



# NEWS RELEASE

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**District:** District 7, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties  
**Contact:** Jeanne Bonfilio  
**Phone:** (213) 897-3630

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### HIGHWAY 138 WIDENING, PHASE 2 – PRELIMINARY WORK BEGINS

**Pearblossom** -- The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announces that preliminary work has begun on Phase 2 of the State Route 138 widening project. The widening will enhance safety, improve capacity, help to relieve congestion and aid in the efficient movements of goods and services along the Highway 138 Corridor. A community meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2006 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Crystallaire Country Club, 15701 Boca Raton Avenue in Llano to provide information and receive public feedback

Phase 2 will widen 2.1 miles of State Route 138 from 1½ miles east of Longview Road (146<sup>th</sup> Street East) to just west of 165<sup>th</sup> Street East. The project also involves construction of a single-deck bridge to replace the existing two bridges at the Big Rock Wash, located ½ mile west of 165<sup>th</sup> Street East. The new bridge will also accommodate four lanes of travel as well as a center median and standard shoulders. A temporary detour roadway will be constructed just south of Highway 138 at Big Rock Wash to accommodate traffic while the new bridge is being built.

The entire State Route 138 widening from Avenue T in Palmdale to the San Bernardino County line is being done in phases. Phase 1 widening, from Longview Road to 146<sup>th</sup> Street East in Pearblossom, completed in mid-January, and a plant establishment period will continue through February, 2007. Lane closures will take place intermittently throughout construction. Signs will be posted to assist motorists. The California Highway Patrol will assist with traffic management when necessary. Press release updates on closures will be distributed to the media, as well as posted on the Caltrans website (noted below) to keep the public informed as work progresses.

Construction dates and closures are weather-permitting and subject to change. Caltrans will do everything possible to keep inconveniences to a minimum. Construction is estimated to complete in the fall of 2007. Estimated cost is \$17.9 million from State and local funds through the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), as well as the State Highways Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds. For additional information, please call Caltrans Public Affairs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at (213) 897-3630 or 897-3656.

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