

Caltrans Update

Fresno Council Of Governments



"Caltrans improves mobility across California"

Update on Fresno County Projects:

Special points of interest:

- Malcolm Dougherty has been appointed as the Acting Director of the Department of Transportation and Rick Land has been appointed as the Acting Chief Deputy Director.
- On May 12, 2011, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated \$58 million in new funding to 56 highway, transit, and rail projects statewide to support jobs and upgrade the state's vital transportation system.

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Fresno - Westside Expressway—State Route 180 Route Adoption Study: The Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement comment period has closed. A public hearing was held on March 30, 2011. A final environmental document (ED) is being prepared for a selected alternative. The final ED will be approved early next year. For more information contact: Bob Hull, Project Manager, (559) 243-3443.

Fresno - Route 145 Intersection Improvement Project—State Route 145 and Jensen Avenue intersection improvement: On April 25th the Kerman Planning Commission approved the proposed roundabout project at Jensen Ave and SR 145. A presentation was given to the Kerman City Council on May 18, 2011. For more information contact: Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.A

North Fresno Six Lane—State Route 99: The Contractor started October 2010 and is completing work on structures in the median. Median barrier and pavement work began in April 2011. For more information contact: Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

Fresno - Herndon Auxiliary lanes—SR 41: In construction and on schedule. Anticipate construction will be completed by January 2012, but project is ahead of schedule. For more information contact: Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

Fresno-Ramp Metering from Ashlan to Herndon—Route 41: In construction; anticipate construction will be completed by January 2012, but project is ahead of schedule. For more information, contact: Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

Fresno - State Route 180 Braided Ramps: The Request for Proposal was released May 26, 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, Project Manager, (559) 488-4115.

Fresno - Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 1 Four Lane Expressway—State Route 180: In construction, completed westbound lanes and switched traffic onto new lanes. Eastbound lanes will be open to traffic

near the completion of the project in late summer 2011. For more information contact: Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 488-4115.

Fresno - Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 2 Four Lane Expressway—State Route 180: Project is currently in the design and right-of-way acquisition phase; scheduled to begin construction in the summer 2013. For more information contact: Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 488-4115.

Fresno - Route 269 Bridge Project: Amending the project into the 2010 SHOPP for support costs only. Once completed, will be ready to begin environmental and preliminary design process. For more information contact: Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 488-4115.

Selma CAPM— State Route 99 from Floral Ave to Merced Street: In construction with an expected completion date of October 2011. For more information contact: Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3456.

Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21):

May 25, 2011

Senators Boxer (D-CA), Inhofe (R-OK), Baucus (D-MT), and Vitter (R-LA) issued the following Joint Statement on draft legislation to reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs, entitled "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" (MAP-21):

"We are pleased to announce the great progress we have made on a new transportation authorization bill. Throughout the 25 transportation hearings convened by this Committee, including an unprecedented joint appearance by Tom Donohue of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Richard Trumka of the AFL-CIO, we heard that there is tremendous support from businesses, workers, and the American people for a transportation bill that leverages our federal dollars while maintaining a responsible fiscal path.

It is no secret that the four of us represent very different political views, but we have found common ground in the belief that building highways, bridges, and transportation systems is an important responsibility of the federal government, in cooperation with state and local governments and the private sector.

We are working to maximize states' ability to plan long term and make wise infrastructure investments. Here are some of the highlights of our legislation:

- Funds programs at current levels to maintain and modernize our critical transportation infrastructure;
- Eliminates earmarks;
- Consolidates numerous programs to focus resources on key national goals and reduce duplicative and wasteful programs;

- Consolidates numerous programs into a more focused freight program that will improve the movement of goods;
- Creates a new section called America Fast Forward, which strengthens the TIFIA program to stretch federal dollars further than they have been stretched before; and
- Expedites project delivery without sacrificing the environment or the rights of people to be heard.

We know there is still much work to do, but we believe this is a very important step. In cooperation with the Finance Committee, we are exploring a wide range of options to support and sustain the Highway Trust Fund. Our goal is to attain the optimum achievable authorization length depending on the resources available. It is critical that this be done in a way that does not increase the deficit and can achieve bipartisan support."

Outdoor Advertising:

Outdoor advertising displays that are visible from California's Highways are regulated by Caltrans. An Outdoor Advertising Permit is required prior to the placement of any displays regulated by the Outdoor Advertising Act. On-premise displays, with the exception of on-premise displays in a redevelopment area, do not require a permit.

Temporary Political Signs are exempt from normal outdoor advertising display requirements, if they meet the following criteria:

1. The advertisement encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election;
2. The advertisement is placed no sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within 10 days after that election;
3. The advertisement is no larger

- than 32 square feet;
4. A Statement of Responsibility has been filed with the Department certifying the party responsible for removing the sign.

Submit Statements of Responsibility to:

Division of Traffic Operations
Outdoor Advertising Program
P.O. Box 942874, MS-36
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001.

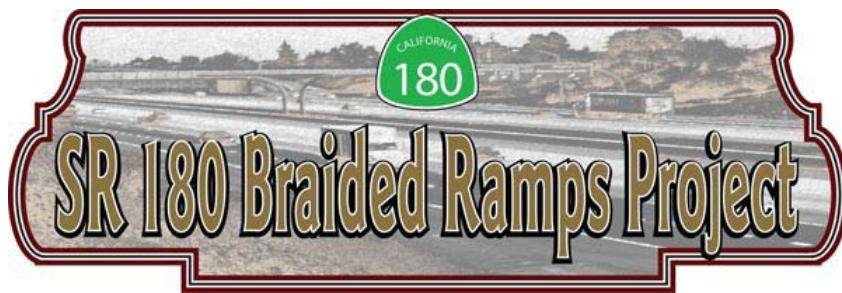
Temporary Political Signs are not allowed to be placed within the right-of-way of any highway, or be visible within 660 feet from the edge of the right-of-way of a classified "Landscaped Freeway". State law directs the Department of Transportation to remove unauthorized Temporary Political Signs and bill the responsible party for their removal.

For more information on outdoor advertising, contact:

*Joel Ibarra
Division of Traffic Operations
Central California
Outdoor Advertising Program
P.O. Box 942874, MS-36
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001
(916) 651-1254*



State Route 180 Braided Ramps: District 6 takes on Design Build



Fresno – In November of 2010, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated \$141 million to 39 projects statewide to improve the state's highways and bolster the economy. As part of the \$141 million, the CTC allocated \$51 million for the State Route 180 Braided Ramps Project.

The State Route 180 Braided Ramps Project was previously approved for design-build, proposing the construction of new connector ramps on SR 180 between SR 41 and 168. Design-build combines both design and construction into one contract where the design firm and the construction contractor are a team, working together to design and construct phases of a project concurrently to expedite the delivery process.

The proposed project would construct new braided branch connections between SRs 41, 180, and 168 to improve traffic operations, reduce congestion, and enhance traffic safety within freeway-to-freeway interchanges. Along with the proposed new branch connections,

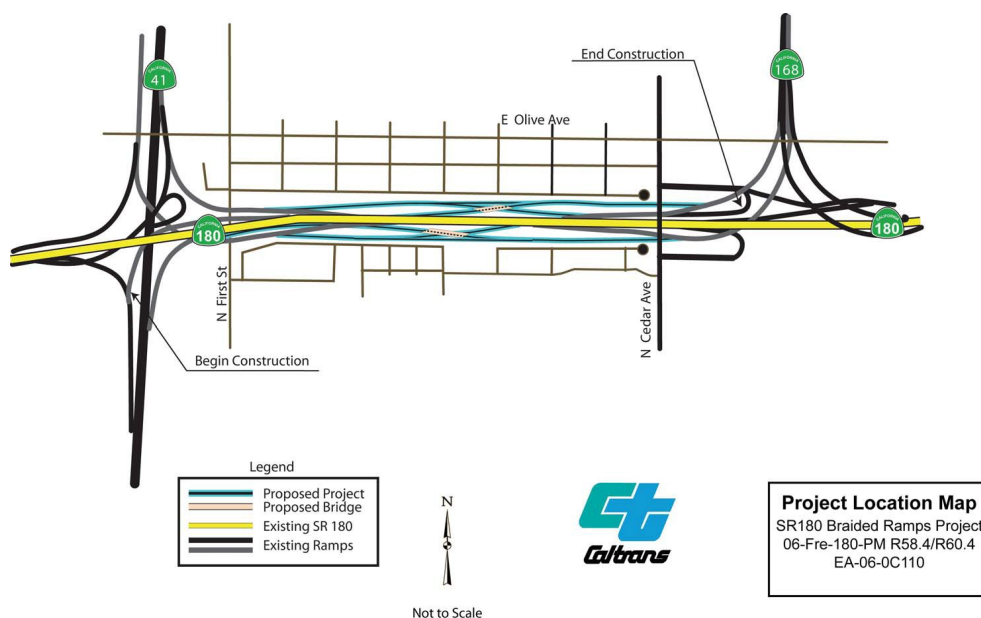
two new separate structures would be constructed and the existing First Street undercrossing would be widened. Also, the Cedar Avenue on-ramp to westbound SR 180 would be widened to two lanes in order to accommodate a ramp-metering system. Ramp-metering is also proposed on westbound SR 180 to the southbound SR 41 branch connection. The existing drainage system within the project limits would also be modified. All work is within the existing state right-of-way.

The Request For Proposal (RFP)

for the Braided Ramps Project was released May 26, 2011. The proposals are scheduled to be returned in mid August, and the contract is anticipated to be awarded in September. The projected completion date is the end of 2013.

Constructing the braided ramp system will eliminate major weaving movements within the freeway system, reduce traffic congestion, improve the operational efficiency, improve the connections between SR 180 and Routes 41 and 168, and will provide improved safety for the motoring public.

For more information contact Neil Bretz, Project Manager, at (559) 488-4115.



Caltrans

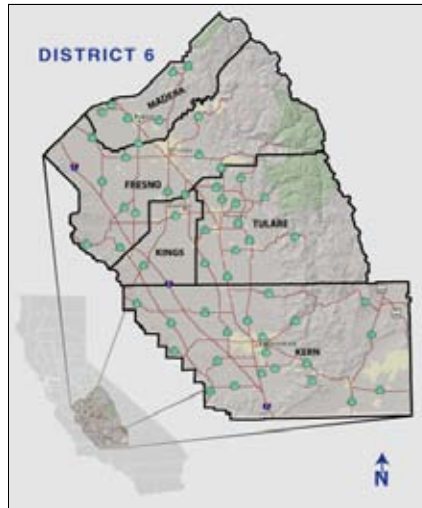
Neil Bretz
Acting Deputy Director
Planning and Local Programs
P.O. Box 12616
Fresno, CA 93778-2616

Phone: 559-488-4115
Fax: 559-488-4195
E-mail: neil_bretz@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.



Temporary Closure of Tulare Rest Areas

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces the temporary closure of the Philip S. Raine Safety Roadside Rest Areas along State Route 99 in Tulare County. The temporary closure will be necessary for a rehabilitation project of both the northbound and southbound State Route 99 rest area facilities. This project began on Monday, May 9, 2011 and is anticipated to be complete and re-open, mid-January 2013.

This \$8.5 million dollar project will rehabilitate the existing northbound and southbound facilities at the Philip S. Raine Safety Roadside Rest Area (SRRA) on State Route 99, in Tulare County, 2.5 miles north of Tipton. Rehabilitation is necessary to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Cal OSHA re-

quirements, to meet current health and safety codes, and to provide safe, reliable, and convenient stopping opportunities for the traveling public. The existing comfort stations will be rehabilitated and expanded to provide additional restroom capacity for women.

New buildings will be constructed to provide for Cal OSHA compliant maintenance crew rooms, to increase security with California Highway Patrol drop-in offices, and comply with the Randolph-Sheppard Act by relocating existing vending machine kiosks. The project also includes canopies, permeable paving, high efficiency irrigation systems, native planting, relocation of existing wireless internet, improved

accessibility to pedestrian and pet areas, and improved efficiency of the existing RV sanitation area.

Caltrans would like to thank the motoring public for their patience as we work to improve this safety roadside rest area. Motorists are reminded to drive with extra care while traveling through construction and maintenance areas.

For more information, contact:

*Tami Conrado
Public Information Officer
District 6 Public Information Office
P.O. Box 12616
Fresno, CA 93778-2616
(559) 488-4082
E-mail: tami_conrado@dot.ca.gov*