



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RECOVERY ACT PROVIDES FUNDING TO REPLACE BLYTHE BRIDGE

Riverside County - Caltrans today announced it has completed a \$1.67 million bridge replacement project along State Route 78. The project was financed entirely by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). This project and many others around the state are being completed sooner than expected thanks to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's efforts to expedite Recovery Act funding.

"My Administration is working hand-in-hand with President Obama's team to ensure stimulus dollars are pumped into California quickly and responsibly to stimulate the economy and in this instance - invest in the future of California's transportation infrastructure," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

The project, located near Blythe in Riverside County, replaced a 59-year old bridge. The replacement was necessary because water from a drain channel had eroded soil around bridge support columns.

"The Recovery Act is providing vital funding to improve the condition of the state's infrastructure in the Inland Empire and every region of California. Caltrans is targeting stimulus dollars where they are most effective – helping the economy by providing jobs and improving the state's transportation system," said Caltrans Director Randy Iwasaki.

Today marks the one-year anniversary of the Recovery Act, and under Governor Schwarzenegger's leadership, California leads the nation with \$2.47 billion in Recovery Act funding obligated to 898 highway and local street transportation projects statewide. Of these, 481 projects worth \$2.45 billion have been awarded contracts to begin work, with an additional \$317 million in Recovery Act funds expected to be awarded to 94 projects by April. For more information on the Recovery Act visit: recovery.ca.gov

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