



# The Greenbelt

Volume 143

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## TAMC HWY 156 STATUS UPDATE

Caltrans held a public hearing for the project and has completed the environmental review stage.

Alternative 11 (new four lane on 156 ) was selected as the preferred alternative over Alternative 12 (widen existing 156). Both alternatives included Hwy 101/Hwy 156 interchange improvements. Since the overall cost of the project (Alternative 11) was very high (\$ 421 million), we have asked Caltrans to look at a phased approach to the project that could be built for less money.

Phase 1 would include construction of a new four lane on 156 from Castroville Blvd down to Hwy 101 (but would not include the Hwy 101/Hwy 156 improvements). It would include a new interchange on Hwy 156 at Castroville Blvd and would retain the existing Hwy 156 roadway as a frontage road for improved Oak Hills access. Some other operational improvements would be considered at Hwy 101 at Vierra Canyon and at Berta Canyon and a possibly a connection from the existing park and ride to Meridian Road.

Phase 2 would include the Hwy 101/Hwy 156 improvements. Early estimates are that Phase 1 could be constructed for about \$125 million. They will also look at building a shorter version of Phase 1 that may cost about \$50 million. It would extend the new four lane on Hwy 156 from Castroville Blvd to a point past Oak Hills, but not all the way to Hwy 101.

Caltrans is taking a closer look at the design issues and construction cost, but it is clearly an option that should be considered. We anticipate meeting with Caltrans and the County for further discussions once they have better information on the phased approach.

## Oak Hills Garage Sale—May 15

Suzanne Burr organizes the semi-annual Oak Hills garage sale in the Spring and Fall of each year. This year, the Spring garage sale is schedule for May 15. She does all of the advertising for the garage sale as well as putting together maps and addresses of those home participating in the sale. Please call Suzanne Burr at 633-0514 to let her know that you will be participating in this year's event.

**OAKHILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 689  
Castroville, CA 95012

Phone: 831-633-0103  
Website: [www.oakhillshoa.org](http://www.oakhillshoa.org)  
Email: [office@oakhillshoa.org](mailto:office@oakhillshoa.org)

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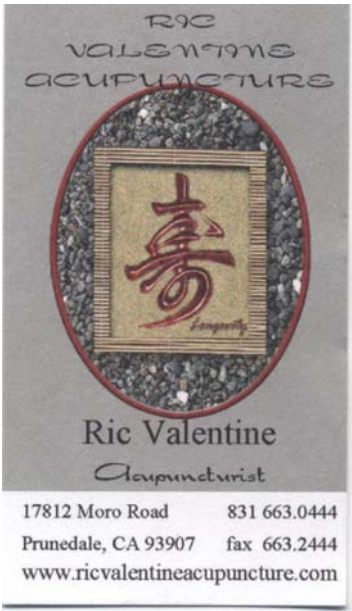
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