

PRESS RELEASE

14-182

Date: October 1, 2014
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New Colorado River Bridge Links Key California/Arizona Corridor

San Bernardino - Caltrans, along with the Arizona Department of Transportation and Colorado River Indian Tribes, today announced the completion of the new Colorado River Bridge on State Route 62 near Parker, Arizona. As a vital link between California and Arizona and one of only a few Colorado River crossings, this new span will better accommodate local, commercial and recreational travelers, while keeping traffic moving through the region.

“This new bridge has been decades in the making and exemplifies the exceptional work that can be achieved through partnerships,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “This project shows both creativity and a long-term vision that I hope we can apply to future projects across the state.”

The \$30 million project replaced the original bridge with a new structure allowing for two new lanes with room to accommodate two more lanes in the future widening of Arizona State Route 95. Also, as part of the bridge project, the Arizona Department of Transportation made upgrades to the State Route 95 Spur (California Avenue) in Parker. These improvements included new traffic signals, curbs and gutters and improved drainage.

The new bridge replaces the one that was built in 1937, which was both narrow and had degraded due to the continual streambed degradation and erosion around the bridge’s abutments and piers. The southern half of the bridge was completed and open for two lanes of traffic on August 21, 2012.

The completion of this bridge marks 22 years of collaboration among more than 50 tribal, federal, state and local agencies. Among the agencies Caltrans worked with were the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Town of Parker, La Paz County, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Highway Administration, the United States Coast Guard and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



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