



UPDATE

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District: District 4, Oakland
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Tunnel Excavation Ceremony

Monday September 17th at 10:00 a.m. is the date and time set for a ceremony to mark the beginning of tunnel excavation at Devil's Slide. The event will take place at the portal construction area just north of Montara on Highway 1. This is a public celebration open to all.

The reason for this celebration has a lot to do with the long history of the project. In 1958 the search for a permanent solution to landslide problems at Devil's Slide began. Initial overland by-pass proposals made by the California Department of Transportation drew opposition from various advocacy groups concerned about the impacts of constructing a highway over Montara Mountain. As a result, the project was placed on hold for many years to provide for additional review and consideration of all viewpoints.

Planning and design for the tunnels began in earnest after ballot Measure T passed in 1996 with 74% of the vote. Passage of Measure T ended decades of debate about how to permanently solve the chronic problem of emergency road closures and repairs at Devil's Slide.

Now, the much anticipated tunnel excavation phase of the project is about to get underway. When opened to traffic in late 2010, these state of the art tunnels will finally provide a reliable connection for coastal communities. It is fitting to mark the beginning of the end to the Devil's Slide problem by a public celebration.





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