



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: June 9, 2015
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction Starts On Highway 29-Channelization Project in St. Helena

NAPA COUNTY– The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and its local project partners, the Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency (NCTPA), the County of Napa, City of St. Helena, and the Napa Valley Wine Train today broke ground on the much anticipated Highway 29-Channelization Project in St. Helena.

The project will widen Highway 29 between Mee Lane in Napa County and Charter Oak Avenue in the City of St. Helena. The work will rehabilitate the pavement, widen the highway shoulders to standard width, and construct a two-way left turn lane. It will also improve bicycle, highway, and railroad crossings at Highway 29 and Whitehall Lane.

Residents, businesses, and visitors to the Napa Valley will benefit from improved safety and shorter travel times throughout the region.

Major funding for these improvements comes from the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP). This vital state funding program is crucial to Caltrans' overall mission to improve mobility, and preserve and protect our state's highway system.

"This project was made possible by approximately \$19 million dollars from the State Highway Operations and Protection Program," said Caltrans District 4 Director Bijan Sartipi. "This project, and many others, is a vital infrastructure investment, which improves mobility throughout the region."

The improvements will improve the existing two lane highway, which is traveled by approximately 22,000 vehicles per day and is a busy route for residents, businesses and, visitors to the Napa Valley.

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Caltrans and its project partners in Napa County are excited that after years of planning, these improvements are now underway.

County of Napa Supervisor Diane Dillon noted “It is gratifying to see this project come to fruition – it’s been in the planning and developing phase for more than a decade and the County has been very hands on working with Caltrans to ensure that the project is successful.”

John Dunbar, Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency Chair stated “We really appreciate the commitment that Caltrans has shown on this project. It will be a significant operational improvement on Highway 29 “

Alan Galbraith, Mayor of St. Helena stated, “This will be a great improvement on Highway 29 and I appreciate Caltrans commitment to improving safety and mobility for the residents of St. Helena”

The work is tentatively scheduled to be completed in early 2017 by San Rafael based Ghilotti Brothers.

Get the latest Highway 29-Channelization updates on our project webpage:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/projects/NAP29Channelization/>

Or follow Caltrans on Twitter at:

<https://mobile.twitter.com/CaltransD4>

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