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Ranchero Road Interchange Project Getting Back on Track towards Completion in 2014

Hesperia, CA – The San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), City of Hesperia, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and our contractors have been diligently working to develop a plan to complete construction of the Ranchero Road Interchange Project. Based on the preliminary results of inspections and testing, the contractor plans to complete all work on the project by the end of the year (2014). Original estimates prior to the fire had construction completing by mid-October. Construction crews will be doubled in some cases to help increase productivity and reduce the overall construction window for the project.

Materials have been arriving on site over the past week and crews will now begin replacing the falsework (temporary bridge support structure) for constructing the bridge portion of the interchange. Other tests on the columns and abutments remain ongoing, but can be conducted concurrent to the initial stages of the falsework placement. Near term lane and freeway closures are being identified and will be announced publicly when approved. Closures will be performed at night and staged in a manner to create the least amount of impact possible to the motoring public.

Project Overview

The approximate \$59 million Ranchero Road Interchange Project started in January of last year and was scheduled to continue through Fall 2014. On May 5th, the bridge suffered damage to the falsework as the result of a construction-related fire, resulting in a setback to the schedule. Other areas of the project, including drainage, ramp, and frontage road work were unaffected by the fire.

Ultimately, the new interchange, when complete, will connect Mariposa Road and Caliente Road to Interstate 15 with a full-service interchange. Ranchero Road will consist of three through lanes in each direction along with additional turn lanes at the freeway ramp connections and intersections with two realigned frontage roads. The project will also include utility relocations, flood control improvements, traffic signal and ramp metering, grading, drainage modifications, signing and striping, traffic handling, and replacement planting.

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