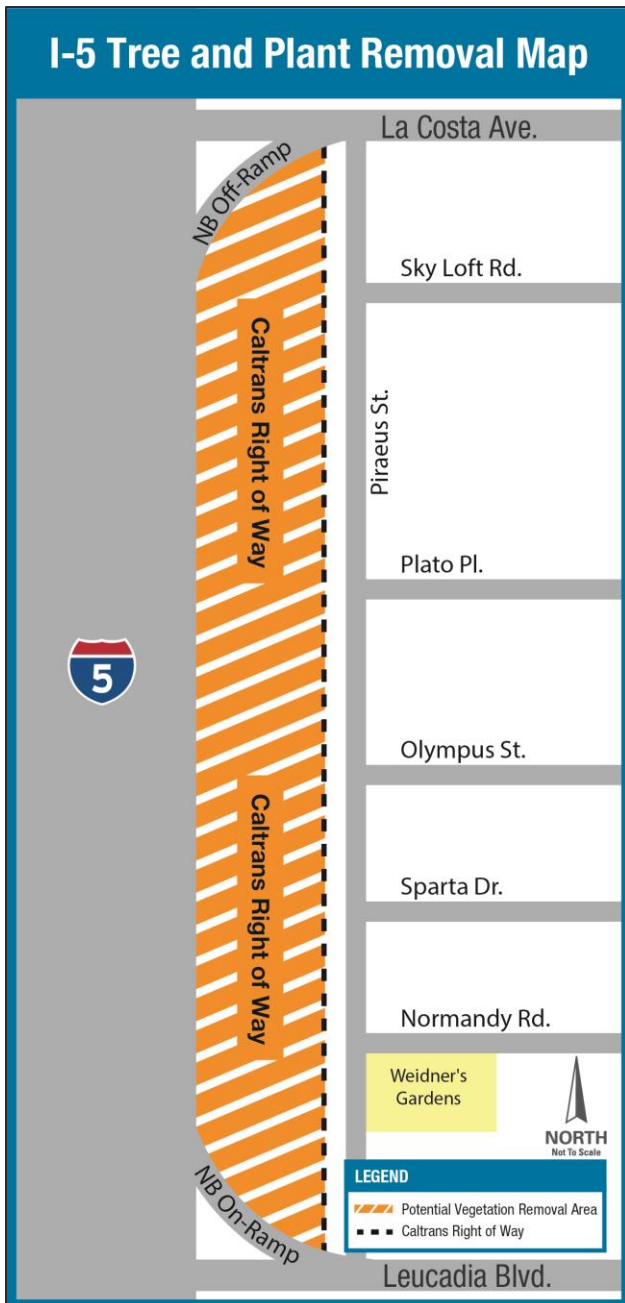


Construction Crews Prepare to Switch to Outside Lanes of I-5

Tree and Plant Removal Required, 1,500+ Trees to Be Replanted



This winter, as part of preparatory work to switch Interstate 5 (I-5) Express Lane construction operations to the outside freeway lanes, **trees and plants will need to be removed along the east side of the freeway between Leucadia Boulevard and La Costa Avenue** within the project limits. The tree and plant clearing is necessary to accommodate the construction of a new Express Lane in each direction. Adjacent residents can expect to see tree and plant removal begin in January and continue for four to six weeks.

In coordination with the City of Encinitas, Caltrans and SANDAG took great care during the design phase to reduce the project footprint and minimize the removal of trees and plants. Trees along the project limit boundaries between Leucadia Boulevard and La Costa Avenue in the City of Encinitas are being re-evaluated by a Caltrans environmental specialist and City of Encinitas arborist to determine if they may remain in place prior to removal operations.

During construction, **nearby residents and businesses may experience noise and lights associated with plant clearing and removal**, including Operational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) required vehicle back-up alarms.

Upon project completion in 2022, approximately 1,550 new Torrey Pines and Coast Live Oaks will be planted throughout the eight-mile Build NCC highway corridor, in addition to thousands of other non-invasive native shrubs and hydroseeded groundcover. The new plantings will be irrigated with 100 percent recycled water.

For more information, please visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BuildNCC, email buildncc@keepsandiegomoving.com, or call 844-NCC-0050. Thank you for your patience during construction.

Si desea obtener información en español por favor, comuníquese al (619) 699-1950 o pio@sandag.org