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NEWS RELEASE

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For Release: Immediately
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WEEKEND CLOSURES OF I-805 LANES AND SR 54 CONNECTOR SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 11-14 IN NATIONAL CITY, CHULA VISTA

*Caltrans and SANDAG to Perform Bridge Safety Improvements as part of Freeway
Upgrades in South County*

CHULA VISTA – Beginning the night of Friday, December 11, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) will conduct a weekend long closure of the westbound State Route 54 (SR 54) to southbound Interstate 805 (I-805) connector ramp, and up to 3 inside lanes in both directions of I-805 to upgrade bridge bearing pads on the connector. These improvements are part of the continued investment Caltrans and SANDAG are making in our region's infrastructure.

The bearing pad replacement work will prolong the life of the interchange, allowing the highway bridge structures to accommodate for shock, vibration, and shifts caused by vehicle weight and movement. Crews will use large cranes and jacking beams to lift the one-million-pound concrete segment a few inches, allowing the 50-year old existing pads to be removed and replaced with new ones. The closures will also allow maintenance teams to perform safety and cleanup work in areas that are otherwise unreachable.

For the safety of construction workers and the traveling public, there will also be full closures of northbound and southbound I-805, and the westbound SR 54 to northbound I-805 connector, for 8 hour periods on Friday and Sunday nights in order to safely move heavy equipment into the work areas. The westbound SR 54 Reo Drive on-ramp will be closed for the entire weekend. **All closures are expected to reopen to traffic by Monday, December 14, at 5 a.m.**

Local businesses and shopping centers will remain open, and detour signage will be in place to guide motorists around the closure. Regional through-traffic is advised to bypass the construction using Interstate 5. Detailed detour information for local motorists is available on keepsandiegomoving.com, and a complete timeline list of the closures is available below.

Closure Timeline

Friday, December 11, 8 p.m. – Monday, December 14, 5 a.m.

- Westbound SR 54 to southbound I-805 connector closed
- Reo Drive on-ramp to westbound SR 54 closed
- Inside three lanes, including HOV lanes, on northbound and southbound I-805 closed

Friday, December 11, 10 p.m. – Saturday, December 12, 6 a.m.



SANDAG

NEWS RELEASE

- All lanes on northbound and southbound I-805 between Bonita Road and East 18th Street closed
- Westbound SR 54 to northbound I-805 connector closed

Saturday, December 12, 6 a.m. – Sunday, December 13, 9 p.m.

- The northbound and southbound I-805 outside lanes and the westbound SR 54 to northbound I-805 connector will be open to traffic.
- The westbound SR 54 to southbound I-805 connector, the Reo Drive on-ramp to westbound SR 54, and the inside three lanes on northbound and southbound I-805 will remain closed.

Sunday, December 13, 9 p.m. – Monday, December 14, 5 a.m.

- All lanes on northbound and southbound I-805 between Bonita Road and East 18th Street closed
- Westbound SR 54 to northbound I-805 connector closed

All closures are expected to reopen on Monday at 5 a.m.

For public safety, drivers are reminded that the speed limit in construction zones on the I-805 South corridor is 55mph and that traffic fines are doubled in construction zones. Additionally, the “Move Over” law requires all drivers to move over a lane or, if they are unable to do that safely, slow down when they see amber flashing lights on Caltrans vehicles, law enforcement and emergency vehicles, and tow trucks.

Nearby residents and businesses can expect daytime and overnight construction noise and lights. Crews will work to minimize noise and impacts to all nearby communities, and motorists will be detoured with signage and traffic controls.

For updates on the I-805 South Express Lanes project, please visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com, call the Construction Hotline at (888) 941-5005, or e-mail I-805South@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com.

About the I-805 South Express Lanes project

The I-805 South Express Lanes Project area is approximately 11 miles long, between East Palomar Street in Chula Vista and the I-805/SR 15 interchange in San Diego. The project includes the addition of Carpool/High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes within the freeway median, the construction of a Direct Access Ramp (DAR) at East Palomar Street in Chula Vista that connects to the Carpool/HOV Lanes, as well as intermediate access points, direct connectors, in-line transit stations, and park & ride locations. The current phase of the project includes improvements to the Sweetwater River Bridge and the recent completion of five sound walls segments along the project area to help reduce freeway noise and enhance the quality of life for neighboring communities.

Construction During COVID-19 Pandemic: Public works, construction and maintenance is deemed essential and work continues during the pandemic. Our partners, contractors and workers are following U.S. Center for Disease Control and California Department of Public Health guidelines. For more information about COVID-19 visit <http://covid19.ca.gov/>

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.



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NEWS RELEASE

Follow @SDCaltrans on Twitter at www.twitter.com/SDCaltrans and visit Caltrans San Diego on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CaltransDistrict11 for news related to state transportation in San Diego and Imperial counties.

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.

Follow us on social media for current information regarding SANDAG's projects and services:

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