



Interstate 5/I-8 Connector Project

FACT SHEET

GOALS

Improve safe driving in advance of the interchange;

Reduce traffic delays on Interstate 8;

Reduce morning bottleneck on I-5 before SeaWorld Drive;

Reduce motorists using city streets to bypass freeway traffic and

Improve access to Downtown San Diego and Sorrento Valley.

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CONGESTION RELIEF

Caltrans constructed an additional northbound lane and auxiliary lanes on Interstate 5 between Interstate 8 and SeaWorld Drive in San Diego. It also added a lane on westbound I-8 at the northbound I-5 connector to relieve congestion at the interchange.

TRAFFIC

This section of I-5 provides access to the two largest employment centers in the San Diego Region: Downtown and Sorrento Valley. It also provides access to SeaWorld, Mission Bay Park, Old Town San Diego, University of California San Diego, and University of San Diego. Average daily traffic in the area ranges from 160,000 to 220,000 vehicles. This daily demand is expected to exceed 300,000 vehicles by 2030.

THE INVESTMENT

The programmed cost for the project is \$16.4 million. Congress has appropriated \$1 million and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users contributed \$3.7 million. TransNet contributed \$1.4 million and \$10.3 million was funded by the State Highway Operations Preservation Program for the improvement.

PROJECT COMPLETION

Construction began in June 2014 and the connector opened to traffic in October 2015, eight months ahead of schedule.

