



DEPARTMENT OF  
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## Media Advisory

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### *Richards to Railyards Access Project*

#### **City at finish line of improving Richards Boulevard at I-5; Event hosted by City and River District will mark official opening**

The Department of Transportation will unveil its \$10 million dollar project that reduces traffic congestion and makes it easier to walk and bicycle in the River District at the vicinity of Richards Boulevard and I-5 at 10 a.m., Mon., June 4.

The project, started last July, widened the freeway off-ramps and will improve traffic circulation at Richards Boulevard, Bercut Drive and Jibboom Street. Its completion comes as Township 9 at the River District firms up financing on a five-story, 118-unit, mixed-use housing project, and Regional Transit gets ready to open the first of two light rail stations as part of its future 13-mile Green Line. The Green Line will eventually extend light rail from the River District to the airport.

Drivers can expect better traffic circulation. The project improves the queuing of traffic on Richards Boulevard as drivers turn left onto the southbound on-ramp during peak times. It also reduces the length of time traffic is sitting on the I-5 Richards Boulevard off-ramps.

The project also added two lanes and landscaping within the interchange, bike lanes, sidewalks and planter strips to Bercut Drive and Jibboom Street and extended Bercut Drive south from the River District into the Railyards.

The finishing touches on the project are the architectural wall treatments on both of the walls of the Richards Boulevard underpass. Designed by City Senior Urban Designer Greg Taylor, the treatment celebrates the confluence of the nearby Sacramento and American rivers and serves as a gateway feature to the River District. A colored light display will highlight the wall's ripples and wave forms. The colored lights and timing will be controlled remotely and can be changed with the seasons.

All the improvements are considered “interim” as more elaborate and expansive intersection and roadway changes are planned after 2020, as the River District and Railyards are built out.

The project is funded through the Sacramento County Measure A half cent sales tax and federal transportation funds.

**Who:** Mayor Kevin Johnson, Councilmembers Steve Cohn and Rob Fong, the City’s project team and River District business and community members.

**What:** Grand opening event of the Richards to Railyards Access Project. The event will include the first official walk-through of all the improvements and a demo of the light show that will highlight the underpass walls.

**When:** Mon., June 4, 10 a.m.

**Where:** The northwest corner of Richards Boulevard and the I-5 northbound on-ramp. Look for parking in the vicinity of the north side of Bercut and Richards Boulevard and walk to the event.

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