



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Throughout the Grade Separation Project, the City has made every effort to protect the residents of Fremont as well as the local environment. Some of these efforts include the use of

special construction equipment to reduce noise impacts, watering the project area to reduce dust, and protecting the storm drains from sediment and construction debris.

Other behind-the-scenes efforts included:

- Protecting and relocating California tiger salamanders, a threatened species, found on the project to a new habitat

- Planting two new trees for every tree removed on the project
- Creating new wetland habitat on a two-to-one ratio for loss of wetland in the project area
- Remediation of the soils in the abandoned Union Pacific Railroad from Paseo Padre Parkway to Washington Boulevard for a future pedestrian/bicycle trail
- Relocating the historic palm trees in the historical Gallegos Winery away from the new roadway

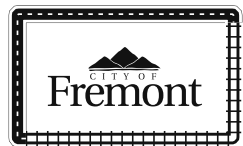
These efforts have been an important and integral part of the Grade Separation Project and the City's commitment to protecting our environment and the quality of life in Fremont.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The City of Fremont is committed to providing advance notice of traffic changes and construction activities through mailed updates, street signage and information on the project Web site. If you would like to receive construction updates via e-mail, please provide us with your e-mail address. For more information, questions or to sign up on the mailing list:

Visit: www.fremontgradesep.com **Call:** (510) 273-2488 **E-mail:** info@fremontgradesep.com

The City of Fremont appreciates your patience and cooperation during this important construction project.



WASHINGTON BOULEVARD/PASEO PADRE PARKWAY GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT

THE LINK | SUMMER 2009

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Summer 2009



GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT

THE LINK

GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT FINISHING IN RECORD TIME

Moving full steam ahead, the construction team for the Grade Separation Project completed construction of the new Washington Boulevard Bridge overpass in April and expects to open the new Paseo Padre Parkway underpass this July. Although this project took nearly 15 years to plan, design and secure funding, the main construction that began just two years ago is now nearing completion. The project is expected to be finished by the end of the year, almost one year ahead of schedule.

When finished, the project will provide a substantial improvement to the City's long-term infrastructure needs, including increased safety, decreased traffic congestion and an improvement to the Bay Area regional transit system as the project paves the way for BART to extend its reach to the Warm Springs area and in the future to San Jose.

The project also includes several other "side benefits" to the area, such as fixing drainage and flooding problems and environmental restoration that will benefit the community and local ecosystem over the long term.

Read inside for more information about the remaining work required to complete this project.



New Washington Boulevard Bridge Overpass

NEW PASEO PADRE PARKWAY UNDERPASS TO OPEN IN JULY

The new Paseo Padre Parkway underpass is expected to open to traffic in mid-July 2009. When the underpass first opens, there will be one lane of traffic in each direction. The inside lanes, next to the center divide, will be used as staging while landscaping work in the median is taking place. In this stage, only the south sidewalk will be open to pedestrians as the north sidewalk also is used as a staging area for landscaping behind the north sidewalk and retaining walls. Once the landscaping is completed in September 2009, all lanes of the new underpass and both sidewalks will be opened to traffic and pedestrians.

NO MORE STOPPING FOR TRAINS!

When the new underpass opens and traffic is shifted from the Paseo Padre Parkway detour road to the new underpass, motorists and pedestrians will no longer need to stop and wait at the railroad crossing for trains to pass.



Construction of Paseo Padre Parkway underpass nearing completion

HOURS OF OPERATION

Construction hours in the area will continue to occur from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays.



Read This Newsletter for Important Information About the Grade Separation Project!

www.fremontgradesep.com

WASHINGTON BRIDGE OVERPASS: AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, UNDER BUDGET

RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY CELEBRATES BRIDGE OPENING

In April and May, the new Washington Boulevard Bridge and the new, elevated Osgood and Driscoll roads opened to traffic, marking a major milestone in the Grade Separation Project as motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists can now travel over the railroad tracks on the new bridge. The project is a year ahead of schedule and is expected to finish under budget.



New Washington Boulevard Bridge Overpass

The City celebrated the milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 2 at which several elected officials spoke to commemorate the occasion.

Speakers acknowledged how the new 250-foot bridge between Bruce Drive and Roberts Avenue will provide a faster, safer and smoother trip for cars, pedestrians and bicycles on Washington



Aerial view of new Washington Boulevard Bridge Overpass under construction

Boulevard and will enable trains to pass unimpeded through the area. In addition, the project will pave the way for the BART Warm Springs Extension Project, which was recently awarded funds from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. This funding will enable BART to move forward with the start of the first phase of construction this fall.

The ceremony ended with the cutting of the ribbon strung across the overpass, followed by elected officials driving over the new bridge in two of the City's hybrid vehicles.

To prepare for the bridge opening, construction crews worked around the clock the weekend of April 3 and managed the complex staging and completion of the transfer of traffic onto the bridge and the new roadways. As soon as the Washington Boulevard detour traffic was moved onto the new roadway, the construction crew started building the embankment over the abandoned detour road to construct the new Driscoll Road. In less than two months, the Driscoll Road connection to the new Washington Boulevard/Osgood Road intersection was completed and opened to traffic on May 28, 2009.



Elected officials first to drive on new bridge

THE REMAINING WORK

ROAD WIDENING AT WASHINGTON BOULEVARD AND DRISCOLL AND OSGOOD ROADS

The final activities in the Washington Boulevard area include constructing the remaining portion of the retaining walls along the west side of Driscoll and Osgood roads to allow for the full widening of the new elevated roadways from one lane to two lanes in each direction. The contractor also will complete the remaining embankment and widen the roadway on the north side of Washington Boulevard at the east and west ends, where the detour road previously connected to the roadway. This will provide room to construct new turning lanes from Washington Boulevard to Driscoll and Osgood roads and straighten out the Washington Boulevard alignment approaching Roberts Avenue. Other activities include removing the remaining detour roads and adding landscaping. All construction for the Washington Boulevard Overpass Project is expected to be complete by this fall, almost one year ahead of schedule!

PASEO PADRE PARKWAY LANDSCAPING AND DETOUR ROAD

After two lanes of the new roadway open in July, landscaping work will continue. When the landscaping is completed, work will continue on the full roadway, until two lanes of traffic are open in each direction, in September 2009.

Once traffic has been shifted off the Paseo Padre Parkway detour road, portions of the detour road will be converted into a maintenance access road for use by BART, the Flood Control District, the Water District, the City and other utility companies.

UTILITY WORK

The contractor and utility companies have completed the majority of work to relocate the fiber optic, water, telephone, electrical, gas and cable lines in the area to make room for construction activities. The final activities include providing infrastructure to aid PG&E, Comcast and AT&T in undergrounding their overhead lines as part of the City's Washington Boulevard Underground District requirements. The contractor will install the required underground infrastructure by September and the utility companies should complete their work to install the wires and cables and remove the poles by the end of the year.



Union Pacific train travelling on new bridge over Paseo Padre Parkway underpass

NO MORE TRAIN HORNS!

Residents will soon be sleeping more soundly. Once the detour roads are completely removed at both Washington Boulevard and Paseo Padre Parkway, Union Pacific Railroad will remove its railroad crossing panels and gates. After this occurs, the bells will stop ringing at the crossing and trains will no

longer need to sound their horns as the roadways will be fully grade separated. This milestone is expected to be completed by September 2009.

OVERVIEW SCHEDULE OF REMAINING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

The construction schedule is approximate and subject to change pending weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

TIMEFRAME	ACTIVITY
July 2009	Open Paseo Padre Parkway with one lane of traffic in each direction
July to September 2009	1) Complete landscaping work throughout project 2) Widen roadways at Paseo Padre Parkway, Washington Boulevard and Osgood and Driscoll roads 3) Convert detour road into new maintenance road at Paseo Padre Parkway and remove detour roads in Washington Boulevard area
September 2009	Widening work complete; Full roadways to open at Paseo Padre Parkway and Washington Boulevard area; UP to remove railroad crossings and gates; Trains to stop blowing horns
October 2009	Grade Separation Project complete
End of 2009	Utilities complete undergrounding of utility poles