

## An Onramp

From a certain vantage point, the Antioch Bridge appears to climb to absurd heights in a vertiginous sweep of asphalt and pre-stressed concrete more Evel Knieval than 18-wheeler laden with onions or flatscreen tv's or wire fencing or black plastic sheeting destined for rows of strawberries. From this wildly foreshortened perspective, the bridge becomes an impossible object, loses its ability to reasonably conduct traffic, but gains a fabulous dimension, a traffic conveyance that abdicates its function and snatches up a mythic potential.

In 1965 three circus lions escaped from a truck on the Antioch Bridge. Two were recaptured. The third lion drowned in the San Joaquin River.



that fixates on spiralsizers and is operated almost entirely by thumbs. Of a really unexciting type of domestic staircase, the kind flowing for their own sake instead of that of endlesss surveillance with its subjugation and decides its electrons would be better spent some cobalt on it and the software gets disgruntled and dissipates itself blue dot gets a bit too pale and a nearby space rock turns out to have a mansion and a bunker-mansion and an escape pod off ramp in case the of that pale blue dot down there so that guy might build a bunker and crosshairs of some guy's flock of satellites, winging every penny out of some lines of binary operators that put the precious cargo in the in tow, dodging burndouts, roadgators, and the odd lion at the best flying down state route 190 with next-day-delivery spiralsizers a suggestion for further satisfaction at the expense of some amazonant in the name of consumption-based liberation, passing always on to deprivation and dissatisfaction for the sake of riding one of privacy that imparts subjective essence based on the contents of one's injected, reflected, inspected by a few lines of binary operators retinas and scolds the imagination of its target audiences selected, revolution still summars while its televised antithesis burns the from a certain vantage point, the untelevised

On a structural level the ramp is a continuous plane that changes the vertical position of the user, a change in level often, depending on the setting, accessible by both biomechanical and mechanical-mechanical locomotion. Because of this change in elevation produced by the smooth and uninterrupted slope, the ramp might accumulate significance beyond its purely transportational value; it may additionally induce a state change in the user.

The specific geometry of the ascending/descending modality, be it planar, hyperbolic, spherical, or parametric, determines the force of acceleration that attends the transversal vector of ramp use. The experience of ramp use thus is a function of ramp geometry and the initial conditions of the ramp user. This dictates the ramp-based transition as form and force with an end toward state-change. The state accessed through ramp use depends on design, location, and approach.

- Tim McCall

Approximate Distances from Antioch Bridge for reference:

1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View – 67 miles  
Backdoor (spillway behind Hillsdale High School) – 72 miles  
1 Apple Park Way, Cupertino – 73 miles  
1 Hacker Way, Menlo Park – 71 miles  
UC Santa Cruz – 99 miles  
UC San Diego – 461 miles