

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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(PM15.3/17.4, 0.0/0.8)
EA 05-12910
Route 1/17 Merge Lanes

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RE: PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

- The 2004 STIP will be approved by the CTC on 9/5/04, at which time we will know if construction STIP funding will be available for this project next year. Until 9/5/04 design details and right of way clearance activities continue with a target construction start date of August 2005.
- Activities are on-going finalizing the design details of this project. Traffic handling and detour plans during construction are being developed and will be approved with the City of Santa Cruz / Capitol in May. At that time we will discuss right of way requirements for soundwalls that back up to City property, and discuss maintenance requirements. We hope also to further develop a "Bay View", "Wave", and "Pattern" design soundwall treatment at Emeline Ave. for your review and selection.
- Right of Way work is currently the controlling item in the project schedule. At this time 80% of the easement acquisitions have been obtained. There has been a great deal of support and cooperation from property owners along the corridor in this acquisition process. We are not anticipating any problems obtaining the remaining easements. The utility relocation process is 50% complete. Utility conflict plans have been sent to all affected utilities. Utility companies are designing their relocated facilities. Most of the actual relocations will occur during construction of the project.

Luis Duazo,
Project Manager
Caltrans