

Stay Connected!

Caltrans is committed to a complete, thorough, and inclusive process. Please stay connected on the progress of the LCG Project.

A Community Open House will be hosted in Winter 2025/2026.

More information will be posted on [LastChanceGrade.com](https://www.LastChanceGrade.com) when available.

Sign up for notifications, get project updates, and learn about opportunities to share your input at:

www.LastChanceGrade.com

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Last Chance Grade

Progress Update

Summer 2025



The Last Chance Grade (LCG) Permanent Restoration Project is a collaborative, multi-year effort to find a permanent solution to geologic and roadway instability on a 3-mile segment of U.S. Highway 101 in Del Norte County, extending from Wilson Creek to 9 miles south of Crescent City. Caltrans is committed to ensuring the safety and reliability of the highway—now and for the future.

Looking Ahead

In June 2024, Caltrans selected Alternative F, a 6,000-foot tunnel, as its preferred alternative. As we complete the environmental phase and move toward final design, we're focused on assembling the team that will complete the design and construction of the tunnel. We're actively pursuing funding and celebrating key milestones, including Caltrans' selection of a Construction Manager/General Contractor and the completion of major environmental reviews.

With strong momentum and continued collaboration, we're getting closer to delivering a safer, more reliable route that will benefit the region and its travelers for generations to come.

Current Repairs

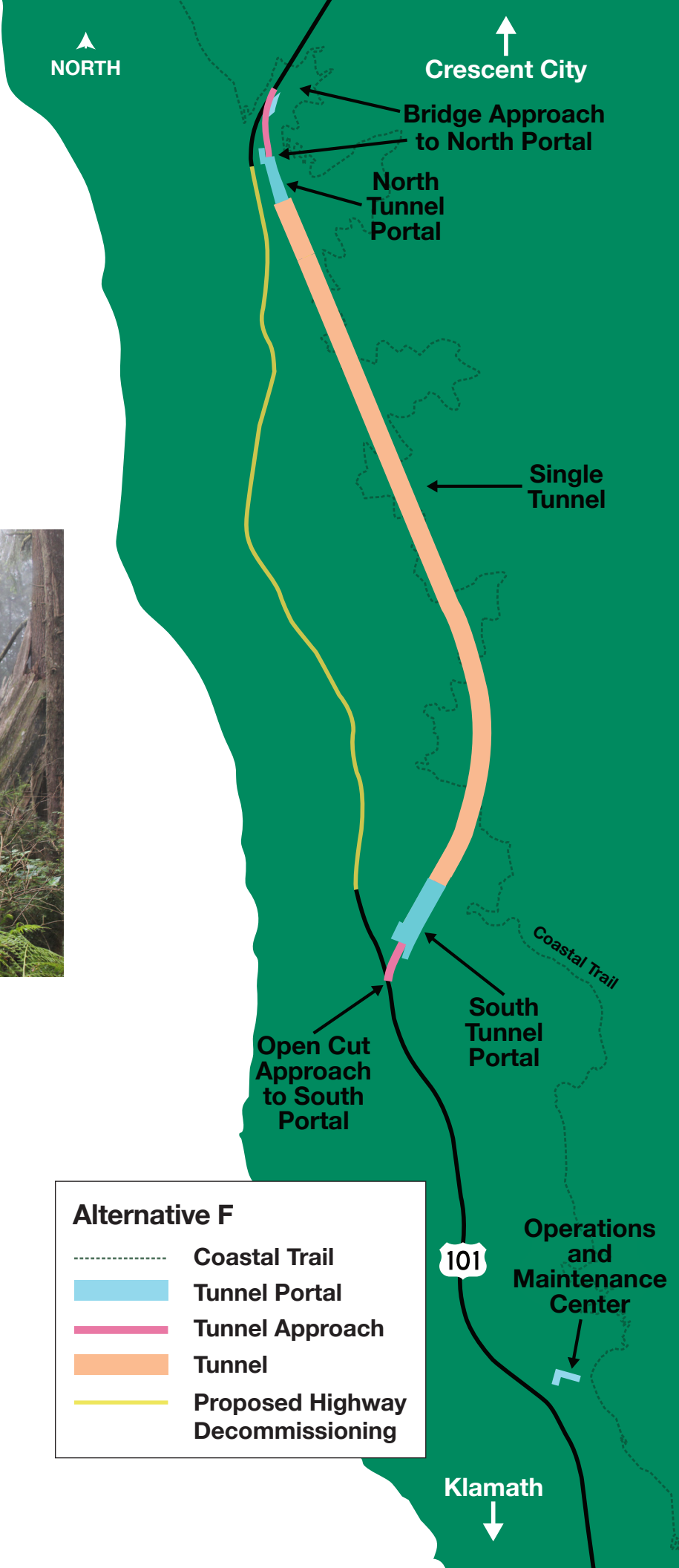
Caltrans has been able to keep Last Chance Grade continuously open to traffic since October 2023, other than minor maintenance interruptions. However, various locations within the corridor continue to slide. As a result, Caltrans resumed work this spring to address wall and roadway surface deformation. This work will occur through the summer of 2025.

F Alternative F

Close collaboration with stakeholders and extensive engineering and scientific studies resulted in the decision to select Alternative F as the preferred alternative that maximizes long-term reliability. This 6,000-foot tunnel will bypass area landslides and realign Highway 101. A variety of measures will enhance safety, including evacuation routes and in-tunnel utilities. The alternative will enhance bicycle and pedestrian facilities.



Simulated view of proposed North Tunnel Portal



Moving Toward a Long-Term Solution

Recent, ongoing, and planned steps toward Caltrans' goal of a long-term solution at Last Chance Grade include:

Final Environmental Document

Caltrans continues to address comments received during the public circulation of the Draft Environmental Document and complete the rigorous internal quality control process to finalize the Final Environmental Document, expected to be published in late 2025. Additional environmental studies and the associated reporting to support design and permitting efforts are ongoing.

Site Monitoring and Subsurface Investigations

Caltrans is performing periodic geological monitoring at the site using specialized instrumentation to better understand the site conditions within the region. Additionally, supplemental subsurface investigations are planned to support the design and construction of the bypass tunnel.

Tunnel Planning and Investigation

Caltrans continues planning and investigation efforts for the tunnel design, including multidisciplinary research into tunnel safety, operations, and emergency response. This includes domestic and international research, focusing on innovative tunnel design solutions and procedures that incorporate state-of-the-art safety features, visual aesthetics, and improved tunnel configuration that will enhance user safety,

performance, and traffic operations. Caltrans will perform value analysis (a process to assess the value of refinements that considers costs, environmental impacts, and community impacts) early in the upcoming Design phase, which will allow for well-informed decisions to be made as the tunnel design is further refined.

Construction Manager / General Contractor (CMGC) Procurement

Caltrans is excited to announce the CMGC procurement process is coming to a close. The top-ranked proposer was announced on April 14, 2025, contract negotiations are underway, and it is anticipated the proposer will join the project team this spring/summer. The CMGC alternative delivery method allows a contractor to join the team earlier in project development. This will bring many benefits to the project, including a better understanding of constructability issues that results in a better design, a collaborative approach to risk management between Caltrans and the contractor, and greater opportunity for innovative solutions. Please stay tuned for information on upcoming public meetings, where you will have the opportunity to meet CMGC personnel.

Please visit www.lastchancegrade.com and follow Caltrans District 1 on social media for updates.

Key Steps in the Environmental Process The project is still on schedule as shown below.

