



# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** September 11, 2014

**District:** Los Angeles/Ventura

**Contact:** Judy Gish

**Phone:** (213) 897-3487

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PORTIONS OF NEW U.S. 101 CARPOOL LANE OPEN IN VENTURA, SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES**

**CARPINTERIA** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has opened portions of the newly-constructed High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV or carpool) lane on the Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101) in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

The carpool lane is open in the southbound direction from Casitas Pass Road in Santa Barbara County to Seacliff in Ventura County. The northbound lane is open from Bates Road to Casitas Pass Road.

Caltrans is in the process of completing the striping and signage that will designate the lane for carpool use and that is expected to complete between now and next week. Until the signage and striping are installed, the lane will be available to all motorists at all times.

When that process is complete, the carpool lane will have continuous access as opposed to the dedicated ingress and egress area that characterize carpool lanes in Los Angeles County and other southern California areas.

The lane will be strictly for vehicles carrying two or more people weekdays, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. At all other times and on weekends, the lane will be open to all vehicles.

The entire \$102 million, six-mile project from Mobil Pier in Ventura County to Casitas Pass Road in Santa Barbara County, will be completed next spring.

###

