

## Carmenita Interchange (Interstate 5)

### Carmenita Road Interchange, its Function and Transportation Problem

The Carmenita Road Interchange on Interstate 5 is located within the cities of Norwalk and Santa Fe Springs.

Constructed in the 1950's, the existing two lane steel girder bridge/interchange is unable to handle current arterial traffic demand, and its now obsolete hook ramps provide poor transition between the arterial and Interstate 5. Due to its poor operation and the need to extend the bridge to accommodate the planned widening of Interstate 5 from six to ten lanes, the Carmenita Bridge/Interchange will be removed and reconstructed to modern highway design standards. The proposed ten lane bridge will feature dual left turn and additional through lanes and will also be lengthened to span the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks south of the Interstate.

### Project Description

The project involves removal, realignment and construction of a ten lane bridge spanning Interstate 5 and the Union Pacific Rail Road tracks, tight diamond ramps and improved frontage road function with signalization upgrades.

### Project Benefits

- ◆ accommodates current and future bridge traffic/reduces travel delays.
- ◆ increases ramp storage and turning opportunities.
- ◆ eliminates auto and truck delays due to conflicts with rail freight operations south of the bridge crossing.
- ◆ accommodates the scheduled widening of Interstate 5 from six to ten lanes, with possible future expansion to 12 lanes.



- ◆ improves access to regional transit and planned HOV facilities.
- ◆ integrates new ramps/metering and signalization, improving operations between the arterials and Interstate 5.

Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2008 with completion in fall of 2010.

### Project Funding

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Caltrans, and the I-5 Consortium Cities Joint Powers Authority have committed \$251 million for the design and construction of the project.

### Project Schedule

Caltrans is in the process of acquiring right-of-way necessary to construct the project and Design is nearing 95% completion.