



Frequently Asked Questions

SR 15 Mid-City Centerline Rapid Transit Stations

February 2018

1. Where is the project located?

The State Route 15 (SR 15) Mid-City Centerline *Rapid* Transit Stations project is located along SR 15 at El Cajon Boulevard and University Avenue, within the SR 15 median from just north of Interstate 805 to just south of Interstate 8.

2. What freeway and transit improvements are planned for SR 15?

The project will construct San Diego's first freeway-level transit stations as well as 2.5 miles of dedicated northbound and southbound *Rapid* TRANSIT-ONLY lanes within the existing median along SR 15. These lanes are for San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) buses only and violators will be cited with a \$401 fine.

3. When will construction start and when will improvements be completed?

The project began construction in July 2015 and is expected to be completed in March 2018.

4. Who is the lead agency responsible for constructing the project?

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is the lead agency constructing the transit stations. The project is the result of a multi-agency collaboration between SANDAG, Caltrans, and MTS.

5. What is the project budget and how is it funded?

The project cost is anticipated to be \$65 million. The project is funded by the Federal Transit Administration and *TransNet*, the voter-approved, half-cent sales tax for transportation administered by SANDAG.

6. Why is this project needed?

The project is part of an integrated, regional *Rapid* network that provides high-frequency service seven days a week. Once completed, *Rapid* will run in northbound and southbound transit-only lanes within the existing median, which will help improve on-time performance and connections between the existing *Rapid* service and local bus routes. Transit riders using MTS Routes 1, 7, 10, 60, 965, and *Rapid* 215 will be able to catch *Rapid* 235 at the Centerline stations, providing them access to job centers in Downtown San Diego, education facilities, including Miramar College, National University, and SDSU (via Route 215), as well as communities along Interstate 15 including Kearny Mesa, Mira Mesa, Sabre Springs, Rancho Bernardo, and Escondido.



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7. When will construction occur?

Construction will occur on weekdays between 6:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and weeknights between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m. Occasional weekend work may be required. As the safety of motorists and workers is the highest priority, the majority of construction work takes place at night to minimize traffic impacts and allow construction vehicles to move safely in and out of construction zones. Drivers are reminded to watch out for construction traffic in the area and slow for the cone zone.

8. What will the traffic impacts be to nearby surface streets during construction?

Traffic conditions will vary throughout construction. Caltrans is committed to minimizing the impacts to nearby businesses, residents, and commuters. Motorists and transit riders can expect intermittent delays and are encouraged to allow extra travel time to reach their destinations.

9. What can I expect during construction?

Throughout construction, you can expect to see temporary lane closures, temporary lane restriping, reduced shoulders and lane widths, and work along the freeway median. Temporary concrete barriers will be installed to separate motorists from the construction work areas. Safety is Caltrans' top priority, and every precaution will be taken to ensure the protection of both workers and motorists during construction. Nearby residents and businesses can expect intermittent lights and noise during the day and at night in construction areas.

10. How will Caltrans notify the community about construction?

Caltrans, in coordination with SANDAG and MTS, will provide regular updates on construction hours, closures, and detours through signage, notices, community venues, and postings on this website. A construction hotline has also been established at **(888) 732-9373**. Please click [here](#) to sign up for email notifications.

11. How many users are anticipated to use the SR 15 Centerline Stations?

MTS anticipates more than 1,100 daily boardings at the two Centerline stations.

12. Will bike lockers be available?

Currently, there are bike racks located at the plaza-level transit stations at El Cajon Blvd. and University Ave. SANDAG plans to also install 1 quad (4-bike electronic lockers) at each plaza-level transit station. While there is currently no plan to add bike parking at the freeway-level transit stations, bike channels have been installed next to the staircase handrail to make it easier to bring bikes up and down the stairs.



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13. What will the station hours be?

Centerline station opening and closing times will be consistent with the Rapid 235 bus schedule which currently operates between approximately 5 a.m. and 11:30 p.m.

14. Will there be security present?

Yes, MTS will have security personnel at both stations during operating hours.

15. What if I get locked in or if there is an emergency?

The stations have emergency phones and closed-circuit television monitors that provide a feed to MTS' control and security centers. The centers are staffed 24-hours/7 days a week, and patrons can either call (619) 595-4960 or text (619) 318-1338 if assistance is needed. Patrons can also call 9-1-1 in an emergency via mobile phone or the on-site emergency phones.