

## BAY AREA'S LEAST WANTED

# THE DIRTY DOZEN

ONCE AGAIN, MR. ROADSHOW AND HIS READER DEPUTIES MAKE THEIR ANNUAL PICKS FOR THE WORST HIGHWAY LOCATIONS

## THE WORST: I-280 and I-880 interchanges

### 1 North I-280 to North I-880

**Problem:** One lane takes I-280 traffic to north I-880 or Stevens Creek Boulevard, merging with traffic from Highway 17 most headed to Valley Fair and Santana Row. High accident rate.

**Solution:** Separate lanes to end nasty merge at on-ramp.

**When:** Construction could be under way in three years.

### 2 South I-880 to I-280

**Problem:** A newcomer on the Dirty Dozen most-despised list. Traffic in exit lane spills back for a half mile into slow lane on I-880.

**Solution:** Second lane may be added during reconfiguring of interchange.

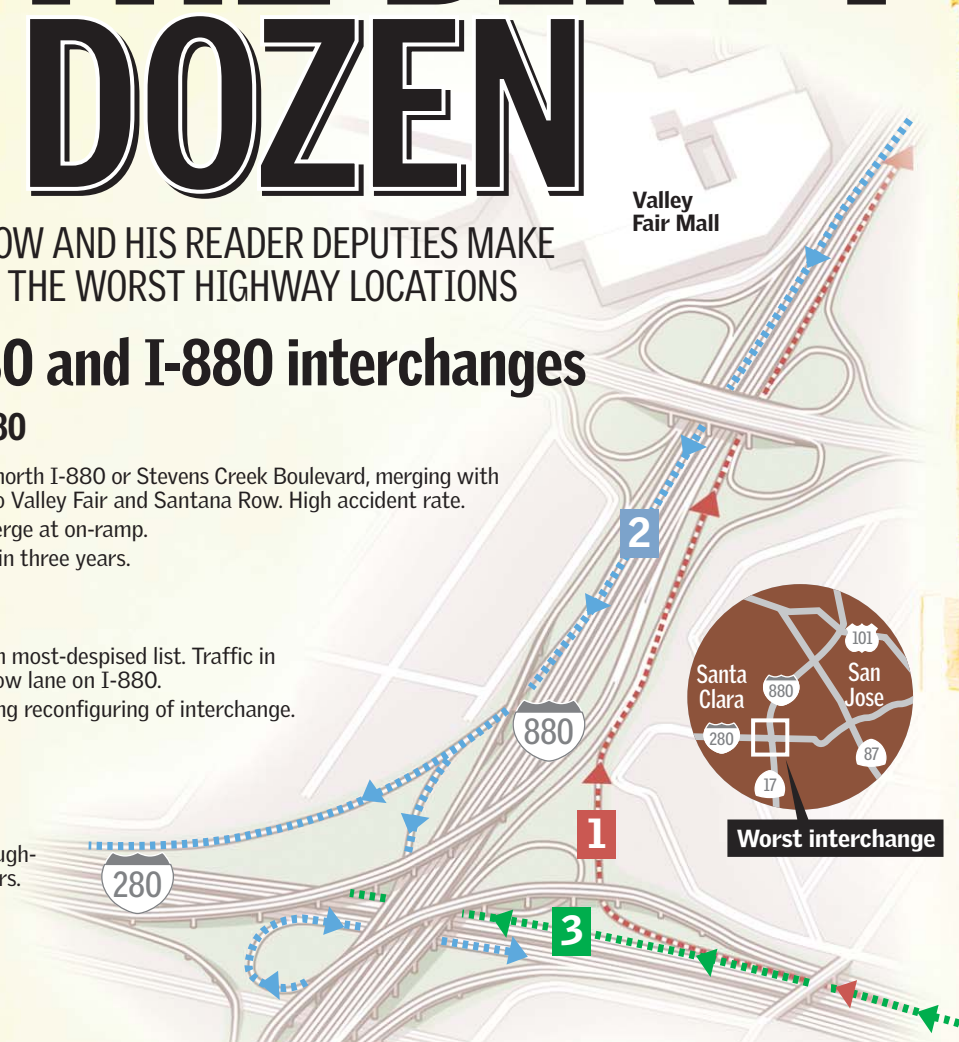
**When:** Work could begin in three years.

### 3 North I-280 at I-880

**Problem:** Freeway narrows to three through-lanes under I-880 as slow lane disappears.

**Solution:** None planned.

**When:** It may be this way for years.



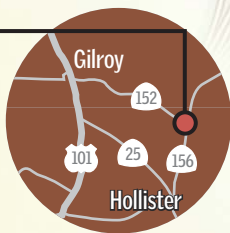
## AND THE REST

### 4 Hwy. 152 at Hwy. 156

**Problem:** Good Samaritans headed east on 152 stop to allow westbound traffic to turn left onto 156. Backups can extend 10 miles. On the morning of Thanksgiving Day, it took an hour to cover this stretch.

**Solution:** Flyover ramp needed.

**When:** Construction should begin in the spring.

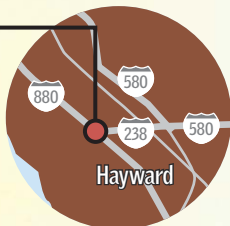


### 5 North I-880 to east I-238

**Problem:** Slow lane from north I-880 backs up at 4 p.m. on a Sunday!

**Solution:** Work just beginning to widen I-238 to six lanes between I-580 and I-880; add merging lanes on I-238 and I-880 and rebuild the north I-880 to south I-238 ramp.

**When:** Four years before there is relief.

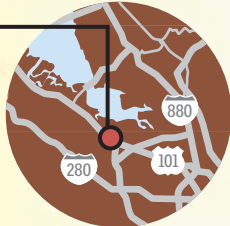


### 6 Hwy. 85 at Hwy. 101

**Problem:** Merging woes as motorists from 85, 101 and Shoreline Boulevard try to reach Old Middlefield Road exit.

**Solution:** Carpoolers from 85 should take non-carpool ramp to 101 to exit at Old Middlefield, and not try to veer across four lanes of traffic.

**When:** Try it now.

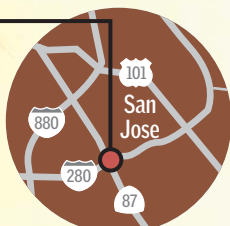
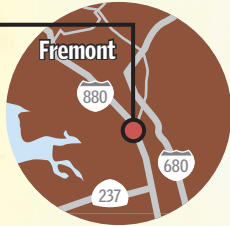


### 7 Mission Blvd. at I-880 and Hwy. 87 at I-280

**Problem:** A tie. Many, many complaints, but heavy-duty construction gets most of blame.

**Solution:** New lanes, new ramps coming.

**When:** Hwy. 87 widening will be completed mid-2007; Mission-880 upgrade will take two more years.

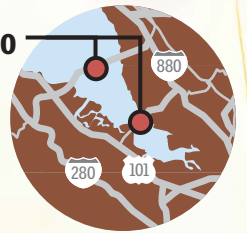


### 8 FasTrak lanes at San Mateo and Dumbarton Bridges

**Problem:** Not enough of them, and they aren't long enough.

**Solution:** New, longer lanes are in the plans.

**When:** April.

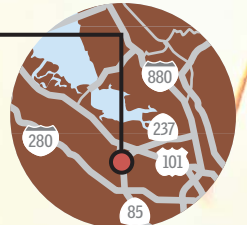


### 9 Hwy. 85 at Hwy. 237

**Problem:** Outdated ramp can't handle traffic exiting from north 85 to 237, spilling out into slow lane of 85.

**Solution:** Rebuild interchange.

**When:** On long-range, 30-year county wish list. For now, take Moffett Boulevard exit.

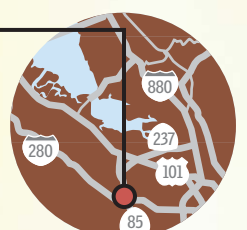


### 10 Hwy. 85 at I-280

**Problem:** Ramp to north I-280 and off-ramp to Foothill Expressway are too close together.

**Solution:** Flyover ramp to separate traffic going to Foothill from I-280.

**When:** Anyone's guess. A decade perhaps.

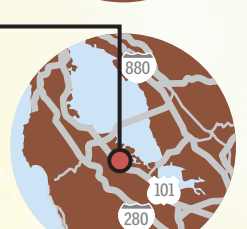


### 11 Hwy. 101 on Peninsula

**Problem:** Carpool lane ends near Whipple Avenue in Redwood City.

**Solution:** To extend diamond lane to San Francisco would require monumental shift in state policy, which prohibits converting existing lane into a diamond lane.

**When:** Not in Roadshow's lifetime.

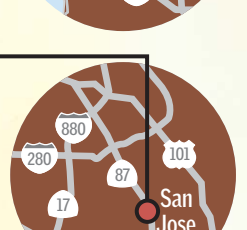


### 12 Narvaez Ave. at northbound Hwy. 87

**Problem:** Drivers turn from straight-only lanes, jamming up entrance to freeway.

**Solution:** No right turn on red sign recently installed, but has many drivers irate.

Opening new lanes on 87 may ease overall commute.



Source: Mercury News reporting

MERCURY NEWS