

NEWS RELEASE



Date: December 15, 2011
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans to Open SR-60 Freeway by Friday Evening Commute

Montebello — Caltrans expects to re-open both directions of the Pomona Freeway (SR-60) to traffic by the evening commute on Friday, December 16. The freeway was closed Wednesday afternoon between the Long Beach Freeway (I-710) and the San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605) after a tanker truck caught fire on eastbound SR-60 at Paramount Boulevard. There were no serious injuries.

Demolition of the east side of the Paramount Boulevard bridge will begin this afternoon. Currently, engineers are taking core samples to assess damage to the west side of the bridge. Based on the results of the assessment, a decision will be made later today about whether the west side needs to be demolished as well. An emergency contract has been awarded to Flatiron Construction to perform the work.

Paramount Boulevard near the accident site is closed. Most of SR-60 between I-710 and I-605 is also closed, but some ramps are open. Open eastbound ramps include San Gabriel Boulevard, Rosemead Boulevard, Santa Anita Avenue, and Durfee Avenue. Open westbound ramps include Atlantic Boulevard and Garfield Avenue. Caltrans is taking advantage of the closure of SR-60, which has an average daily traffic volume of 220,000 vehicles, to conduct intensive maintenance operations.

Motorists are advised to plan ahead, be patient, and use alternate routes. Signed detours are in place and the Caltrans Traffic Management Team is on site. Electronic signs will be used to direct holiday shoppers to the Montebello Town Square Shopping Center.

Caltrans will issue a press release this afternoon providing an update on the demolition and freeway closure.

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