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Route 1/17 for Merge Lane

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RE: PROJECT STATUS UPDATE REPORT

- At this time Design activities are nearing completion on the 1/17 Merge Lanes Project. Once complete the project will be suspended until Right of Way work can start. Funding for right of way is anticipated in July 2004. We are awaiting the right of way and construction allocations to see what affect funding will have on the schedule of this project. We are developing various funding scenarios, and contingency plans to move the project forward as soon as possible.
- The project development team has been discussing possibly splitting out a soundwall project from the main project. A small amount of money was added to this project from a different program than the STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) which is funding the majority of the project; and, could be available sooner than the STIP money. This could be used to minimally fund a soundwall project. Basically, half of the walls; those south of Morrissey could be constructed. Unfortunately, landscaping would not be included as part of the project because of lack of adequate funding. Landscaping on and around the soundwalls would be installed during construction of the main project. This stand-alone project could be ready for construction by summer of 2005. We will be sending out flyers, and getting feedback from affected residents on this option in January/February.

Luis Duazo,
Project Manager
Caltrans