

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2007
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ROUTE 87 HOV LANES (NORTHBOUND & SOUTHBOUND) PROJECTS COMPLETED

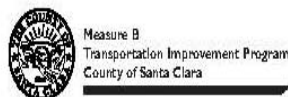
Final Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Wednesday

Santa Clara County - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, The County of Santa Clara and The City of San Jose will host a ribbon cutting ceremony **on Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at 10 AM on the Virginia Street overcrossing**, to celebrate the successful interagency partnership that brought about a decade of improvements to Route 87, most recently the completion of the northbound and southbound HOV lanes. Representatives from each agency will welcome Senator Joe Simitian, U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, Assemblyman Jim Beall and Carl Guardino, President and CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

“We are pleased to share the spotlight with this group and celebrate our successful collaborative efforts and promote continued partnerships to keep meeting the transportation demands of Santa Clara County”, said Bijan Sartipi, District 4 Director.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss also looks forward to sharing the stage to recognize meaningful partnerships and what they can achieve. “With a great sense of accomplishment, we celebrate this project opening and recognize the agency partnerships that delivered this final phase of State Route 87 and one of the last projects in the 1996 Measure B transportation improvement program”.

Senator Joe Simitian will make a special presentation to the widow of Lewis E. Platt, for whom a segment of Route 87 will be named. “It is a fact in Santa Clara County that you can’t talk about any success in bringing about changes to Route 87 without mentioning Lew Platt”, said Senator Simitian. “His efforts championed the passage of Measures A and B in 1996 that made many road and rail improvements in Santa Clara County possible, including the Route 87 HOV Lanes”.



“Lew Platt captured the community spirit and can-do attitude we call Silicon Valley,” said Silicon Valley Leadership Group CEO Carl Guardino. “When he stepped forward to help lead the Measure A and B campaign in 1996 for the Leadership Group, he underscored once again that the Valley’s best CEOs are not only great employers, they are committed and compassionate community citizens.”

Route 87 serves as a major commute route between the residential areas of southern San Jose and the industrial areas of northern and eastern Santa Clara County. Now, with the completion of these two HOV projects, Route 87 is a 6-lane facility with HOV lanes for its’ entire length between U.S. 101 and State Route 85. The combined cost of the two projects was \$119.2 million.

“It’s projects like these that tackle traffic congestion issues, provide better commute options and contribute to the economic engine of our Valley”, said VTA Board of Director Chairperson Dean Chu, who will also speak at the ribbon cutting ceremony. The event site is the Virginia Street overcrossing above Route 87 and is easily accessed by taking VTA’s Alum Rock/Santa Teresa train to the Virginia Street station.



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