GAVIOTA REST AREA ON U.S. HIGHWAY 101 CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING/SCHEDULED TO RE-OPEN IN EARLY 2015

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY – The Gaviota Safety Roadside Rest Areas on U.S. Highway 101 will remain closed during the Thanksgiving holiday period. A full opening of the rest area is expected in early 2015. This nine month closure began last April for major improvements to this facility.

This project includes extensive renovations to the plumbing systems in two restroom buildings and water conservation measures such as low flow fixtures and faucets that will automatically turn off.

Caltrans is working with California State Parks to ensure a more reliable water supply while conserving water at the rest area and Gaviota State Beach.

This rest area will receive upgrades to the electrical and irrigation systems and improvements to tile, carpentry, paint and landscaping. These improvements are necessary for the one million visitors who use the rest areas each year.

The contractor for this $927,000 project is Prism Engineering, Inc. of Hayward, CA. This project is expected to be completed in January 2015.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over and slow down when driving through highway construction zones.

For traffic updates on other state highway projects in Santa Barbara County, motorists can call Caltrans District 5 Public Affairs at 805-568-0858 or visit the District 5 website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/road_information.htm