



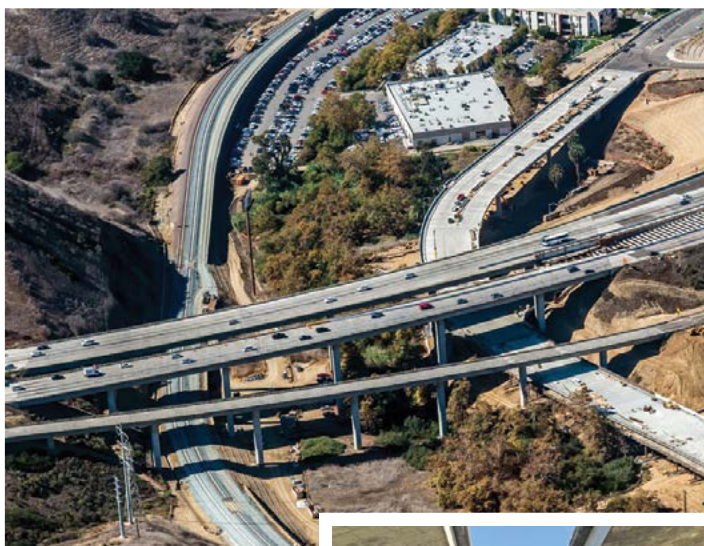
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Carpool Lanes Open on I-805 Near Sorrento Valley

A \$94.8 million project to bring congestion relief to Sorrento Valley commuters is now open. The long-awaited project includes a north-facing new Direct Access Ramp (DAR) on Carroll Canyon Road and adds one carpool lane in each direction from the Interstate 5 (I-5)/ Interstate 805 (I-805) merge to Carroll Canyon Road. The two miles of new carpool lanes complete a 10-mile carpool lane system from Sorrento Valley to Encinitas. The newly-built DAR and carpool lanes are available for carpools, vanpools, buses, motorcycles, and permitted clean air vehicles. DARs allow these vehicles to directly access the carpool lanes without the need to weave through the general-purpose lanes from standard on- and off-ramps.

Motorists on both I-805 and Mira Mesa Boulevard experience heavy daily congestion – about 187,000 vehicles per day. The new carpool lanes, Carroll Canyon Road extension bridge, and DAR will help improve traffic flow in the Sorrento Valley area.

Project planning and funding was made possible due to an innovative partnership, which included the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), the City of San Diego, Qualcomm, and funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.



This project, along with the rail improvement project near the Sorrento Valley COASTER station, builds new choices for commuters traveling to one of the main employment centers in the region.



Who Can Use the Carroll Canyon DAR and Carpool Lanes?

Multiple-Occupant Vehicles:

Automobiles with 2 or more passengers

Vanpools

Buses

Solo-Occupant Vehicles:

Zero-emission vehicles with green or white DMV sticker

Motorcycles

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New Transportation Choices Coming Soon to the Golden Triangle

The Golden Triangle/Sorrento Valley area is the largest employment area in the county, with more than 126,000 jobs, and is home to one of the region's biggest universities. SANDAG and Caltrans are working together to bring additional transit improvements to the area. Projects include extending the trolley line from Old Town to UCSD and UTC; running a Bus Rapid Transit route down Mira Mesa Boulevard from Interstate 15 (I-15) to the UCSD area; and double tracking the coastal rail line in Sorrento Valley for faster and more reliable train service. SANDAG and the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) recently put the finishing touches on the SuperLoop transit system in UTC. Four new stations were completed in September 2013. SuperLoop service operates seven days a week, with buses running every ten minutes during peak hours and every 15 minutes during non-peak hours.

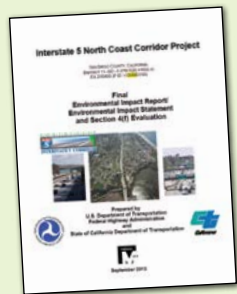
These improvements are part of a larger plan to provide better mobility throughout the county. Project plans are being coordinated to build a system of improved transportation options for the future. The I-5 North Coast Corridor (NCC) Program includes several projects that are slated to begin construction in 2015 and will link projects in the Golden Triangle area with the planned carpool lanes on I-5.

North Coast Corridor Program Progress Report

Significant progress has been made on several projects within the NCC Program. The following are just a few of the projects that have been completed or are currently underway in the corridor.

November 2013

The Final Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the I-5 Express Lanes Project was released.



The first phase of the project will add one carpool lane in each direction from Manchester Avenue to State Route 78 (SR 78). Additional improvements include a DAR at Manchester Avenue,

highway and rail bridge replacements at San Elijo and Batiquitos lagoons, and soundwalls on private property along I-5 from Manchester Avenue to SR 78, which will begin in 2015.

March/April 2014

The Carroll Canyon Road DAR and new carpool lanes on I-805 between Mira Mesa Boulevard and the I-5/I-805 merge were completed. The north-facing DAR and carpool lanes are integral parts of reducing traffic congestion in the Sorrento Valley area and complete a 10-mile stretch of carpool lanes from Encinitas to Sorrento Valley.



April 2014

A new 2,000-foot segment of Coastal Rail Trail opened from Oceanside Boulevard to Wisconsin Avenue in Oceanside. The new path connects to another trail completed in 2013 by the City of Oceanside, and ultimately connects to the Oceanside Transit Center.

April 2014

Work began on a rail project to add 1.1 miles of double track just north of the Sorrento Valley Station. Double tracking the rail line allows for more trains and improves passenger and freight services.



Did You Know?

SANDAG plans to double track 99% of the 60-mile San Diego rail corridor by 2050.

May 2014

Construction of a double track project to the south of the Sorrento Valley Station, which included a new rail bridge, was completed.

Improving Coastal Access and Preserving the Scenic Coastline – One Section at a Time

The NCC is home to the region's most scenic coastline. Improving public access to its beaches and lagoons is a critical component of the NCC Program.

In 2012, more than 15 million people visited beaches within the NCC. Another 3 million visited a major tourism destination, such as Legoland, within the area. Maximizing coastal access opportunities is achieved through a comprehensive approach involving major upgrades to the coastal rail line and the highway, as well as a large package of bicycle/pedestrian trail improvements.

The NCC Program investments in pedestrian and bicycle facilities create attractive transportation links for transit, employment and recreational centers, and coastal resources, such as lagoons and the coastline. Trail improvements will be integrated or implemented concurrently with the highway and rail projects to improve east-west and north-south bicycle and pedestrian connectivity along the I-5 highway and coastal rail corridors and complete gaps in existing trail networks.

Just one section of the Program's coastal access improvements is illustrated in the map to the right.

Conceptual Renderings



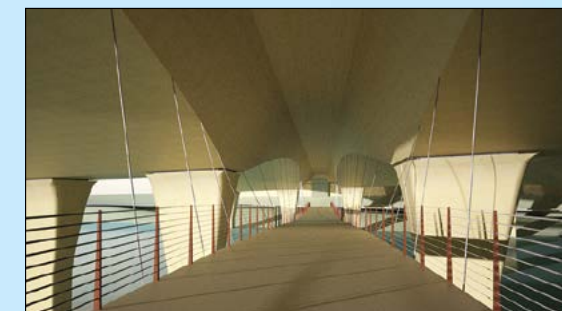
A new bike and pedestrian overpass will be constructed at Union Street to provide better coastal access for those on the east side of I-5.



A new highway undercrossing at Encinitas Boulevard will include sidewalks and bike lanes, providing better east-west connectivity.



A rebuilt overpass at MacKinnon Avenue will provide better bike and pedestrian access.

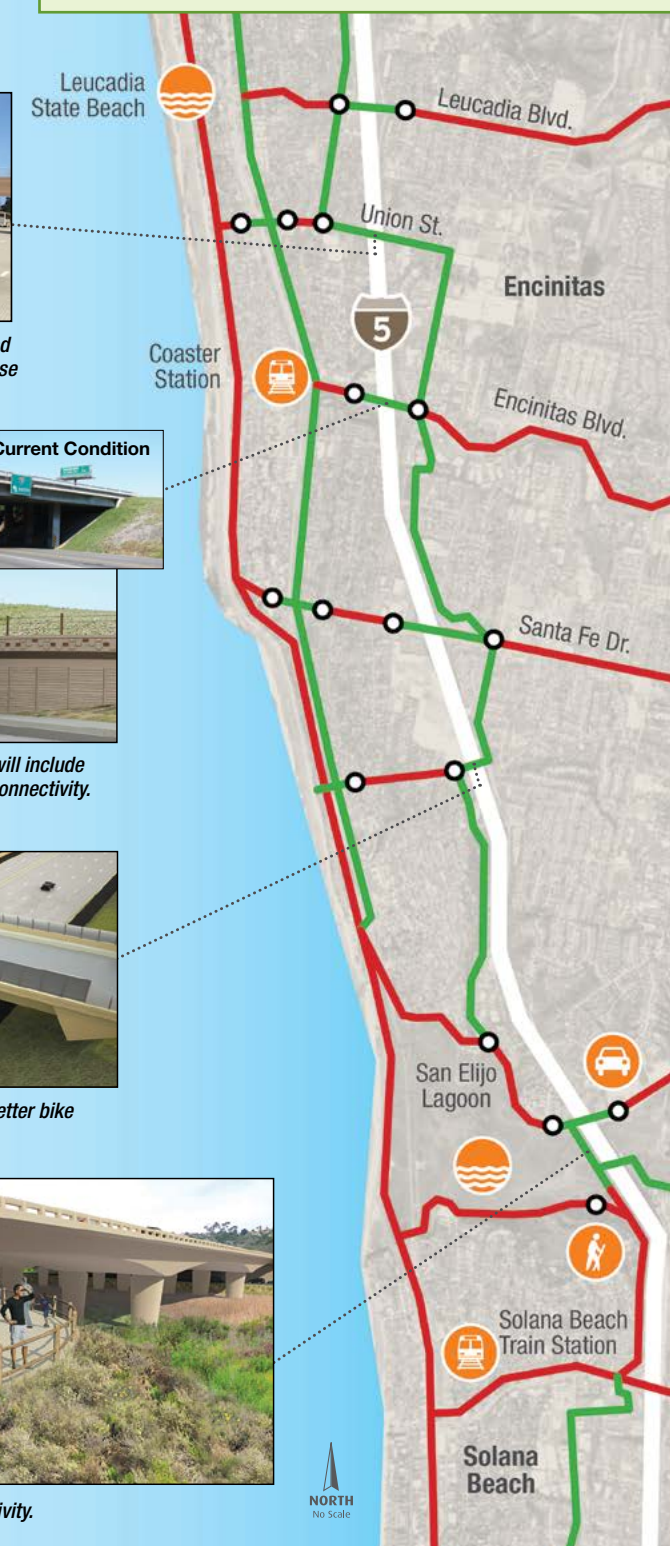


A new trail suspended from the highway bridge at Manchester Avenue will provide north-south connectivity.



Leucadia to Solana Beach

LEGEND: Existing Bike Paths/Trails (Red line) New/Improved Connection and/or Proposed North Coast Bike Trail (Green line)



Spotlight on the San Elijo Lagoon

Improving Coastal Access and Preserving the Scenic Coastline

The NCC Program is a comprehensive approach to implementing transportation improvements with efforts to preserve, enhance, and restore the coastal environment. While several enhancement projects are already underway, construction will begin in 2015 on the first phase of the I-5 Express Lanes Project, which will add a carpool lane in each direction on I-5 from Manchester Avenue to SR 78. Much more than a regular freeway project,

SANDAG and Caltrans' plans in the first phase of the project include lengthening lagoon highway and rail bridges to improve tidal flow, building new bike/pedestrian facilities that connect to rail and transit centers, and restoring upland and wetland habitat sites throughout the corridor. The following includes the planned improvements surrounding the San Elijo Lagoon.

Did You Know?

The NCC Program includes nearly 700 acres of lagoon restoration.

The San Elijo Lagoon is one of six coastal lagoons in the North Coast Corridor.



Lagoon Restoration

The NCC Program funding will help the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy achieve the restoration of 491 acres in the San Elijo Lagoon. The restoration project will enhance the lagoon's wetland and upland areas, as well as improve tidal flushing. Efforts to improve the San Elijo Lagoon are a key part of the NCC Program's Resource Enhancement Mitigation Program (REMP), which includes a package of environmental enhancements.

Additionally, Caltrans is partnering with the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy in the preservation of Gateway Park, an important open space parcel near Cardiff State Beach.



Longer Bridge Spans Allow for More Tidal Flow

Lengthening highway and rail bridges over waterways can increase tidal flow and improve the overall health of lagoons. SANDAG and Caltrans plan to lengthen the San Elijo Lagoon highway bridge to approximately double its current length and widen the bridge channel. The longer bridge and wider channel are key elements to the overall lagoon restoration. Additionally, plans include diverting highway runoff into natural treatment features, such as bioswale and detention basins. This will help prevent highway runoff from entering the lagoon.



Existing Condition: I-5 North near Manchester Avenue



Conceptual Rendering



In 2015, the highway bridge over the San Elijo Lagoon will be reconstructed with a longer bridge to create a wider lagoon channel for improved tidal flow.

(Top Right) The existing single-track trestle bridge across the San Elijo Lagoon was built in the early 1940s and will be replaced with a modern, double-track, concrete bridge. The new rail bridge will be built to the east of the existing bridge, within the railroad right-of-way.

A New Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection Across the Lagoon

Enhancing public access to coastal and recreational areas in the corridor is a high priority of the NCC Program. Lagoon trail improvements include a suspended bike/pedestrian bridge across the lagoon connecting the north and south sides of the lagoon. The future I-5 North Coast Bike Trail would use the proposed lagoon crossing, providing corridor-length mobility for bicyclists and pedestrians. SANDAG and Caltrans will implement the I-5 North Coast Bike Trail, a 27-mile trail that complements other regional trails and provides key north-south and east-west connections, direct routes to transit and employment centers, and new trails around lagoons and other coastal destinations.

Did You Know?

The NCC Program is creating 14 new bicycle and/or pedestrian east-west connections.



Existing Condition



Conceptual Rendering

The North Coast Bike Trail across the San Elijo Lagoon will provide connectivity to and from Solana Beach and Encinitas.

Coastal Rail Improvements Coming Your Way

Oceanside Transit Center Platform Improvement Project

Project and Schedule Update

After holding an open house in June 2013, a lot of work has been going on behind the scenes to move this project closer to construction. The design team has been busy working to incorporate additional design elements, including a raised platform at the station. Due to these new design standards, construction on the project is scheduled to start in summer 2015, with completion expected in late summer 2016.



The Oceanside Transit Center (OTC) is one of the busiest transit centers in the San Diego region with more than 1.2 million passengers annually boarding trains and buses at the transit center.

About the Project

To meet future demand for passenger and freight rail services along the corridor, SANDAG is partnering with the North County Transit District (NCTD) to make improvements to the track and boarding platforms at the OTC. Improvements include a new 1,000-foot-long boarding platform and third track in the center of the railroad right-of-way south of the existing platforms; enhanced amenities, including benches, shelter canopies, trash receptacles, real-time transit information displays, directional signs, and safety lighting; and modification of the existing platforms to accommodate the improvements as needed.

To learn more about the project or sign up for construction updates, please visit www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/OTC.



The existing 97-year-old wooden-trestle rail bridge over the San Dieguito River and Lagoon will be replaced with a modern, concrete bridge, resulting in a quieter ride for passengers and potentially reducing noise for adjacent residents.

A New Rail Project Will Deliver Passengers Directly to the Del Mar Fairgrounds

As one of the main event centers in San Diego County, the Del Mar Fairgrounds welcomes millions of visitors each year from all over Southern California and other areas. Today, people traveling by passenger trains arrive at the Solana Beach Train Station, then must transfer to a shuttle bus that drives them the final two miles to complete their trip to the fairgrounds. Last year, demand exceeded capacity on both Amtrak and NCTD COASTER trains during fairground special events. To make rail travel an increasingly attractive option for future fairgrounds attendees, SANDAG is planning a special events platform adjacent to the fairgrounds.



Together the fair and horse races bring more than 2 million people and their cars into the cities of Del Mar and Solana Beach each year, exacerbating traffic congestion on I-5, Highway 101, and other local streets.

Special Events Platform to Serve as an Attractive Transit Option

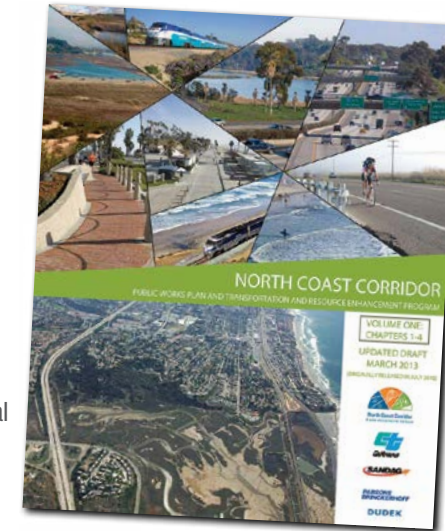
Taking the train to attend special events at the fairgrounds is already a popular option to avoid the congestion on I-5. Past surveys indicate that ridership could significantly increase if a direct and convenient platform is built, eliminating the need for shuttle buses. SANDAG is planning a 1,000-foot platform for a 10-car train, which passenger train operators conclude is necessary to accommodate current and future demand. A rail platform at the fairgrounds is not a new idea and has been in various stages of planning and design for the last 20 years.

The project is part of the NCC Program, a unique and balanced transportation plan aimed to provide travelers with choices for the future while enhancing the quality of life for residents. The program's coastal rail and transit enhancements are essential to meeting the region's goals of moving more people, not just cars. The project is expected to be completed by 2030.

Public Works Plan Update

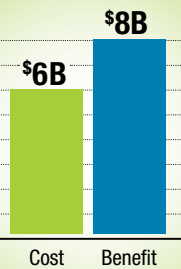
The Public Works Plan/Transportation and Resource Enhancement Program (PWP/TREP) is the blueprint for implementing the package of improvements within the NCC Program. In addition to being the master planning document, it acts as the regulatory document that will be considered by the California Coastal Commission this summer in its review of the proposed NCC Project, which spans 27 miles from La Jolla to Oceanside. The Final Draft PWP/TREP was submitted to the California Coastal Commission in November of last year and included comments received from the corridor cities, resource agencies, and community members.

The California Coastal Commission will review the PWP/TREP for consistency with the California Coastal Act and Local Coastal Program, as applicable. The Commission is scheduled to have a public hearing this August in San Diego to review and vote on the PWP/TREP.



Did You Know?

An investment of \$6 billion in the Program will generate approximately \$8 billion of total economic benefit in the San Diego region over the 40-year Program life.



Interchange Project on Genesee to Help Relieve Traffic Congestion

Caltrans and SANDAG are working to improve the I-5/Genesee Avenue Interchange in the near future, and work on the interchange is scheduled to begin later this year. The project will improve traffic flow and reduce congestion on Genesee Avenue and at its interchange through the replacement and widening of the existing overpass and the widening of freeway access ramps. Additional project features include a new Class 1 bicycle/pedestrian path, separated from vehicle traffic, to improve access to UCSD and other area destinations. Construction is anticipated to occur gradually over a period of two years. Some single lane closures are anticipated, but the bridge is expected to remain open and operational throughout construction.



(Above) The I-5/Genesee Avenue Interchange Project will convert the existing five lane highway overpass into ten lanes.



(Left) The I-5/Genesee Interchange Project will include a new Class 1 bike path on the west side of I-5 from Voigt Drive to Roselle Street. The new bike path will remove the need for cyclists to ride on the freeway shoulder and connect riders to UCSD, the Sorrento Valley COASTER Station, and other destinations.

Creating New Choices for Your Commute

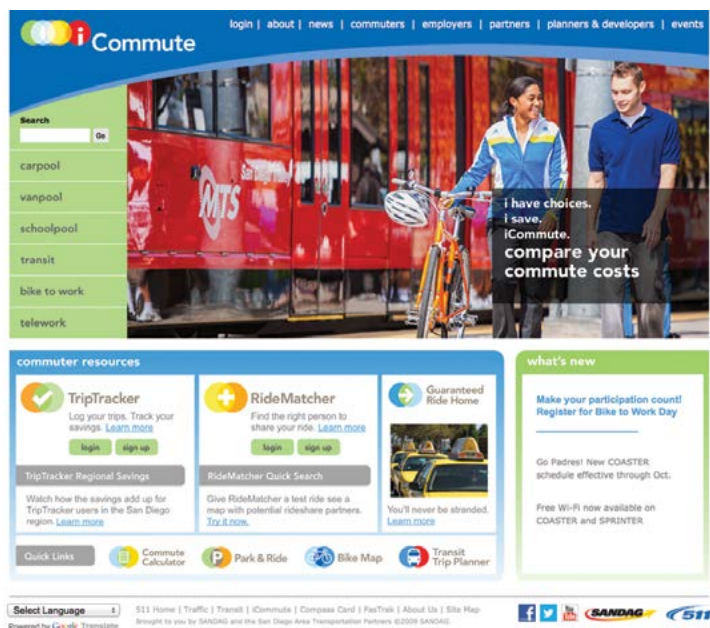
With several transportation and transit projects in development or under construction in the region, SANDAG and Caltrans are partnering in an effort to inform the public and employers about new transportation choices. Programs are being developed to notify the public about potential construction impacts and to promote transportation alternatives to driving alone.

One such program already available is iCommute.



The iCommute program promotes convenient transportation choices that reduce auto dependency, vehicle energy consumption, and polluting emissions, while saving commuters time and money. iCommute provides free online ridematching services, a cost of commute calculator, a subsidy for vanpooling, bicycle encouragement programs, the Guaranteed Ride Home program, and SchoolPool.

iCommute also assists local employers with designing and implementing customized commuter programs. Commuter benefit programs help employers lower costs, attract and retain talented staff, manage parking and facility constraints, and meet corporate sustainability and green goals. This service is provided at no cost to businesses. For more information about this and other iCommute programs, call 511 and say "iCommute" or email icommut@sandag.org.



For more information about iCommute, visit www.icommutesd.com.

NCC Program Next Steps

- Summer 2014** California Coastal Commission review of PWP/TREP
- Late 2014** Construction begins on the I-5 Genesee Avenue Interchange Project
- Mid 2015** Construction begins on Oceanside Through Track Project
- Mid 2015** Construction begins on San Elijo Lagoon Double Track Project
- Mid 2015** Construction begins on Phase 1 of the I-5 HOV/Express Lanes Project

Stay Informed

For more information about the NCC Program, please visit the North Coast Corridor section of KeepSanDiegoMoving.com, contact Caltrans Public Affairs at (619) 688-6670 or scan the QR code below using your smartphone's code reader app.



North Coast Corridor
A better environment for the future