

State Route 78: Improvements Fact Sheet

Westbound State Route 78 Widening and Nordahl Road Bridge Improvement Projects Near I-15 Interchange

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), working collaboratively with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and the cities of Escondido and San Marcos, will be improving westbound State Route 78 (SR-78) at Interstate 15 (I-15) and the Nordahl Road bridge to address severe traffic congestion during the morning and afternoon commuting hours.

Why Improvements Are Needed

Traffic congestion is caused at westbound SR-78 where the connector ramp from I-15 decreases from three to two lanes just before they join SR-78. This bottleneck causes traffic to slow both on the connector ramp and on the I-15 general purpose lanes. During peak hours, traffic congestion currently causes a 14-minute delay on average for commuters. By 2030, that delay is projected to increase to 30 minutes if no improvements are made.

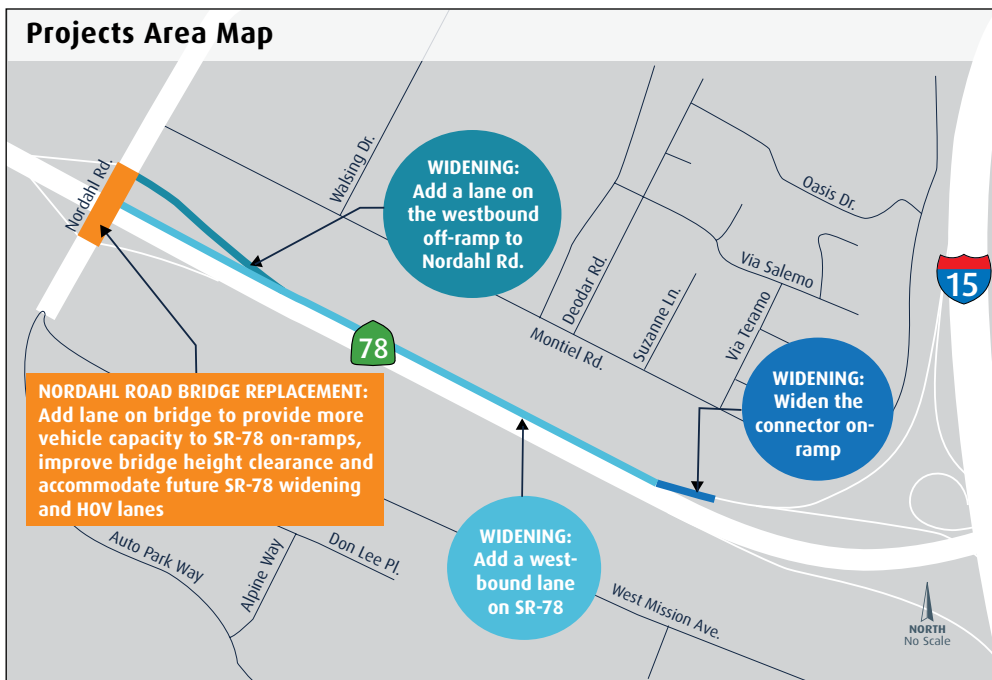
Improvements to Be Constructed

Westbound SR-78 Widening:

- Widen the connector on-ramp from I-15 to westbound SR-78
- Add a fifth westbound lane on SR-78 between the end of the I-15 connector ramp and Nordahl Road
- Add a lane on the westbound SR-78 off-ramp to Nordahl Road

Nordahl Road Bridge Replacement:

- Add a lane on the bridge to provide additional vehicle capacity for turn pockets to the SR-78 on-ramps
- Increase height clearance under the bridge
- Accommodate future SR-78 widening and HOV lanes



Improvement Details

Construction Boundaries:

I-15 connector to SR-78 west to the Nordahl Road bridge.

Westbound SR-78 Widening

Construction Schedule:

Summer 2011 - Winter 2012

Nordahl Road Bridge Replacement

Construction Schedule:

Summer 2011 - Fall 2012

Total Cost:

\$37 million

