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West County Connectors Project Under Way



Construction crews are on the job as work officially got under way Sept. 7 on the West County Connectors project. The highly anticipated project is a partnership between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Caltrans.

The project will help reduce congestion and add capacity making the drive easier for longdistance commuters and local residents of the areas surrounding the project in Garden Grove, Westminster, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos and Rossmoor. The WCC project is creating a seamless connection for drivers by linking the carpool lanes on the San Diego Freeway (I-405), the Garden Grove Freeway (SR-22) and the San Gabriel River Freeway Start of Construction

SR-22/ I-405 Segment Sept. 2010

I-405/ I-605 Segment Late 2010

Project Funding

\$328 million

- \$87 million from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program
- \$50 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

• \$186 million from the Corridor

Construction crews will create two direct carpool connecters and add a second carpool lane in each direction on the I-405 between the SR-22 and the I-605, eliminating the need for drivers to weave across general-purpose lanes to switch to and from HOV lanes.

In addition to the carpool lane construction, crews will reconstruct on- and off- ramps, construct soundwalls at various locations and add landscaping within the project limits.

Construction crews will complete the WCC project in two segments starting with the SR-22/I-405 segment and continuing with the I-405/I-605 segment in late 2010.

CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS - SR-22/I-405 Segment

Sept. 7	Start of construction
Sept. 12-16	Valley View Bridge on- and off-ramp closures (night)
Sept. 12-16	Seal Beach Blvd./Bolsa Chica Road on- and off-ramp closures (night)
Sept. 12-16	Westbound SR-22 to Northbound I-405 Connector Closure (night)
Sept. 12-16	Southbound I-405 to Eastbound SR-22 Connector Closure (night)
Sept. 12-23	Lane re-striping (night)
Sept. 14-20	Lane closures for concrete barrier placement (night)
October	Valley View Bridge demolition
December	Test pile driving

Construction alerts with more detailed information will be sent to residents and businesses in the project database prior to each activity listed above commencing. Night construction primarily occurs between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Dates are approximate and are subject to change. For more information on construction dates and scheduled closures, visit the project <u>website</u>.

Valley View Bridge Construction Starts in October

The first major component of the project is the reconstruction of the Valley View Street bridge over the SR-22. The Valley View street bridge, where it crosses I-405, will not be impacted. The first phase of the bridge construction is expected to last approximately 10 months. During this phase, there will be one lane open southbound and two lanes open northbound. One of the northbound lanes will be dedicated to the northbound I-405 on-ramp.



Although the bridge will always remain open during the day, there will be delays because of the lane restrictions and the public is encouraged to seek alternate routes to ease their commute and avoid delays. There also will be intermittent night work requiring full closures for activities such as demolition and putting falsework into place, which is used as a frame for the new bridge.

Link to Valley View Street Bridge Alternate Route.

Mobility Improvement Act (CMIA)

• \$5 million from local funds

Join Our Mailing List

Say Hello to the West County Connectors Team

From construction workers, to inspectors, to project managers and community outreach specialists, successfully completing the WCC project on time and on budget will require a collaborative effort from hundreds of people. And, a time when unemployment continues to be a significant problem in this country, OCTA and Caltrans are putting people in the private sector back to work with this project. Here is the team that will be leading the project:



Project Contractor - Atkinson Construction

Guy F. Atkinson Construction, LLC is a full service contractor recognized for its superior performance in delivering high-level infrastructure projects including roads and bridges, mass transit facilities, dam and hydroelectric projects, tunnel and shaft works, and design build contracts. The company has constructed more than 50 major bridges since 1946, more than 80 of the world's largest dams and has participated in the construction of major underground transit facilities in Seattle, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.

Atkinson Construction submitted the lowest bid for the SR-22/I-405 segment of the WCC project and is the contractor for the duration of the project. By working with Atkinson, OCTA is achieving an overall cost savings of \$65,784,398 (39 percent) on the east segment of the project over the initial engineer's estimate. Caltrans is in the process of finalizing a contract on the I-405/I-605 segment and Atkinson Construction also is the apparent low-bidder for that portion of the project.

SR-22/I-405 Segment Construction Management Firm - Harris and Associates

Harris and Associates is the construction management firm responsible for the SR-22/I-405 segment of the project. The firm has served the planning, design and construction management needs of clients since 1974, specializing in infrastructure, public facilities, education facilities and healthcare projects.

Harris and Associates is ranked in the top 30 in Engineering News Record's top construction management-for-fee firms and in the top 50 design firms in Trenchless Technology.

I-405/I-605 Construction Management and Community Outreach Firm - Caltrop Corporation

Caltrop Corporation is the construction management firm responsible for the I-405/I-605 segment of the WCC project. Caltrop is a professional consulting firm specializing in managing large programs from inception through construction, operations and maintenance.

With extensive experience in highway, street and freeway projects, Caltrop is dedicated to delivering management solutions that exceed client expectations by providing responsive experts and professional services in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Caltrop Corporation is also the public relations firm assisting OCTA with communicating timely and accurate information with the public about the project.

Closure of Northbound I-405 / Westbound SR-22 / 7th Street Connector on the Horizon

The Northbound I-405 / Westbound SR-22 / 7th Street Connector will close starting in late 2010 for approximately one year while crews reconstruct the bridge to make room for new carpool lanes under the bridge on the I-405.

For more information on construction dates and scheduled closures, visit the project <u>website</u>.

Join OCTA for an Update, We'll Bring the Doughnuts

The OCTA outreach team understands how hard it is to attend an open house or other public meeting on a week night when you are struggling to put dinner on the table and help the kids with homework.

We know your time is limited, so let us come to you! Our team will be hosting Saturday morning meetings, over coffee and doughnuts, at the end of a cul-de-sac or on a driveway in your neighborhood to share important



updates regarding construction activities, road closures and detours.

Scheduled Neighborhood meetings:

Saturday, Sept. 11 8 to 9 a.m.	Corner of Bailey Street and Acacia Ave. Garden Grove, CA 92845
Saturday, Sept. 18 9 to 10 a.m.	Corner of Adams Street and Spencer Johnson Place Garden Grove, CA 92845
Saturday, Sept. 18 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.	Corner of Duncannon Ave. and Tulane Street Westminster, CA 92683

To invite OCTA to your neighborhood please contact Christina Byrne at (714) 560-5717 or cbyrne@octa.net.

Visit Businesses in the WCC Area and Save Money

OCTA is partnering with local businesses in the WCC project area to offer community members a free coupon book featuring discounts to their favorite restaurants, retailers and more. The coupon book will be available in October 2010 at community centers, city halls, libraries, chambers of commerce and participating retailers in Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Garden Grove, Westminster, Long Beach and Rossmoor.

For more information regarding the coupon book contact Christina Byrne at (714) 560-5717 or <u>cbyrne@octa.net</u>.



OCTA Speakers Bureau Comes to Your Community

OCTA will continue its dedication to providing updates and timely information to community members and businesses in the WCC area during the construction phases of the project.

Any civic or community organization interested in learning more about the project or



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