



September 2011 Interstate 805 South Project News

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Project Environmental Phase Concludes Design Work Under Way

In June 2011, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) completed the environmental phase of the I-805 South Project, which will help improve traffic flow, alleviate congestion on the highway and provide new choices for travelers. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the I-805 South Project was released in August 2010.

To best keep the public informed about this process and to encourage feedback, Caltrans and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) held more than 30 public outreach meetings, two public hearings and received hundreds of public comments. Those comments were incorporated into the project's final environmental document.



In-line transit stations will be constructed in the center of the freeway, providing convenient access to the Express Lanes and reducing congestion by eliminating the need for buses to exit the highway.

With the completion of the environmental document, Caltrans will now begin to finalize the design and engineering for the I-805 South Project and move into the construction phase, with work scheduled to begin in early 2012.

The I-805 South Project will be constructed in two phases. The first phase includes building two Express Lanes, one in each direction, along an 11-mile segment stretching from East Palomar Street in Chula Vista to the

Project Benefits

The project includes the addition of buffer-separated Express Lanes within the I-805 median and several improvements to the freeway and transit system, including:

- A Direct Access Ramp (DAR) at East Palomar Street;
- In-Line Transit Stations on Plaza Boulevard and H Street;
- Park & Ride Stations near the In-Line Transit Stations; and
- More than 70 sound-mitigating walls, 100 retaining walls and 20 bridge improvements along the 11-mile route.

I-805/Interstate 15 interchange in San Diego. Phase one also includes the construction of a Direct Access Ramp (DAR) and a Transit Station and Park & Ride at East Palomar Street. The first phase of the project is expected to be completed in 2014.

The second phase of the I-805 South Project involves building two additional Express Lanes, two in each direction, for a total of four from East Palomar Street to the I-805/I-15 interchange. The second phase is scheduled to be completed in 2020. When finished, the I-805 South Project will create a modern, new transportation backbone that will meet the future needs of travelers in our region.

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Nota: Desdoble el documento para leerlo en español.







A CLOSER LOOK: East Palomar Street Transit Station and Park & Ride

More than 100 Community Members Attend Public Meeting

In conjunction with the I-805 South Project, a Transit Station and Park & Ride is proposed for the northeast corner of East Palomar Street and I-805. The station is part of the I-805 South Project's planned freeway and transit improvements designed to help improve traffic flow and alleviate congestion on the highway.



Simulation of the future Transit Station and Park & Ride looking northeast from East Palomar Street at I-805

When completed, the station will provide travelers with convenient access to a planned Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system and other transit options. The project also includes a Direct Access Ramp (DAR) at East Palomar Street that will connect surface streets directly to new Express Lanes on the highway serving carpools and transit.

Additionally, the Transit Station and Park & Ride will include safety features such as 24-hour security camera surveillance and signs, an open site plan to promote full fields of visibility, lighting throughout the site and graffiti-minimizing bus shelters and landscaping.

To keep the community fully informed about the Transit Station and Park & Ride, a public meeting was held at the Boys & Girls Club of Chula Vista on June 23, 2011. Approximately 120 community members attended the public meeting to learn more about the project. On hand to answer their guestions were representatives from Caltrans, SANDAG, the City of Chula Vista, Chula Vista Police Department and Metropolitan Transit System.

The Caltrans team will continue to update the community throughout the design and construction phases of the East Palomar Street Transit Station and Park & Ride Project. For more information, visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com or contact Project Manager Ramon Martinez at (619) 688-2516 or Ramon_Martinez@dot.ca.gov.

To Northbound I-805 Express Lanes via Direct

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Proposed East Palomar Street Transit Station and Park & Ride





Innovative Bus Rapid Transit Service Coming to South Bay

Paralleling the development of the proposed I-805 South Project is the South Bay Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system. When completed in 2014, the South Bay BRT system will provide rapid, reliable and high-frequency transit service connecting the Otay Mesa border and eastern Chula Vista to downtown San Diego. It will serve major activity and employment centers in San Diego and the South Bay and provide direct access to destinations such as the Otay Ranch Town Center and the U.S./Mexico border.

Modern, comfortable vehicles will utilize dedicated transit-only lanes, allowing them to avoid traffic congestion along the 21mile route. The route will have a minimum number of stops, resulting in decreased travel times. Service along the South Bay BRT corridor will be provided every 10-15 minutes with the quality and reliability of light rail.

The South Bay BRT project is being designed and built by SANDAG and will be operated by the Metropolitan Transit System. It will be paid for by *TransNet*, a regional voter-approved half-cent sales tax for local transportation.



New Freeway Walls to Reduce Traffic Noise

As part of mitigation efforts being implemented as a result of the I-805 South Project, more than 70 noise-mitigating walls have been proposed along the 11-mile route. The walls are designed to reduce freeway noise by at least five decibels, thereby significantly improving the quality of life for nearby residents and schools.

Over the past several months, Caltrans has reached out to residents in the I-805 South Project area where noisemitigating walls have been proposed. Caltrans followed established guidelines to determine which locations are eligible for walls and is currently developing a design for the walls along the project route.

The Caltrans team will continue to update the community throughout the design and construction of the noisemitigating walls and I-805 South Project.

In conjunction with this outreach, a public meeting was held on May 24 to solicit feedback from property owners and residents about a retaining wall that will be constructed along Nacion Avenue between East Naples Street and East Palomar Street.

The retaining wall is needed to support the proposed improvements to I-805 South. Additionally, a noisemitigating wall has



I-805 South Project team members present plans for noise-mitigating walls proposed along Nacion Avenue.

been proposed on top of the retaining wall to help reduce freeway traffic noise for nearby residents.

The meeting at Palomar Elementary School in Chula Vista was well attended, with nearly two-dozen community members taking part.

CONTACT US: For more information about the I-805 South Project, please visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com or contact Project Manager Ramon Martinez at (619) 688-2516 or Ramon Martinez@dot.ca.gov.

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