



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Monday, October 15, 2012

District: 5 (Santa Barbara, SLO, Monterey, Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE

VIADUCT CONSTRUCTION ON HIGHWAY 9 IN BEN LOMOND CONTINUES NEXT WEEK WITH TREE REMOVAL; EXPECT DELAYS

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY— As part of the ongoing viaduct project along Highway 9 near Highlands County Park in Ben Lomond, tree removal work will be done **next Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 22 and 23**, Caltrans officials have announced.

This roadwork will occur from 9 am until 3 pm on both days and will require stoppage of traffic in both directions while crews safely clear the roadway. Motorists should expect moderate delays of 15-20 minutes during the tree removal work.

In addition, drilling roadwork is scheduled for **Tuesday, Oct. 30 from 9 am until 3 pm**, weather permitting, also causing traffic delays of 15-20 minutes.

Electronic message signs will be posted in advance for motorists, who are advised to allow for extra driving time and consider using alternate routes around the work zone.

Roadwork on the viaduct project began in early September under one-way traffic controls with a temporary signal 24/7 **through March 2013, weather permitting.**

Landscaping work will continue after March which requires no lane closures and is expected to be completed by next summer. This project will improve safety by constructing a viaduct structure and repaving the existing, worn roadway.

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The contractor for this \$1.3 million project is Pavex Construction of Watsonville.

Caltrans reminds motorists to move over or slow down when driving through highway work zones.

For lane closure information on this project and for traffic updates on other Caltrans projects in Santa Cruz County, residents can call the District 5 toll free number at 1-831-423-0396 or can visit our website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/maint/road/upscr.htm

