

April 18, 2006

05-SCr-1/17 -KP24.7/28.1
(PM15.3/17.4, 0.0/0.8)
EA 05-12910
Route 1/17 Merge Lanes

ROUTE 1/17 MERGE LANES PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

INFORMATIONAL OPEN HOUSE 4/19/06

An informational Open House was held Wednesday 4/19 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Senior Citizens' Opportunity Center in Santa Cruz. Representatives from Caltrans, the Santa Cruz Regional Transportation Commission, City of Santa Cruz, and Pavex the Construction Contractor were available to answer questions regarding the construction of the 1/17 Merge Lanes project. Approximately 130 people attended; mostly property owners along the project limits. Based on the comments received additional information will be added to the website to help answer frequently asked question including sound wall heights, closures/detours, and tree removals.

The 1/17 Merge Lanes project's construction start date was 4/17/06. Construction area signs, temporary pavement striping, concrete barrier placement, and landscape clearing activities will start in the next few weeks.

EMELINE NB OFF RAMP TO CLOSE THE WEEK OF MAY 1

Starting Sunday April 30th, PavexMyer JV will begin placing K-rail for the Stage 1 traffic detour. It is anticipated that the Emeline Off Ramp will be closed on Wednesday May 2 and be closed approximately 2 years. The ramp closure is necessary for the widening of the existing bridges and the construction of the new bridges for the widening project. A new Emeline Off ramp with a longer deceleration ramp will be constructed during the project and will exit before Market St. One of the reasons the ramp will be closed for so long is it cannot be opened again until the Market St. Bridge Widening is complete and the new Emeline Off Ramp Bridges over Carbonero Ck. and Branciforte Ck. are built.

The week prior to the K-rail placement and the Emeline Ramp Closure, the Contractor will be performing the Stage 1 temporary striping in preparation for the K-rail placement.

The public will likely not notice the detour work until the k-rail goes in. All work will be performed at night. Roughly 8pm to 5:30am.

Luis Duazo,
Caltrans, Project Manager