



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### FINAL GAP BETWEEN CARPOOL LANES ON I-215 BETWEEN RIVERSIDE AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES CLOSED

**SAN BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE** – Caltrans joined the San Bernardino Associated Governments, Riverside County Transportation Commission, the Federal Highway Administration and other local agencies today in celebrating the completion of the final 7.5 mile segment of carpool lanes on Interstate 215, thereby closing the last remaining gap in carpool lanes between Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

“This project is another example of how teamwork between Caltrans and our partners will not only bring in a project on time, but also under budget,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “These new carpool lanes will also enhance the region’s economy, goods movement and livability for years to come.”

The \$135 million project added a carpool lane in both directions on Interstate 215 between San Bernardino and Riverside. The new 7.5 mile stretch of carpool lanes extends from the Orange Show Road interchange in San Bernardino to the 60/91/215 interchange in Riverside and crosses the cities of Colton and Grand Terrace. The carpool lane was added by rebuilding the outside and inside freeway shoulders and restriping the lanes to allow for three general purpose lanes and the new carpool lane in each direction.

The project also demolished and rebuilt the Newport Avenue Bridge, widened Interstate 10 over the Santa Ana River, repaved seven and a half miles of highway and added hardscape aesthetics along the corridor. Six 1.1 million pound steel trusses were also constructed and put in place, creating new railroad bridges for Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad.

Approximately 160,000 vehicles travel this section of I-215 daily, reaching as many as 10,000 per hour during peak commute times. By 2040, that number is expected to jump to an estimated 335,000 vehicles per day, and 21,000 per hour during peak commute hours. Forecasts also show a demand for carpool lane use by 97,000 vehicles per day by 2040. The new carpool lanes will encourage ridesharing through carpools and vanpools, and improve the efficiency, safety and operations of traffic moving between San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

Project funding was provided in part by Measure I (the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County), Measure A (the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in Riverside County), as well as State and Federal funding.



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For more information on these and other Caltrans projects, please visit Caltrans' website at [www.caltrans8.info](http://www.caltrans8.info).

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