

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

50 HIGUERA STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401-5415
TELEPHONE: (805) 549-3111
TDD (805) 549-3259
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05>



January 25, 2008

05-SCr-1/17 -KP24.7/28.1
(PM15.3/17.4, 0.0/0.8)
EA 05-12910
Route 1/17 Merge Lanes

ROUTE 1/17 MERGE LANES PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

- The Branciforte Overcrossing Bridge has been demolished, and will be reconstructed within 180 days as required by the contract and City requirement for the Branciforte Ave closure. The new bridge is required to accommodate the new merge lanes on the highway. Also, more vertical clearance under the bridge will allow high profile vehicles passage. Currently, the contractor is excavating for the footings of the new bridge. City traffic has been detoured to the Market Street undercrossing.
- Recent heavy rains have slowed progress on the project. Flooding of the #1 lane (fast lane) has occurred. This issue is being addressed by temporarily pumping water out of the median. Because of construction staging the highway lanes are not in their final positions, and not all drainage inlets can be opened until the lanes are shifted. Once the lanes are shifted, and the drainage systems are fully operational, this flooding problem should not exist. Stormwater management devices are in place, and will be maintained throughout the rains to reduce erosion and silt runoff throughout the project limits. The large cut slopes between the Branciforte Ave structure and Market St have held up well to the rains.
- Construction of soundwalls continues on the north end of the project in the vicinity of the Ocean Street on-ramp. Soundwalls for the entire project should be completed by March 2008.
- Work on the northbound Route 1/ Route 17 connector has started. Traffic has been temporarily shifted and concrete barrier rail placed. In mid March the northbound Pasatiempo off-ramp will be closed for approximately two months so work between the connector and off-ramp can be done.
- Fall 2008 remains the construction complete target.

Luis Duazo, PE
Project Manager
Caltrans