



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### GRAND OPENING HELD FOR COMPLETION OF SEGMENT 3 OF STATE ROUTE 4 BYPASS PROJECT

**Brentwood-** Local, state, and federal officials held a grand opening Oct. 27 for completion of segment three of the State Route 4 Bypass Project. The bypass was opened to traffic earlier in October, and the SR 4 Bypass Authority celebrated the event with cookies, cake, Starbucks coffee, and a lineup of guest speakers.

Mary Nejedly Piepho, Contra Costa Supervisor and a board member for the Bypass Authority, referred to the bypass as “a self help project” that “provides traffic relief and traffic mobility for east county residents.”

The East Contra Costa Regional Fee and Financing Authority (ECCRFFA), a regional transportation funding agency, is the main source of revenue for the Bypass program. A fee is collected on new development in eastern Contra Costa County. The California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) had oversight on the project.

“As the economy picks up,” Piepho said, “there will be more projects. So we are here for a celebration, and recognize that there are significant projects to move forward.”

Bob Taylor, chair for the Bypass Authority and the Mayor of Brentwood, said that there were not a lot of off ramps yet. “So if you’re on it, you’re going to stay on it,” Taylor said.

Congressman Jerry McNerney referred to the project as an improvement.

“I just drove in from Concord,” McNerney said. “Ten years ago that drive was a torture.”

McNerney serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and helps with funding for many transportation projects across the nation.

“Regional projects and things that benefit the nation are high on our priority list,” McNerney said. The congressman noted that for every million dollars, there are 40 new jobs. For every billion dollars, there are 40,000 jobs.





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“It’s a great way to make our country stronger,” McNerney said.

Caltrans Director Will Kempton said that the project was an example for other programs throughout the state.

“What you have done is truly remarkable,” Kempton said. “An 8 ½ mile long expressway. I thank you for making my job easier by pointing to a local agency that has collected their own fees for their projects.”

The Bypass project starts approximately half way between the Hillcrest Avenue/SR4 Interchange in Antioch and the Main Street/SR4 interchange in Oakley and continues south to Marsh Creek Road (approximately 8.5 miles) in Brentwood. The Bypass continues on Marsh Creek Road (upgraded roadway) to its intersection with existing SR4 (Byron Highway), approximately 12.4 miles in total length.

Work is complete for phase 1, although the bypass remains closed to tractor-trailer traffic from Balfour Road to Marsh Creek Road, until a layer of rock, asphalt, and concrete can be applied to the roadway in 2009.

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