



# NEWS RELEASE

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**Date:** Friday, September 19, 2008  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Caltrans Celebrates as the 60/91/215 Improvement Project Nears Completion

**Riverside** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces a celebration for the 60/91/215 Improvement Project. The event is being held Friday, September 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mission Inn in Riverside.

Caltrans Director Will Kempton will be the keynote speaker and Assemblyman John Benoit of the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District will also be speaking. Other dignitaries include the Honorable Ronald O. Loveridge, mayor of Riverside, Chairman of the Riverside County Transportation Commission Jeff Stone, Riverside County Supervisors Bob Buster and Marion Ashely, CTC Commissioner Joe Tavaglione, and Director of Transportation & Parking for UC Riverside Mike Delo. Former Caltrans District 8 Director Mike Perovich will introduce a video that wraps up the benefits of this project.

The improvements at the 60/91/215 interchange include four miles of carpool lanes and widened freeways on I-215, SR 60 and SR 91. Two sweeping “flyover” connector ramps make it easier to transition between the three freeways. A new truck-bypass connector separates slow-moving trucks from other vehicles to improve traffic flow from southbound I-215 to eastbound SR 60. These features will relieve congestion and improve safety. In addition, major structural changes to eight local interchanges provide better access to Riverside and Moreno Valley. “This was an ambitious project that took an outdated freeway and upgraded the system to meet the growing demands of the Inland Empire. It has brought hundreds of jobs and a boost to the local economy and now it brings people to their job and home sooner,” stated Director Will Kempton.

Construction on the project began in February 2004. The contractor is scheduled to finish the final striping of the westbound carpool lanes on the 60/215 freeway. If the contractor finishes it tonight, the carpool lanes will open to traffic on Saturday morning by 6 a.m. All the mixed flow lanes, connectors and ramps are finished and open to traffic.

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The contractor, Washington Obayashi Joint Venture, will be finishing some of the minor details such as plant establishment and some electrical work. The contractor will be clearing out all the road construction signs and finishing details into the month of October.

Caltrans would like to thank motorists for their patience and support during the 60/91/215 Improvement Project.

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