



NEWS RELEASE

12-0908

Date: Thursday, September 4, 2008

District: District 12, Orange County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nightly Closures Cancelled State Route 74 (Ortega Highway) Safety Improvement Project

Nighttime closures cancelled for the duration of the project-except for one week

Irvine-The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has cancelled all full highway closures of a 3.3-mile stretch of SR-74 (Ortega Highway) from San Juan Creek Bridge to the Riverside County Line for the duration of the project.

WHAT: Motorists traveling between Orange/Riverside County were previously unable to travel on Ortega Highway between the hours of 8:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. THE FULL HIGHWAY CLOSURE IS NO LONGER IN EFFECT for the duration of the project; except for a one- week period to complete roadway work from September 22 to September 28, 2008,

WHEN: Nighttime full highway closure was cancelled beginning Tuesday, September 2, 2008. Motorists traveling the Route 74 corridor between Orange and Riverside County will be able to use Ortega Highway as a travel route for the duration of the project.

WHY: The contractor can conduct work within the project area without having to close the roadway entirely. Remaining roadway work does not require nightly closures.

NOTE: Flagging operations will continue to take place during the daylight hours of 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The contractor may work an occasional Saturday, depending on the progress of work.

For information about this project or any other Caltrans projects in Orange County, contact the Orange County Transportation Helpline at (1-800-724-0353) or log on to the Caltrans District 12 website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12**

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