

# Frequently Asked Questions



**Q.) What is an auxiliary lane?**

A.) An Auxiliary Lane is a lane other than a through lane that is used to separate entering, exiting or turning traffic from the through traffic. For this project it would include the acceleration on from US 40 and deceleration off at SR 273. Auxiliary lanes give drivers more room to speed up and slow down when getting on or off a freeway so it can safely make turning movements.

**Q.) Why does the northbound auxiliary lane need to be improved between the US 40 and SR 273 interchange?**

A.) Currently, the on-ramp onto SR 1 from US 40 is very short. With the amount of traffic utilizing the ramp today, the length for vehicles to gain speed and merge onto SR 1 is not sufficient. This causes significant traffic congestion and back-ups on US 40 and SR 1 in the morning peak. The current length also presents safety hazards, and the on-ramp has been the location of crashes. Extending the auxiliary lane to the SR 273 northbound off-ramp will give motorists ample amount of room to gain speed, find a gap in traffic, and merge safely onto SR 1.

**Q.) Why can't we just drive on the shoulder?**

A.) When SR 1 was originally built, the shoulders were not built to withstand traffic. If constant traffic were to ride on the existing shoulder, the pavement would eventually crumble. In addition, in order to follow highway design standards, a shoulder must exist next to an auxiliary lane to make room for potential emergency breakdowns.

**Q.) How will you build the new auxiliary lane so that it meets design standards?**

A.) The existing shoulder will be overlaid with layers of additional pavement to strengthen it. A new, 8-foot wide shoulder will be built on the outside of the existing shoulder to bring the auxiliary lane up to current design standards.

**Q.) Will any properties need to be acquired?**

A.) No. There is enough state right-of-way along SR 1 in order to build the new turn lane and stormwater management facilities.

**Q.) How will you build the auxiliary lane?**

A.) There will be a temporary barrier placed on the existing shoulder in order to protect workers and build the new outside shoulder. Then, pavement will be layered onto the existing shoulder and across SR 1. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained along SR 1 during most of the construction with minimal lane closures.

