

News from SANBAG



San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor ■ San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
■ www.sanbag.ca.gov ■ Contact: Jane Dreher, Public Information Officer ■ (909) 884-8276

July 7, 2010– For immediate release

SANBAG Delays Closure of Riverside Avenue Bridge over I-10

San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) has postponed the full closure of the Riverside Avenue bridge over Interstate 10 in Rialto until early 2011. The seven-month closure originally was planned to start this fall, but project planners have opted to delay this step of the project to avoid impacting holiday traffic and truck deliveries.

Starting in January, the five-lane bridge over the freeway will close to allow crews to demolish the structure and rebuild it to include nine lanes as part of the I-10 Riverside Avenue Interchange Improvement Project led by SANBAG, the City of Rialto and Caltrans. The project also will widen on-ramps and off-ramps and widen Riverside Avenue between I-10 and Valley Boulevard.

“High traffic volumes at this interchange create congestion, delays and safety hazards. This project will improve traffic flow to and from the freeway and to trucking facilities south of I-10,” said Rialto Councilmember Ed Scott.

Once the bridge closure starts, drivers will be detoured to Cedar Avenue, Pepper Avenue, Slover Avenue, Valley Boulevard, Rancho Avenue and Agua Mansa Road. Drivers will be asked to allow extra travel time and refer to the project website, www.sanbag.ca.gov or call the project helpline (909) 889-8611 ext. 102. All calls will be returned by the next business day.

Delaying the closure of the bridge will not affect the construction schedule. The bridge is expected to re-open to drivers next summer, and the full project is scheduled to finish in late 2011.

-MORE-

Project construction began in February. Crews currently are working to widen the freeway on-ramps and off-ramps by adding one lane to each ramp. This work will continue until the end of the year, followed by the bridge reconstruction and widening of Riverside Avenue between I-10 and Valley Boulevard. After the bridge reopens next summer, crews will complete lane striping, traffic signal connections and other details, with full completion expected by late 2011.

Funding for the \$34 million project is provided by a combination of federal, state and Rialto Redevelopment Agency funds.

###