

# News Release



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CONTACT: Clay Phillips  
(619) 688-3356  
[Clay.phillips@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Clay.phillips@parks.ca.gov)

## Changes at Torrey Pines Entrance Road

*Improvements and signage will improve safety for hikers, bikers and vehicles*

Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve is a scenic gem of the San Diego region and one of the iconic parks run by California State Parks. Its popularity is evidenced seven days a week by the high number of visitors enjoying the network of trails and roads that wind through forests of the rarest pine tree on earth. The most popular route to this hilltop oasis is the park entrance road, winding steeply up from the beach.

This route is shared by hikers, runners, parents with baby strollers, bike riders and vehicles driven by the general public. This has caused many potential conflicts among these different users as they travel up and down the hill. To reduce the potential for these conflicts and improve safety for all visitors to the park, California State Parks has implemented a variety of measures that will help keep hikers, bikers and vehicles separate from each other, while at the same time continuing to offer access to the park. These new measures include:

- Trail improvements immediately adjacent to the paved road
- Signage to direct pedestrians to stay off the road and stay on hiking paths
- Fencing to clearly delineate appropriate routes of travel
- A prohibition against riding bicycles down the hill (the steep hill promotes excessive speed)

District Superintendent Clay Phillips admitted that these changes may take some getting used to, as walking along the entire width of the route will no longer be permitted.

“This isn’t the ideal solution, but these changes are necessary to ensure the safety of our visitors,” said Phillips. “ Over the next year, we will be working to explore other long-term options but, for now, this is the best approach for the sake of visitor safety.”

Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve and Torrey Pines State Beach are visited by over 2.5 million visitors each year. They are located south of Carmel Valley Road, along North Torrey Pines Road. For more information, visit [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

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