Overview

Work began in June 2012 on the first phase of the Interstate 805 (I-805) South Project, a $1.1 billion effort to create a modern, new transportation backbone that will meet the future needs of travelers in our region. When it’s finished, the project will offer new transportation choices, relieve traffic congestion, and improve the quality of life in South County.

Phase 1

The first phase of the project included building one carpool, or High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV), lane in each direction along an eight-mile segment of I-805 from East Naples Street in Chula Vista to State Route 94 (SR 94) in San Diego and 10 sound walls along the route to help reduce freeway noise. Phase 1 also includes the construction of a Direct Access Ramp (DAR), Transit Station and Park & Ride at East Palomar Street. In addition, to accommodate the maneuvering of entering and exiting traffic, I-805 will be widened in National City to add a northbound auxiliary lane from State Route 54 (SR 54) to East Plaza Boulevard and a southbound through lane at East Plaza Boulevard. Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed in fall 2015.

Phase 2

The second phase of the project will further increase transportation choices by converting the carpool lanes into Express Lanes and constructing an HOV direct connector between I-805 and Interstate 15 (I-15). The Express Lanes will serve the planned South Bay Rapid, carpools, vanpools, buses, motorcycles, permitted clean air vehicles, and solo drivers using FasTrak®. Phase 2 also includes planned in-line transit stations built in the freeway median at East H Street in Chula Vista and East Plaza Boulevard in National City. Phase 2 plans the construction of approximately 80 proposed sound walls. Construction of the second phase of improvements will be scheduled as funding becomes available.
The carpool lanes built between East Naples Street and SR 94 opened to traffic in March 2014 and are helping to improve traffic flow, alleviate congestion on the highway, and provide new choices for travelers. Carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, and permitted clean air vehicles may use the carpool lanes. Once operational, the South Bay Rapid system will utilize these lanes, as well. There are five access points for the carpool lanes going north and four south.

**Construction Timeline: Completed Spring 2014**

### East Palomar Street Direct Access Ramp (DAR), Transit Station and Park & Ride

The DAR, Transit Station and Park & Ride at East Palomar Street will provide commuters with access to the South Bay Rapid system, and offer a convenient location from which carpools, vanpools, motorcycles, and permitted clean air vehicles can access the carpool lanes. Commuters using the DAR will be able to enter and exit the carpool lanes without having to travel on the freeway’s general purpose lanes.

**Construction Timeline: Summer 2013-Summer 2015**

### Sound Walls

Ten sound walls were built during the first phase of the I-805 South Project. Sound walls help reduce freeway noise and enhance the quality of life for neighboring communities. The walls are designed to reduce freeway noise by at least five decibels.

**Construction Timeline: Completed Summer 2014**

### East Plaza Boulevard Auxiliary Lane

The northbound auxiliary lane and southbound through lane being constructed at East Plaza Boulevard will extend the weaving and merging distance between on- and off-ramps. These new lanes will improve overall freeway flow by accommodating the maneuvering of entering and exiting traffic.

**Construction Timeline: Fall 2014-Fall 2015**

### During Construction

During construction, motorists can expect temporary lane closures and detours, reduced lane widths, some night and weekend work, and equipment and signage along the freeway. Lane widths will be restored once work has been completed. Drivers should slow down, allow more time to reach their destination, and anticipate possible traffic delays, especially around construction areas. We appreciate your patience during construction.

For more information on the I-805 South Project, scan the QR code to the right using your smart phone’s code reader app.