



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** August 18, 2010  
**District:** District 2 - Redding  
**Contact:** Michael Mayor  
**Phone:** (530) 225-3214

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Realigning the highway and being green along the way**

**SHASTA COUNTY** – Work progresses on a \$7.7 million curve realignment project on State Route 44 that began in early May. The Manzanita Chute Curve project, funded with \$6.4 million by the Recovery Act, was awarded to JF Shea Construction of Redding on the one-year anniversary of President Obama signing ARRA into law.

Located on SR 44 just west of Lassen Volcanic National Park, the new alignment makes important infrastructure improvements which will realign highway curves, widen shoulders, extend an existing truck-climbing lane and increase the unobstructed area beyond the edge of the roadway, making for a smoother, safer drive.

Key features of the project include the recycling efforts JF Shea and Caltrans incorporated into the project. To date operations have removed 15,800 square yards of asphalt from the old alignment and ground it for use as base material and shoulder backing on the new alignment. Crews salvaged 6,300 yards of natural forest compost to condition the soil for a tree replanting project in the area of the old roadway and chipped 2,500 cubic yards of woody material that will be used for erosion control.

Base rock from the existing roadway was reused; reducing the quantity of new material required by 4,200 cubic yards, and five hundred tons of natural sand was salvaged and recycled as structural backfill.

“Recycling material from the worksite is efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible,” said District 2 Director John Bulinski. “Green projects like these are consistent with Caltrans’ goal of “Stewardship” to preserve and enhance California’s resources and assets, as well as the Federal Highway Administration policy that recycled materials should get first consideration.”

Developed through a partnership between Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration with assistance from the Lassen National Forest, Manzanita Chute is scheduled for completion in September 2010.

*Under Governor Schwarzenegger’s leadership, California has obligated nearly \$2.5 billion in Recovery Act funding obligated to 938 highway, local street, and job training transportation projects statewide. For more information on the Recovery Act visit: <http://recovery.ca.gov/>*

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