of approximately twelve miles of Route 17 between north of Granite Creek Road and south of Los Gatos road are inactive. Location studies for Routes 9 and 100 are also presently inactive. Completion of new traffic studies currently underway will provide the basis for location studies. Meanwhile authority has been received to prepare plans for a left turn channelization on existing Route 17 at the intersection of Vine Hill Road to improve safety at this junction.

Studies are in progress for