

# » I-5/Genesee Avenue Interchange Project

SPRING/SUMMER  
2016

eNewsletter

ISSUE 1

## Project Nearing Halfway Completion Mark

A great deal has been achieved since the Interstate 5 (I-5)/ Genesee Avenue Interchange Project began in February 2015. Over the past year, crews have focused on building the north side of the new bridge, started work on 12 retaining walls surrounding the interchange, and began construction on a special new feature – a separated bike path along the west side of I-5.

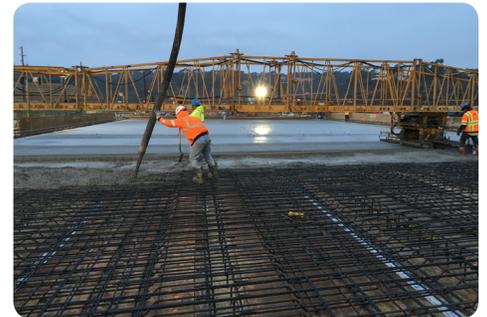
Over the next few months, crews will complete the north side of the bridge and Caltrans will switch traffic to the new bridge. Then the existing bridge will be demolished and the south side of the bridge will be built. Please watch for future e-blasts, follow us on social media, or check the project webpage for updates on the traffic switch.

Throughout 2016, crews will continue work on the retaining walls around the interchange, as well as the bike path. Read more about the bike path in the article on page 2.

The three-year project will replace the existing Genesee Avenue bridge with a ten-lane structure that will include additional vehicle lanes, bike lanes, sidewalks, and will better accommodate current and future travel demands in one of the most congested and job-intensive corridors in San Diego County. This \$105.2 million project is funded through a combination of federal, state, and regional *TransNet* revenue sources, and partnerships with City of San Diego and UC San Diego.

### Stay Up to Date

Sign up for project emails [here](#). Access more project info, a weekly list of planned closures, and the project webcam at [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/Genesee](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/Genesee)



Crews pour concrete to create the new bridge deck



A new retaining wall being built along the northbound on-ramp

### Construction Timeline:



### For Detailed Project Information

**Website** [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/Genesee](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/Genesee)  
**Email** [I-5Genesee@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](mailto:I-5Genesee@KeepSanDiegoMoving.com)  
**Hotline** (888) 720-9321 TTY: (619) 699-1904

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## New Bike Path Will Connect Sorrento Valley, UC San Diego, Hospitals, and Nearby Businesses

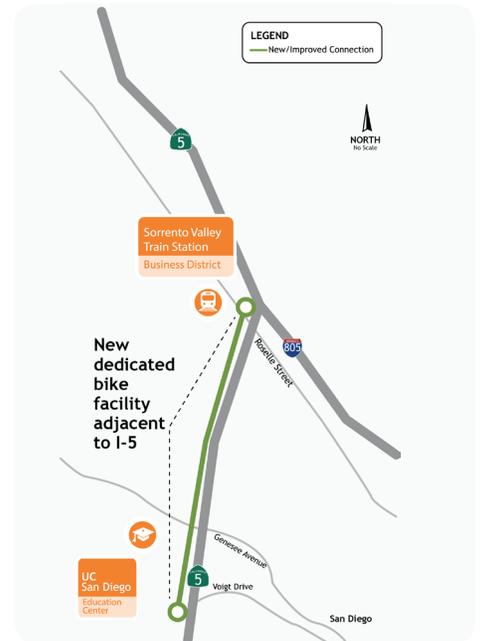
A key component of the I-5/Genesee Avenue Interchange Project is the planned bike path on the west side of I-5. Crews are preparing a new retaining wall just west of the freeway in advance of building this improvement.

Currently, people on bikes must use the shoulder on I-5 to travel between Roselle Street/Sorrento Valley Road, Genesee Avenue, and Voigt Drive. When the new bike path is complete, bicyclists and pedestrians will be able to travel in both directions between these points on a separate path that is elevated and passes over Genesee Avenue. Those who wish to go east or west on Genesee Avenue will be able to exit the path without crossing Genesee Avenue traffic.

The path will improve an important connection between the Sorrento Valley COASTER Station and a large number of employers in the Torrey Pines and Golden Triangle area. This unique addition will support the future North Coast Corridor bike network, provide alternative transportation choices, and encourage more people to #GObyBIKESd.



Artistic rendering of new bike path; connecting the first and last mile of a commute and place of employment



The path will improve an important connection between the Sorrento Valley COASTER Station and UC San Diego



### DID YOU KNOW?

As mitigation for the I-5/ Genesee Avenue Interchange Project, SANDAG and Caltrans purchased 21 acres across two habitat restoration sites in Carmel Valley, known as Deer Canyon and Deer Canyon Uplands. Read more about the region-wide Environmental Mitigation Program at [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/EMP](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/EMP).



## Greening the Interchange After Construction

Early in 2015, vegetation and other landscaping around the construction zone was removed to accommodate the future infrastructure and the safe movement of crews and heavy equipment around the job site. Caltrans will replant the area around the interchange with native, drought-tolerant plants, such as Lemonade Berry, Buckwheat, Cleveland Sage, Coast Sunflowers, and Torrey Pines. Over 600 trees will be planted. The majority of the new landscaping will be irrigated with reclaimed water, aligning with Caltrans' policy on planting and water conservation.



Lemonade Berry

## A Glimpse into the Golden Triangle Area Improvements

The I-5/Genesee Interchange Project is one of several major transportation improvements in progress in the Golden Triangle area. Here's a glimpse of other projects improving mobility in the community. Facilities for rail, local transit, bikes, and pedestrians will be enhanced alongside highway improvements providing multiple transportation choices for Golden Triangle residents, commuters, and employers.

The list on the left of the map is a snapshot of completed, in progress, and upcoming projects. In addition to the I-5/Genesee Interchange Project, the I-805 North Express Lanes Project is also in construction. On the horizon, the Mid-Coast Trolley construction is anticipated to start in fall 2016.

SANDAG and Caltrans have joined together to provide a centralized source

of construction information for these projects and offer transportation solutions at [ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com). Learn more about how this comprehensive web portal connects you to these projects and find the tools that can help you with your commute during construction on the next page.

## »»» A Glimpse into the Golden Triangle Area Improvements\*

### Highway

- 1 I-805/Carroll Canyon DAR**
  - South-Facing DAR: Anticipated Completion 2016
  - North-Facing DAR: Completed 2014
- 2 I-5/Genesee Avenue Interchange Project**  
Anticipated Completion 2017
- 3 I-805 Carpool Lanes**  
Anticipated Completion 2016

### Rail

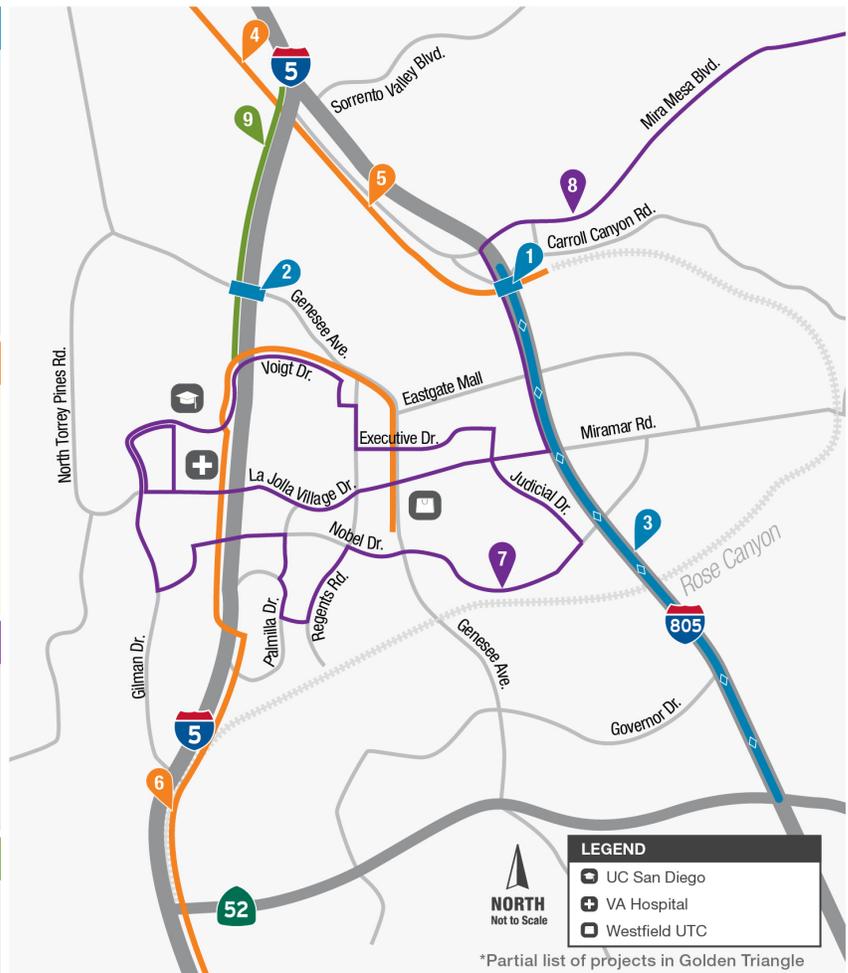
- 4 Sorrento Valley Double Track**  
Completed 2015
- 5 Sorrento to Miramar Double Track Phase 1**  
Completed 2014
- 6 Mid-Coast Trolley**  
Anticipated Completion 2021

### Bus

- 7 SuperLoop Rapid**  
Planned Improvements 2017
- 8 Rapid 237**  
Completed 2014

### Bike/Pedestrian

- 9 Bike/Pedestrian Path**  
Anticipated Completion 2017



\*Partial list of projects in Golden Triangle

Golden Triangle Area Improvements Map

## Shift San Diego – Find Your Change in Direction

If you live, work, or attend school in the Golden Triangle area, you may have seen a “Shift” banner or message. You may have also seen Shift included on the I-5/Genesee Avenue or I-805 North Project email updates. What exactly is Shift?

[ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com) is your resource for Golden Triangle area construction projects and transportation choices. The Golden Triangle will see a number of construction projects to improve transportation over the next several years. Shift consolidates project information, construction notices, and new tools in a centralized location — making it easier to find local transportation information you need to know.

[ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com) has new tools and features:

- An interactive map
- A multi-modal trip planner
- Project and commuter spotlights
- Mobile and tablet friendly



Bookmark [ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com) and check out traffic before your commute to or from work. Real-time traffic is a brand new feature of the interactive map. You can also explore your travel choices that could help you leave your car at home. Make Shift your go-to Golden Triangle commuting resource today. Shift – it’s a change in direction.



### Spotlight on a Golden Triangle Vanpooler

If your commute is longer than 20 miles and you have a consistent work schedule, vanpooling is a great commute choice. You can recoup time by working, reading, or texting while someone else drives. Best of all, with the SANDAG iCommute program, the average vanpooler spends just \$100 a month. Savannah Rogers was commuting over 75 miles round-trip daily, from South County to the Golden Triangle.

*“Joining the vanpool has been an amazing experience. Not only do I get to spend my driving time with awesome people; I save money while doing so! The van is very comfortable and roomy with all the bells and whistles needed for commuting in city traffic.”* Rogers said.

Learn more about vanpooling and other transportation resources at: [ShiftSanDiego.com/GoldenTriangleCommuter](http://ShiftSanDiego.com/GoldenTriangleCommuter)



Savannah Rogers is a vanpooler in the Golden Triangle



Access real-time traffic on [ShiftSanDiego.com](http://ShiftSanDiego.com)