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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS TO ACTIVATE RAMP METERS ON ROUTES 85 AND 87

San Jose – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in collaboration with the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), will activate new ramp metering operations on State Routes 85 and 87 in Santa Clara County.

In all, Caltrans plans to add five new ramp meters to the existing five operational meters in the corridor.

Ramp meters on the northbound direction of Route 87 between Santa Teresa Boulevard and Lelong Street will be expanded northerly to Skyport Boulevard and southerly to the Southbound 85 to Northbound 87 Connector.

The ramp metering signals in the northbound direction of Route 87 will be set to solid green on the morning of December 29, 2008 and then become fully functional metering on Tuesday, January 13 2009. The ramp metering lights will be operational during the morning peak periods between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

On Tuesday, January 27, 2009, the ramp metering signals will start metering on the southbound direction of Route 85, from Almaden Expressway to Cottle Road, including the Southbound 87 to Southbound 85 Connector.

The ramp metering signals will initially be set to solid green on January 19, 2009 and will only be operational during evening peak periods between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Caltrans and VTA expect the new ramp metering system to improve travel times on Routes 85 and 87 during peak periods of heavy traffic. During the first few days of operation delays are expected as motorists get used to newly metered ramps. Caltrans staff will be monitoring the queues and will be making adjustments in the field as they fine-tune the metering operations.

Existing ramp meters on Routes 85 and 87 that are currently active will be retimed and readjusted along with the newly activated meters on those corridors.

Ramp Meters on State Routes 85 and 87 that will become active are:

Northbound Route 87 (active January 13, 2009, AM Peak Period)

- SB 85 to NB 87 Connector On-ramp
- Park Avenue Diagonal On-ramp
- Julian Street Diagonal On-ramp
- Taylor Street Diagonal On-ramp
- Skyport Boulevard Diagonal On-ramp

Southbound Route 85 (active January 27, 2009 PM Peak Period)

- Almaden Expressway Loop On-Ramp
- Almaden Expressway Diagonal On-Ramp
- Santa Teresa Boulevard Diagonal On-Ramp
- SB87 to SB85 Connector On-ramp
- Blossom Hill Road Loop On-Ramp
- Blossom Hill Road Diagonal On-Ramp
- Cottle Road Loop On-Ramp
- Cottle Diagonal On-Ramp

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