Caltrans Update
Fresno Council Of Governments

“Caltrans improves mobility across California”

Quarterly Update on Fresno County Projects:

**HST-Fresno to Merced Segment**: High Speed Train System from south of Clinton Avenue in the City of Fresno to the City of Merced. Funding: HSRA (ARRA & BOND). Begin construction spring 2013; complete construction 2017. Garth Fernandez, Project Manager, (559) 243-8012.

**HST – Bakersfield to Fresno Segment**: High Speed Train System from the City of Bakersfield to south of Clinton Avenue in the City of Fresno. Funding: HSRA (ARRA & BOND). Begin construction fall 2013; end construction summer 2017. Garth Fernandez, Project Manager, (559) 243-8012.

**SR 99 Realignment from Clinton to Ashlan**: Realignment of SR 99 to accommodate the High Speed Train System from south of Clinton Avenue in the City of Fresno to Ashlan Ave. Funding: HSRA (ARRA & BOND). Begin construction Jan 2016. Garth Fernandez, Project Manager, (559) 243-8012.

**FRE 5 Joint Seals**: Bridge rehabilitation on various bridges on I-5 in Fresno, Kings, and Tulare Counties. Funding: SHOPP. Construction is ongoing; complete construction summer 2013. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.


**Seismic Restoration**: Seismic restoration on SR 33 at various locations in Fresno, Madera, Kern, and Tulare Counties. Funding: SHOPP. Project was awarded on 1/15/13 to the Viking Construction Company of Rancho Cordova, CA. Pre-construction meeting was held on Feb 22. Work to begin in about a month. The work on the Clinton and 99 structure was removed from the project. Structure will be replaced by the HSR project. Jim Heinen, Project Manager, (559) 243-3467.

**Ramp Meter Replacement Planting**: Replacement planting on SR 41 between Ashlan Avenue overcrossing to Herndon Avenue undercrossing in the City of Fresno. Funding: SHOPP. CTC approved funding October 2011. In construction and on schedule; complete construction summer 2016. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

**San Joaquin River Gateway Entrance Planting**: Corridor enhancement on SR 41 at the Friant Road interchange in the City of Fresno. Funding: STIP, TE, ARRA. Begun construction summer 2010; complete construction fall 2013. Abdul El-Dahabi, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.
Quarterly Update on Fresno County Projects, Continued:


San Joaquin River 6-Lane: Replace the SR 99/San Joaquin River bridge and widen SR 99 from Grantland Avenue overcrossing in the City of Fresno to north of the Avenue 7 overcrossing in Madera County. Funding: Prop 1B Bond. In construction; construction complete summer 2016. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

Herndon Avenue Interchange Improvements: Remove off-ramp and intersection improvements at the SR 99/Herndon Avenue interchange in the City of Fresno. Funding: Developer, local. Ready to list spring 2013; complete construction summer 2014. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

Kerman Roundabout SR 145/ Jensen: SR 145 at Jensen Avenue in the City of Kerman. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list summer 2013; advertise late 2013/early 2014; begin construction spring 2014; end construction fall 2014. Project is with the Office Engineer getting the bid package prepared. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

168 Ramp Meters: Install ramp meters on SR 168 between west of Fowler Avenue overcrossing to east of Fowler Avenue overcrossing in the City of Clovis. Funding: Minor A. Complete construction summer 2014. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

Shepherd Curve Realignment: Realign the horizontal curve at SR 168 and Shepherd Avenue north of the City of Clovis. Funding: SHOPP. CTC approved funding June 2012. Construction was completed on 2/4/13. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

Prather 168 Overlay: AC overlay on SR 168 near the community of Prather from Oak Creek Road to Lodge Road. Funding: SHOPP. CTC approved funding August 2012. Award contract spring 2013; complete construction winter 2014. Earle Jones, Project Manager, (559) 243-3471.


Westside Expressway: Extend SR 180 from the City of Fresno to I-5. Final product is a Route Adoption by CTC, supported by a CEQA/NEPA Tier 1 Environmental Document. Work continues on the final environmental document. Funding: Measure, TCRP. Bob Hull, Project Manager, (559) 243-3443.

180 Braided Ramps: On SR 180 between SR 41 & SR 168 in the City of Fresno. Funding: SHOPP. Design-Build project was awarded and construction contract was approved January 2012. Initial work concentrated on design. Complete construction winter 2013. The traffic shift for the eastbound was put in place on January 13. The westbound traffic shift was completed February 3. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.


Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 2: SR 180 from Academy Avenue to Smith Road near the community of Centerville. Funding: Measure, Prop 1B Bond. Project was advertised February 4, 2013; begin construction summer 2013; end construction fall 2015. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.

Kings River Overflow Bridge Replacement: Replace the Kings River overflow bridge on SR 180 north-east of the City of Sanger. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list summer 2012; advertise May 2013; award contract summer 2013; begin construction summer 2013; end construction fall 2014. Hussein Senan, Project Manager, (559) 243-3586.
Caltrans welcomes more bikes onboard Capitol Corridor, San Joaquin trains

Rail passengers now have extra space to securely store bikes that previously spilled into aisle-ways, as Caltrans has nearly doubled the bicycle capacity on Capitol Corridor and San Joaquin trains.

The San Joaquin route operates between Bakersfield, Oakland and Sacramento, and the Capitol Corridor route operates between Auburn and San Jose.

“There’s been a need for additional storage as more and more people ride bicycles on their commute,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “By the end of next year, more than a dozen expanded railcars will be available for train riders.”

The first expanded railcar serving Capitol Corridor and San Joaquin passengers went into service in November. The lower levels of 13 additional railcars will be converted to increase their bicycle-carrying capacity from three bicycles to 13 bicycles per car, as well as 330 cubic feet of additional luggage storage. This will increase the average bicycle capacity from 12 bikes per train to 22 bikes per train. Construction on the remaining cars will take approximately four weeks per car with each one going into service as it is retrofitted.

Five railcars in use in Northern and Southern California are already equipped with the new design, and future bi-level cars will also have the extra space.

The $8.3 million conversion project, which is fully funded by the Recovery Act, will also enhance Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access by moving onboard restrooms to a more convenient location near the ADA seating area. To date, Caltrans has paid about $2.3 billion of the $2.6 billion made available to California.

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Caltrans, Partners Educate High School Students About Rail Safety Through Facebook

Caltrans, in partnership with Amtrak and Operation Lifesaver, has announced an interactive educational application on Facebook. “The Mysterious Adventure” encourages high school students to “Be Track Smart” near railroad tracks.

This unique campaign educates students about rail safety to reduce the number of rail-related incidents and fatalities in California. They can create an adventure for themselves and share the game with their Facebook friends.

“Safety is Caltrans’ top priority, and it is critical that students, particularly new drivers, grasp the significance of rail safety when approaching railroad crossings,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “By sharing the ‘Be Track Smart’ safety message through social media, we reach the online generation.”

Students at high schools located near railroad tracks are being targeted with posters in schools, appearing through August 2013. As an added incentive, “The Mysterious Adventure” rail safety experience culminates in a monthly drawing where students may enter for a chance to win four Amtrak California tickets, courtesy of Amtrak.

Approximately 90 unnecessary rail fatalities occur annually in California, according to California Operation Lifesaver.

“Since 1972, our lifesaving rail safety message has promoted obeying laws and staying away from railroad tracks, which are private property,” said California Operation Lifesaver Executive Director Pete Aadland.

“California Operation Lifesaver is thrilled to work with Caltrans utilizing new media approaches to reach a defined segment of our target market.”

High School students are encouraged to participate by visiting the Amtrak California Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/AmtrakCalifornia or online at: www.themysteriousadventure.com.

To learn more about Caltrans’ “Be Track Smart” Rail Safety campaign or for “The Mysterious Adventure” terms and conditions, visit: www.amtrakcalifornia.com/themysteriousadventure.

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.