



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** April 12, 2017  
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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### **RCTC Awards Design-Build Contract for I-15 Widening**

Early next year, construction begins on a \$455 million project to add two Express Lanes in each direction along 15 miles of Interstate 15 (I-15) in Northwest Riverside County. Today, a significant milestone in advancing the project took place when the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) awarded a \$263.4 million design-build contract to Skanska-Ames, a Joint Venture.

The I-15 Express Lanes Project adds two tolled, express lanes between State Route 60 and Cajalco Road. When complete, it will become an important north/south corridor in Riverside County's network of toll lanes and will join the recently-completed 91 Express Lanes extension in Corona.

Unlike the 91 Express Lanes project, the I-15 Express Lanes will not require extensive land acquisition and the majority of construction work will take place in the undeveloped part of the freeway median, thus minimizing work-related impacts on local residents and businesses. The new Express Lanes facility travels through the cities of Jurupa Valley, Eastvale, Norco and Corona as well as nearby unincorporated communities in Riverside County.

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## **Northwest Riverside County to see \$1 billion for transportation projects, Page 2**

The contract award for the I-15 comes on the heels of recent legislative action to appropriate \$427 million for a number of construction projects nearby the I-15 including an improved interchange at Limonite Avenue and another direct connector between the 91 and I-15.

“Over the next five years there will be over a billion dollars in transportation in Riverside County,” said Riverside County Supervisor John Tavaglione who also serves as RCTC Chairman. “That kind of investment creates thousands of quality jobs and provides a huge shot in the arm for the local economy.”

“I am thrilled to have Skanska-Ames on board and am especially appreciative of the additional state funding that we are receiving from Senate Bill 132 and the work of Senator Roth and Assemblywoman Cervantes.”

Senate Bill 132 appropriates \$427 million in expanded gas tax revenue for five projects known as the Riverside County Transportation Efficiency Corridor. The projects include a new toll connector between the eastbound 91 and the Northbound I-15, widening of the Hamner Street Bridge, railroad grade separations at Jurupa Avenue and McKinley Street and interchange improvements at Limonite Avenue and the I-15.

“All of the funding for the freeway, interchange and bridge projects provide needed mobility benefits along the I-15 Commuter Corridor and the railroad grade separations are important freight investments that will save lives and protect local communities,” Supervisor Tavaglione said.

“I am especially appreciative of the additional state funding that we are receiving from Senate Bill 132 and the work of Senator Roth and Assemblywoman Cervantes.”

*For more information on the I-15 Express Lanes Improvement Project, please see <http://i15project.info>.*

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