

# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** June 3, 2015

**District 7:** Los Angeles & Ventura counties

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Commodore Schuyler Heim Lift Bridge (SR-47) Era Coming to an End: Traffic to Switch to New Bridge**

**LONG BEACH** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will close access to northbound lanes of the Commodore Schuyler Heim Lift Bridge (SR-47) on Wednesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. All access to the lift bridge will cease by Friday, June 5 at 7 p.m.

Opened in 1948, the SR-47 lift-span bridge will be replaced by a fixed span structure that will conform to higher seismic standards to enhance safety, benefit the local, state and national economy, and international trade. Additionally, replacing a deteriorating structure with a new one will also reduce maintenance costs and lead to improved roadway connections.

As part of this bridge replacement project the following ramps and lanes will be closed:

#### **Temporary Closure**

Northbound SR-47 closure starts at 7:00 p.m. on June 3, 2015. All access to north- and southbound lanes of SR-47 will be closed from Friday, June 5 at 7 p.m. to Monday, June 8 at 5 a.m. Preparations will be made to shift north- and southbound traffic onto the newly constructed northbound lanes of the new fixed span (concrete) bridge. **Detour:** A signed detour will be in place.

#### **Long-term Closure**

The southbound SR-47 New Dock off-ramp will be closed from June 5, 2015 to mid-2017 so that the existing steel bridge can be demolished to make way for the construction of the new southbound lanes. **Detour:** Exit at Ocean Boulevard, right to Pier S, then right to New Dock Street.

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of Transportation



## NEWS RELEASE

The new bridge will provide a permanent navigable channel that is 180-feet wide with a vertical clearance of 47-feet to allow for the passage of ships. With the elimination of the lift, traffic will no longer be delayed due to passing ships.

This \$180 million State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) funded project was awarded to MCM Construction Inc. of Bloomington, California. The project is expected to finish in mid-2017.

Caltrans reminds motorists to ***Be Work Zone Alert.***

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