



State Route 60
TRUCK LANES

AUGUST 2019

SHIFTING GEARS

Welcome to *Shifting Gears*, a monthly update of construction progress for the State Route 60 Truck Lanes Project. Construction has begun for this complex project, and this newsletter will provide a summary of recent work and a look-ahead of upcoming activity. Please forward this to a friend and let us know how we can improve it.

CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS: JULY 2019

Equipment is rolling for the State Route 60 Truck Lanes Project. The Riverside County Transportation Commission and Caltrans began work in June to widen a 4.5-mile stretch of Route 60 through Riverside County's Badlands between Moreno Valley and Beaumont.

The project is adding eastbound and westbound truck lanes, widening shoulders, flattening curves, and increasing the height of the center barrier for greater safety and traffic flow for commuters, trucks, and desert resort travelers. This work has required nighttime temporary lane closures.

During the first six weeks, crews added work area fencing, removed portions of the center barrier, realigned curves by placing concrete k-rail, and began excavating the hillsides. Drivers through the area can see bright yellow excavators, scrapers, and bulldozers dotting the steep hills, as crews work to remove 2.1 million cubic yards of dirt to make room for the wider roadbed.

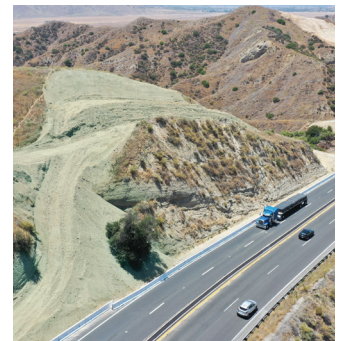
The team is keeping an eye out for nesting birds and bats near construction areas, as required by law. Both were found as work was starting, but the team identified ways to keep the project moving while protecting sensitive wildlife. In the future, timing of some work may have to be adjusted to ensure good stewardship of the environment and compliance with environmental laws, while doing everything possible to keep the project on schedule.

This section of Route 60 is very confined, and crews have narrowed the roadway even further. For this reason, 55 mph signs and speed feedback signs are in place to remind motorists to slow down. The CHP added patrols to cite speeding drivers; traffic fines are doubled in the construction zone.

To prepare for construction, the project team met with emergency responders, hosted two public open houses, and briefed area staff and elected officials about what to expect during this 2.5-year, \$113 million construction investment.



Crews are excavating the hillsides next to eastbound State Route 60.

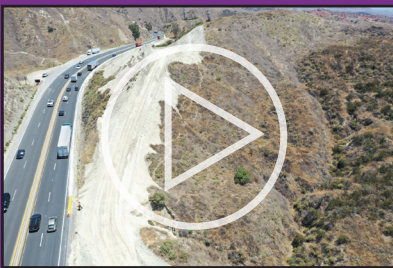


Motorists need to slow down, especially on westbound State Route 60, where speeding is a serious problem.



Excavators are beginning work to remove 2.1 million cubic yards of dirt from the hills next to Route 60.

CHECK OUT OUR DRONE FOOTAGE



STAY CONNECTED



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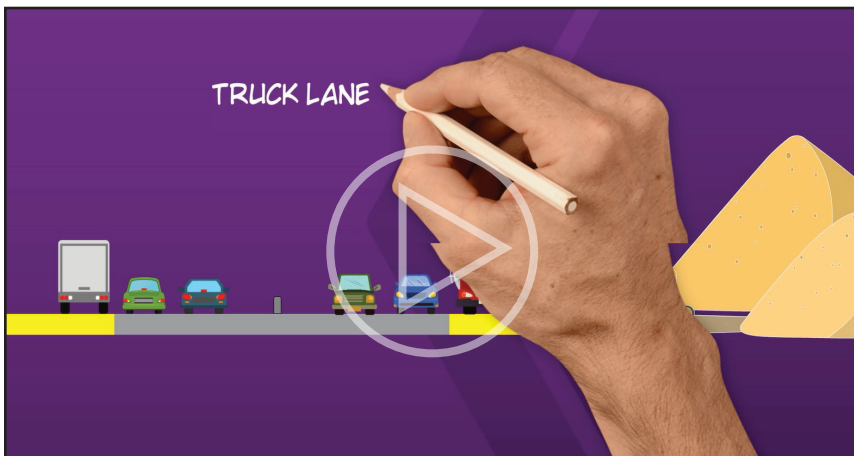
@60trucklanes



AROUND THE CURVE: SIX-MONTH WESTBOUND LANE CLOSURE

Starting August 22, one westbound lane on Route 60 will be closed for approximately six months for the full project area. The six-month lane closure will be in effect 24/7, which will allow RCTC to complete the project one year earlier than the original 3.5-year plan. Freeway Service Patrol tow trucks will rove the area during the lane closure to help stranded motorists. Motorists should expect significant delays, allow extra time, and avoid the area by using Interstate 10 as a detour route.

WATCH OUR VIDEO



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FACTS & FIGURES

- › 150 Project Team Members
- › 2.1 Million Cubic Yards of Dirt to be Excavated
- › \$113 Million Construction Cost
- › 2 Reinforced Wildlife Crossings, 20-Foot x 20-Foot
- › 155,000 Cubic Yards of Pavement
- › 15,000 Linear Feet of Pipe for Drainage Culverts
- › 2,200-Foot Long Retaining Wall
- › Skanska USA: Contractor
- › Falcon Engineering: Construction Manager
- › Riverside County Transportation Commission: Lead Agency
- › California Department of Transportation: Oversight Agency