

Caltrans Update

Fresno Council Of Governments

"Caltrans improves mobility across California"



Special points of interest:

- Governor's Proposed Budget leaves Transportation funding whole.
- Hiring Freeze imposed on State Agencies.
- No Bond sales proposed until Fall 2011.
- California Transportation Commission votes \$1 Billion in funding during January CTC meeting.
- "From one end of the state to the other, transportation projects are providing jobs and improving mobility for people and businesses in California," said Caltrans Director Cindy McKim.

Update on Fresno County Projects:

Westside Expressway—State Route 180

The Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement will be made available to the public this spring. A public hearing is anticipated late March/early April 2011.

For more information contact:
Bob Hull, Project Manager
(559)243-3443.

Jacalitos Creek Bridge Replacement— State Route 33 East of Coalinga

Environmental and preliminary design work continue. Circulation of the Initial Study is anticipated to occur late Summer 2011.

For more information contact:
Anand Kapoor, Project Manager
(559)243-3588

Route 145 Intersection Improvement Project— State Route 145 and Jensen Avenue

Environmental and preliminary design work continue. Additional air quality studies are underway and additional alternatives are being analyzed. A public hearing is anticipated May/June 2011.

For more information contact:
Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager
(559)243-3432.

State Route 180 Braided Ramps— Fresno

The Request For Proposals has been delayed until March 2011. A number of design/ construction firms have teamed up to bid on the first design build project in Fresno County.

For more information contact:

Neil Bretz (559)243-3465

Fresno 41 Ramp Meters

All work should be completed this spring.

North Fresno Six Lane— State Route 99

Contractor started October 2010 and is continuing work on structures in the median.

For more information contact:
Jim Bane, Project Manager
(559)243-3469

Recently Awarded Projects:

Selma CAPM— State Route 99 from Floral Ave to Merced Street.

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California Transportation Commission Announces Call For Projects

At the January CTC meeting, Commission staff announced their intent to accept CMIA project applications for the programming of new projects against accumulated (award) savings. The process and project criteria will be the same as previous calls for projects and consistent with the CMIA Guidelines.

The Department will be expected to collect, review, and prioritize a set of recommendations. We intend to work closely with our local partners to ensure that the right set of projects move forward.

Target allocations are not currently available but most of the recent bid savings have been in

the southern part of the state. The requirement to start construction by end of December 2012 remains in effect and the Commission has interpreted this to mean an allocation by June 2012.

For more information on
LD IGR,
Contact Paul Marquez at
(559)445-5867
Or via email at
paul-
albert_marquez@dot.ca.gov

LD IGR- Local Development Intergovernmental Review

Local Development-Intergovernmental Review (LD-IGR) is a mandated ongoing state-wide effort focused primarily on avoiding, eliminating, or reducing to insignificance, potential adverse impacts of local development on the transportation system. Caltrans is proud to share our expertise with other jurisdictions and assist them throughout their land use planning and decision-making processes, consistent with the re-

quirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Streets and Highways Code, and numerous planning and zoning laws that affect our stewardship of the State Highway System. This Program is directed to use 'best practices' analysis methodologies that focus on: improving person-capacity of our multi-modal transportation system; efficiently

moving goods and services; and accurately describing transportation tradeoffs with other community values.

These values include: a sound business economy with housing near employment; a healthy 'climate change sensitive' environment, and equally safe access for both motorized and non-vehicular transportation users.



ENCROACHMENT PERMITS

The use of California State highways for other than normal transportation purposes may require written authorization from the Department of Transportation. As the responsible Department for protecting the public's investment in the State highway system, Caltrans reviews all requests from utility companies, developers, volunteers, nonprofit organizations, etc., desiring to conduct various activities within the right of way. Such activities could include for example: construction of highway improvements, driveway installation and maintenance, highway landscaping

and graffiti removal, commercial filming, special events such as parades commemorating an event, e.g., Independence Day.

Applicants or their authorized representatives shall sign and submit an encroachment request on a current Caltrans form with appropriate fees. In critical cases, the District Permits Office may accept a signed facsimile application from an exempt or normally billed applicant. The originally signed facsimile application must be followed by a mailed application. When Caltrans requests an encroachment relocation, the District Division Chief of the

Right of Way Branch may initiate the application without a fee by sending a copy of the Caltrans "Notice to Owner" form to the District Permits Office.

Other documents may be required in addition to the permit application, such as: surety bonds, liability insurance, environmental documentation, plans, location map, etc.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/developserv/permits/applications/index.html>

For more information on
Encroachment permits,
contact:
855 "M" Street, Suite 200
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 488-4058
(559) 445-6510 FAX

CALTRANS COMPLETES STATE ROUTE 73 PAVING PROJECT USING 300,000 RECYCLED TIRES

Irvine – Caltrans today announced it has completed a project that repaved 12 miles of State Route 73 in Orange County. The \$7.2 million project was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act).

Caltrans used 80,000 tons of rubberized asphalt concrete (recycled tires) to pave both sides of SR-73 from Interstate 5 to the Ford Road undercrossing. An estimated 300,000 recycled tires were utilized, keeping them out of California landfills. The new roadway surface is expected to last a decade, even though up to 70,000 vehi-

cles travel daily on SR-73 in the cities of Laguna Niguel, Aliso Viejo, Laguna Beach, and Irvine.

"This project is a solid investment in Orange County's infrastructure, and it demonstrates Caltrans' strong commitment to protecting the environment through innovative methods like using recycled tires to pave highways," said Caltrans Director Cindy McKim.

The work also included applying new paint and installing pavement markers to help motorists easily identify lane boundaries, replacing the striping at pedestrian

crosswalks near freeway ramps, and installing new electronic sensors under the freeway that are used to alert drivers when traffic is flowing smoothly or is congested. Caltrans collects data from the sensors and posts estimated travel times to various locations on electronic highway message signs.

California has obligated nearly \$2.6 billion in Recovery Act funding to nearly 1,000 highway, local street, and job training transportation projects statewide. For more information on the Recovery Act visit: <http://recovery.ca.gov/>



State Route 73 Paving Project

"..It demonstrates Caltrans' strong commitment to protecting the environment through innovative methods like using recycled tires to pave highways," said Caltrans Director Cindy McKim.

Fierce Winter Storms Hit the South Valley

In mid-December 2010, winter weather finally arrived, with the southern portion of District 6 getting particularly hard hit. Most notable were record amounts of rainfall in Tulare County and rockslides that closed Route 178 through the Kern River Canyon for several weeks.

On December 19, the depressed section of Route 198 through the City of Visalia, between Akers and

Demaree Streets, was closed because the ponding basin located north of the freeway and west of Linwood

Avenue could not take any more water without flooding nearby homes and businesses. Water was allowed to collect on the freeway until a channel was dug between the ponding basin and the adjacent Mill Creek.

Route 178 was closed between December 18 and January 4 to drill and blast rocks and repair the pavement and guardrail. Repairs were slowed by a succession of storms.

Other storm-related issues included the closure of Route 269 north of the City

of Huron and overnight closures of Interstate 5 over the Grapevine. Slabs failed on I-5 near the Grapevine and Route 99 in Madera.

While we may not be done with winter storms yet, Caltrans Maintenance crews will respond quickly to re-open roads and restore essential services to the traveling public.



Above: Flooding on State Route 198 in Visalia.

Below: Clearing rock fall on State Route 178 in the Kern River Canyon.



Caltrans

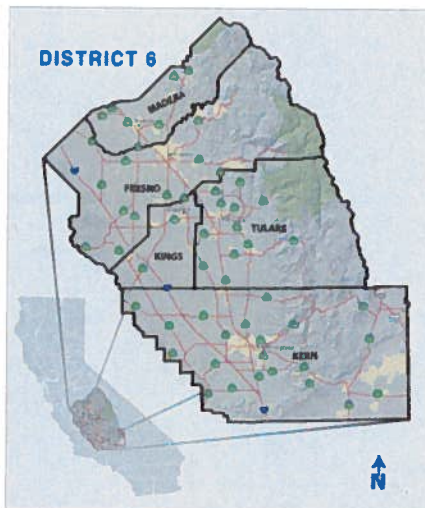
Christine Cox-Kovacevich
Acting Deputy District Director
Planning & Local Programs
P.O. Box 1352
Fresno, CA 93778-2616

Phone: 559-488-4115
Fax: 559-488-4195
E-mail: christine_cox@dot.ca.gov

We're here to get you there!

Visit us on the web at
www.dot.ca.gov/dist6/

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 6 is headquartered in Fresno. This geographically diverse district is the second largest of the 12 Districts statewide, stretching from the southernmost part of Yosemite National Park in the north to the Mojave Desert. It includes Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties. Interstate 5 and State Route 99 run the length of District 6, serving as the main north-south arteries for not just the Central Valley, but for the entire state as well.



Introducing your local Project Manager: Neil Bretz

Neil Bretz, has over 31 years of engineering experience and is a licensed engineer. Neil has been with the Department for 23 years and has been a project manager for the last 13.

As one of our more experienced project managers, Neil manages projects in Tulare, Kings, and Fresno Counties.

Neil's experience was key in selecting him for the State Route 180 Braided Ramps Project. The "Braided Ramps" will be the first Design-Build Project in Fresno County. This project is one of a handful of Design-Build projects approved by the Legislature in California. Under Neil's leadership, the environmental and preliminary

design work were completed on time and within budget. Requests for qualifications have been received and evaluated and a competitive group of firms are ready to provide proposals to complete the project.

While the "Braided Ramps" is gaining a lot of attention State Wide, it is by no means the largest of Neil's projects. Neil is also the project manager for the State Route 180 Kings Canyon Expressway projects which will eventually widen State Route 180 to 4 lanes Eastward to Frankwood at the base of the foothills. This is an important project for Eastern Fresno County and will provide connectivity between those communi-

ties and regional facilities located in Fresno.

Neil will also oversee the upcoming State Route 180 Mendota Passing Lanes project which starts environmental and design work this summer.

In addition to his Fresno County projects, Neil is also the project manager for the Kings-Tulare State Route 198 Widening Project. This 10 mile project will widen State Route 198 from 2 lanes to a 4 lane expressway from State Route 99 to Hanford. This project is in construction and is progressing on schedule.



Neil Bretz, Project Manager
(559)243-3465