



# NEWS RELEASE

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**Date:** April 1, 2008

**District:** District 7, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### **RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY --**

### **I-5 HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV) CARPOOL LANES IN SYLMAR**

- WHO:** Will Kempton, Director, California Department of Transportation; Assemblyman Cameron M. Smyth, 38<sup>th</sup> District; Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, 5<sup>th</sup> District; Pam O'Connor, Metro Board Chair; Victor Lindenheim, Executive Director, Golden State Gateway Coalition; Elected Officials
- WHAT:** Celebrate completion of 6.2 miles of new High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV), or carpool lanes on the Golden State Freeway (I-5) from the Simi Valley Freeway (SR-118) to the Antelope Valley Freeway (SR-14)
- WHEN:** Friday, April 4, 2008, 2:30 p.m.
- WHERE:** Los Angeles County Assessor's Office, 13800 Balboa Boulevard, Sylmar (Corner of Foothill and Balboa Boulevards overlooking I-5 Freeway).  
**Directions:** I-5 north to I-210 east. Exit Yarnell Street and turn right; turn right on Foothill Blvd.; turn right on Balboa Boulevard. **OR**, from southbound I-5 or San Fernando Valley: take Balboa Boulevard or Balboa Boulevard exit north over I-5 Freeway.
- BACKGROUND:** This carpool lane project is the first on I-5 in Los Angeles County. This stretch of carpool lanes will provide a vital link to future I-5 HOV projects from the Simi Valley Freeway (SR-118) to the Hollywood Freeway (SR-170), and from SR-170 to the Ventura Freeway (SR-134); and a direct HOV connector at the I-5/14 Interchange.
- BENEFITS:** This HOV lane project will improve mobility, help to alleviate congestion, encourage carpooling and improve air quality. In addition, soundwalls have been constructed at various locations along the project area to improve the quality of life for residents who live alongside the I-5 Freeway.
- PHOTO OP:** Dramatic view of I-5 Freeway at the Foothill Freeway (I-210) and Antelope Valley Freeway (SR-14) connectors. VIP's pose near "IMPROVING YOUR DRIVE ON INTERSTATE 5" banner.

