

# ✓ Morrissey Boulevard to narrow

Project aims to slow traffic  
on Eastside thoroughfare

*Traffic Patterns*  
Sentinel staff report

SANTA CRUZ — Work is expected to begin later this week on a \$140,000 traffic-safety program that includes narrowing a heavily traveled portion of Morrissey Boulevard to one lane in both directions.

Chris Schneider, assistant director of the city's Public Works Department, said the change between Soquel and Fairmount avenues is designed to force drivers to slow down in the 25 mph zone.

Morrissey in that stretch now is a four-lane divided road that connects Eastside residents with Highway 1.

*6-25-91*  
Neighbors lobbied the City Council for the change because of safety concerns. In addition to slowing traffic, the change also makes room for new bike lanes.

Schneider said he has received a few calls from residents concerned about the plan, but he emphasized the City Council will review the change in a year. That review will be to make sure the change hasn't caused undue congestion, prompted accidents in the traffic-merging areas or led to driver's cutting through other neighborhoods to avoid Morrissey.

The Eastside project, which is expected to take about 45 days, also includes work on Poplar and Branciforte avenues. Changes include speed bumps on Poplar and new signs on Branciforte.