



Dear Coastal Residents & Businesses:

The 2017 Big Sur International Marathon will go on! Now in its 32nd year, this world-renowned race will again be welcoming 9,000 runners and walkers from 49 states and 35 countries to participate in six different distance events along the coastline on Sunday, April 30, 2017.

Despite the major difficulties experienced by so many residents and businesses on the Big Sur coast in the past year, we've received many positive comments from the Big Sur community to continuing the race with the traditional point-to-point route. Here are a few examples:

"We are fully supportive of the Big Sur marathon moving forward and are happy to assist in any way we can. It will bring much needed revenue to the area as well as a feeling of stability for not only the loyal marathon runners but for the community as well."

"I think the Big Sur community needs something like the Marathon to give us some feeling of normalcy. It would be a shame to cancel such a historically important event - not to mention the contributions to our non-profits. It would be a huge loss for them at a time that their resources are being spread thin. I would like to see the Marathon run as usual..."

Though the loss of Pfeiffer Bridge will eliminate most northbound traffic, we will still make accommodations for our car caravans to travel between Carmel and Big Sur on race day to help residents, employees, and guests get up and down the coast. We will use our same schedule as in previous years:

RACE DAY CARAVAN SCHEDULES

These times are approximate, based on a 6:45 a.m. race start time and a maximum speed of 25 mph. All vehicular traffic will remain in the northbound lane.

NORTHBOUND CARAVANS	1ST NB	2ND NB	3RD NB	SOUTHBOUND CARAVANS	1ST SB	2ND SB	3RD SB
Start Line	7:20			The Crossroads (Rio Road)		8:45	11:00
Andrew Molera – Old Coast Road	7:27			Point Lobos		8:50	11:05
Point Sur	7:33	9:50		Highlands Drive		8:52	11:07
Old Coast Road (Bixby Creek)	7:47	10:03		Yankee Point – Mal Paso Rd.		8:56	11:11
Palo Colorado	7:51	10:07	11:55	Otter Cove	8:35	8:57	11:12
Otter Cove	8:05	10:21	12:09	Palo Colorado	8:49	9:11	11:26
Yankee Point – Mal Paso Road	8:06	10:22	12:10	Coast Road (Bixby Creek)	8:53	9:15	
Highlands Drive	8:10	10:26	12:14	Point Sur	9:06	9:28	
Point Lobos	8:12	10:28	12:16				
Race finish/Rio Road	8:33	10:33	12:21				

NORTHBOUND TRAVEL -- New for 2017 only: The area between the MAF (start line) and Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park will be closed beginning at 3 a.m. in order to erect the start line and new bus turn-around area on the highway. Residents living south of Big Sur State Park will need to exit prior to 3 a.m. or join in the first northbound caravan at 7:20 a.m. Residents north of the park may depart prior to the first caravan as long as they are north of Rio Road by 7 a.m. After that time, residents will need to travel north in an established caravan listed above.

SOUTHBOUND TRAVEL: Only vehicles WITH PASSES are allowed south of Otter Cove after 4 a.m. Travelers to the Highlands may cross Rio Road until 7 a.m. All southbound travel needs to be in Big Sur by 6 a.m. No travel south of Pfeiffer-Big Sur State Park after 3 a.m. due to construction of new bus turnaround area.

If you have any questions on race day travel, please contact our office at 831-625-6226.

Sincerely,

Doug Thurston
Race Director