



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW SIGNS INSTALLED ALONG SR-15 TO KEEP CARS OUT OF MTS BUS-ONLY LANES

SAN DIEGO - New signs have been installed leading into median of State Route 15 (SR-15) between Interstate 805 (I-805) and Interstate 8 (I-8). The signs are aimed to remind motorists, transit riders, and other travelers to stay out of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) bus-only lanes.

The signage program is necessary due to the number of unauthorized vehicles entering the lanes. Only authorized MTS buses are permitted to use the MTS bus-only lanes. Unauthorized vehicles entering the MTS bus-only lanes are subject to a \$401 fine. Transit riders who step off the transit platforms and into the MTS bus-only lanes are subject to a fine, as well.

The new MTS bus-only lanes were constructed as part of the SR-15 Mid-City Centerline Transit Stations Project, which added San Diego's first freeway-level transit station at University Avenue and El Cajon Boulevard along SR-15. In addition to the freeway-level transit stations, the project included MTS bus-only lanes within the existing median of SR-15 from just north of I-805 to just south of I-8 to reduce travel times on MTS *Rapid* services. The \$65 million project was the result of a multi-agency collaboration between SANDAG, Caltrans, and MTS, with strong support from the surrounding community.

Since opening earlier this year, the freeway-level SR-15 Mid-City Centerline Transit Stations have improved regional connectivity and expanded transportation choices for commuters. The new transit and bike improvements along SR-15 are part of a broader regional effort to provide travelers with innovative mobility choices that support a sustainable, healthy region, and a vibrant economy.

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Continued efficiency of transit operations throughout the Mid-City corridor relies on the MTS bus-only lanes. Using the MTS bus-only lanes and station platforms as intended is the best way to ensure safety for all.

Avoid the fine, respect the Centerline and stay out of the bus-only lanes.

About Caltrans:

Caltrans District 11 serves one of the most geographically and culturally diverse areas in the country and includes San Diego and Imperial counties. It spans the entire California-Mexico Border from the Pacific coast to Arizona and reaches north from the international border to Orange and Riverside counties. For more information on state transportation in San Diego and Imperial counties, visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/d11/>.

About MTS:

MTS operates 95 bus routes and three Trolley lines on 53 miles of double-tracked railway. Every weekday 300,000 passenger trips are taken on MTS bus and Trolley services in 10 cities and the county. In FY 2017, MTS served more than 88 million riders. For more information on how you can use public transportation and save money, go to www.sdmts.com.

About SANDAG:

The [San Diego Association of Governments](#) (SANDAG) is the San Diego region's primary public planning, transportation, and research agency, providing the public forum for regional policy decisions about growth, transportation planning and construction, environmental management, housing, open space, energy, public safety, and binational topics. SANDAG is governed by a Board of Directors composed of mayors, council members, and supervisors from each of the region's 18 cities and the county government.

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