

Cruisin' Through Construction



Interstate 215 Widening Project, San Bernardino

November 2008, Issue 22

Crews Continue Work to Lower Mill Street

Caltrans continues work on Interstate 215 from Orange Show Road to Rialto Avenue. During the month of November, construction crews completed work at the intersection of Mill and "I" Streets and reopened it to drivers.

For the next six months, crews will continue working to lower Mill Street. As a result, only one lane in each direction will be available to drivers.

With the median work on the freeway now complete, crews will begin paving the outside lanes the week of December 1. Also during the month of December, demolition work will continue on the Inland Center Drive bridge. Nighttime freeway closures should be expected during the demolition process.

Monthly meetings between Caltrans, local merchants and emergency workers continue to provide updates and address construction concerns. The meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the Caltrans Annex building at 655 West Second Street in San Bernardino.

For planned lane and ramp closures within Phase 2, please visit the Caltrans Web site at www.caltrans8.info. For the safety of you and the workers, please SLOW FOR THE CONE ZONE and remember that fines are doubled in a construction zone.

Project Questions?

For questions or to request a presentation about the widening of Interstate 215, call the toll-free helpline, **1-877-215-NEWS**.



5th Street Bridge Opens to Commuters After Grand Opening Ceremony

Less than two years after construction began on the 5th Street bridge, the community gathered to celebrate the early completion of the new structure that allows for four through lanes and two turn lanes in each direction.

The completion of the bridge provides better access between the east and west sides of San Bernardino, which is much needed by businesses and residents. Event speakers focused on the city's revitalization and how the new bridge is the first of many milestones for the I-215 Widening Project.



Local officials gathered at the 5th Street bridge to officially open the bridge to drivers during a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Elected officials, including San Bernardino Mayor Pat Morris, Montclair Mayor Paul Eaton, Councilmembers Esther Estrada and Rikke Van Johnson, Congressman Joe Baca, Assemblymember Wilmer Amina Carter, Supervisor Josie Gonzales, and representatives from Senator Bob Dutton's and Gloria Negrete McLeod's offices, were among the nearly 200 in attendance to officially open the new 5th Street bridge to the public.

Following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, elected officials were among the first to cruise the newly built bridge in classic convertible cars. In addition, a commemorative painting of the new bridge by a California State University, San Bernardino student was presented to the city and all in attendance received a smaller version of the art piece to take home.

Caltrans to Lead Portions of Phase 4

The SANBAG Board of Directors approved Caltrans to lead portions of Phase 4 construction of the I-215 Widening Project during a meeting held on November 5.

Included in Phase 4, and now a part of Caltrans' work zone, is the construction of the much anticipated connector ramps between I-215 and SR-210 and freeway widening between Massachusetts Avenue and University Parkway.

The change in management of this phase should not affect the timeline of the project. Construction on the \$77 million phase is set to begin in fall 2009, with an expected completion date of late 2013.



The I-215 widening project is a partnership among San Bernardino Associated Governments, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of San Bernardino.

