



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

Date: February 27, 2012
District: District 12, Orange County
Contact: Office of Public Information
Phone: (949) 724-2000

NEW RAMP SIGNALS INSTALLED ALONG ORANGE COUNTY FREEWAYS

Irvine—On Tuesday, February 21, 2012, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 12 (Orange County) began the process of upgrading the software for its ramp meters. The metered on-ramps with the highest demand (approximately 49 of the total 320 metered on-ramps) will see an improvement in performance. The software upgrade makes ramp metering more efficient, and will allow for increased throughput of traffic on to the freeway, and minimize traffic back-up (congestion) onto local streets from the on-ramps.

Previously, motorists were used to seeing one car per lane, two-lane simultaneous entries into the traffic flow, where the sign for each lane stated, “One car per green each lane,” and the ramp signal light turning from green to red. The change involves allowing two cars per green per lane, and the sign for each lane now reads, “Two cars per green this lane.” The ramp signal light also involves the addition of a yellow light; as the light turns from green, to yellow to red, it provides motorists time to safely merge into the freeway traffic. The goal of this software upgrade is to allow for more efficient traffic flow, and increase throughput. The newer ramp signals also have the added benefit of using LED light bulbs, which provide for better luminescence while being more energy efficient.

The software upgrade has been in place at the Jamboree Road tangent on-ramp meter to Southbound 405 as well as other locations within Orange County. Ramp meter signals changed last week are located at:

I-5

Crown Valley Parkway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Oso Parkway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Alicia Parkway	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Alicia Parkway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
El Toro Road	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 5



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California law requires vehicles to safely reduce speed, move over, and merge into unoccupied lanes when emergency vehicles, construction vehicles, or towtrucks are displaying flashing warning lights.



Caltrans reminds motorists to use extra caution and reduce speeds when driving through construction zones.



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I-405

Goldenwest Street	to	Northbound 405
Beach Boulevard	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Brookhurst Street	Tangent on-ramp to	Southbound 405

Caltrans is planning to upgrade the ramp meters within the next five weeks at the following tentative locations:

I-5

Avenida Pico	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Avenida Vista Hermosa	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Camino Capistrano	to	Northbound 5
Ortega Highway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Avery Parkway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
El Toro Road	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Lake Forest Drive	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Alton Parkway	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Sand Canyon Road	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Jeffrey Road	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Culver Drive	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Tustin Ranch Road	to	Northbound 5
Red Hill Avenue	to	Northbound 5
Main Street	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 5
Harbor Boulevard	to	Northbound 5
Ball Road	to	Northbound 5
Lincoln Avenue	to	Northbound 5

I-405

Sand Canyon Road	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Sand Canyon Road	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Jeffrey Road	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Culver Drive	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Culver Drive	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 405
MacArthur Boulevard	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 405
Westminster Avenue	to	Northbound 405
Culver Drive	Tangent on-ramp to	Southbound 405
Bristol Street	Loop on-ramp to	Southbound 405
Warner Avenue	to	Southbound 405



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Magnolia Street Edinger Avenue	Tangent on-ramp to to	Southbound 405 Southbound 405
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SR-91

Tustin Avenue	to	Eastbound 91
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SR-55

McFadden Avenue	to	Northbound 55
Fourth Street	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 55
17th Street	Loop on-ramp to	Northbound 55
17th Street	Tangent on-ramp to	Northbound 55
Katella Avenue	to	Northbound 55
17th Street	Tangent on-ramp to	Southbound 55
Chapman Avenue	Loop on-ramp to	Southbound 55
Lincoln Avenue	Tangent on-ramp to	Southbound 55

SR-22

Bristol Street	to	Eastbound 22
Main Street	to	Eastbound 22
Main Street	to	Westbound 22

For more information on this or any other project in Orange County you may contact the District 12 Public Information Office at (949) 724-2000 or log on to the Caltrans website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12 .



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