

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGES TO COMPLETE STREETS FACILITIES (PROJECT DELIVERY)

DISTRICT 5 EA 05-1M360 SHOPP ID 20016
COUNTY: SANTA BARBARA ROUTE: 246
PROJECT POSTMILES: 9.55/R20.9 PHASE: PA&ED (ENVIRONMENTAL)
APPROVED BY: DONNA BERRY, CHIEF ENGINEER, JULY 10, 2026

Complete Streets Scope Change:

This project is a State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Project with a primary asset of bridge rehabilitation with complete streets facilities. It proposes to replace the Santa Ynez River Bridge and provide pavement preservation on State Route (SR) 246 near the City of Lompoc. This segment is identified as having a Tier 3 (lowest priority) need for pedestrian facilities. The Project Initiation Report (PIR) recommended installation of a Class I bikeway in both directions on the new bridge to meet pedestrian and bicycle needs identified in the Caltrans Active Transportation Plan. Further investigation revealed right of way constraints stemming from the required bridge width. Partner agency collaboration, community feedback, and analysis of existing conditions led the project development team (PDT) to recommend a Class I bikeway in the westbound direction on the bridge and a sidewalk on the eastbound side of the newly reconstructed bridge. Additionally, new sidewalk will be installed on either side of the bridge along eastbound SR 246 connecting the bridge to the adjacent intersections. The added sidewalk scope will facilitate safe pedestrian travel consistent with the city of Lompoc's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan.

Justification:

The original proposal included a Class I bikeway on both sides of the bridge with no sidewalks on the approach roads along SR 246. During project development, right of way along the eastbound side of SR 246 was found to be constrained due to private parcels and land uses. After reviewing multiple alternatives with the PDT, local partners requested a sidewalk along the eastbound direction of the bridge to ensure connectivity with the approach roads. New sidewalk was added to the project beyond the bridge to provide a connection to the adjacent intersections. A Class I bikeway along the westbound direction of the reconstructed bridge will continue to be provided to meet the current and future multi modal needs in the corridor consistent with local plans.