



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

Placentia Avenue Bridge in Perris to Close for 10 Months to Build Interchange with Interstate 215

Road closed ahead... The Placentia Avenue bridge over Interstate 215 in Perris will be fully closed for about 10 months, starting Tuesday, July 20.

The full closure is needed for the Riverside County Transportation Commission's I-215 Placentia Avenue Interchange Project, which is adding new ramps to enter and exit I-215 at Placentia Avenue, between Ramona Expressway and Nuevo Road in Perris.

The closure will allow crews to demolish the existing bridge and build a wider bridge over I-215, while safely separating crews from passing vehicles. Closing the bridge also will reduce overall construction time from 2.5 years to two years. RCTC began project construction in August 2020 and remains on track to open the new interchange in summer 2022.

"This closure is a major milestone for the project," said RCTC Chair Jan Harnik. It's exciting to see the progress we have made since we started construction last summer and how this project will help the growing city of Perris."

Several detour routes have been set for the bridge closure: Ramona Expressway to the north, Nuevo Road to the south, Harvill Avenue west of I-215, and Indian Avenue east of I-215.



Drivers should allow extra travel time and follow posted speed limits, especially when traveling on Indian Avenue near Val Verde Elementary School between Placentia Avenue and Orange Avenue. In-person learning is scheduled to resume in August. Construction activity and timing is subject to change.

At some point during the bridge closure, lanes on I-215 will be closed overnight to demolish the bridge and to place – and later remove – support structures to widen the bridge. Future notification will be provided for these overnight closures.

In addition to adding ramps to I-215, the project will improve traffic flow by realigning East Frontage Road, widening the bridge over I-215, and adding lanes to Placentia Avenue between Harvill Avenue and Indian Avenue. The project also will enhance safety with new storm water detention basins for local street drainage and boost air quality, due to fewer idling vehicles and less gas consumption. During construction, approximately 425 jobs have been created.

The project is the first construction segment of the Mid County Parkway, a future 16-mile east-west route between Perris and San Jacinto. Other construction segments of the Mid County Parkway are not funded, so the timing of further work is uncertain.

Funding for the Placentia Avenue interchange is provided by a combination of state funding and Measure A, the voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in Riverside County.

Learn more: rctc.org/placentia

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