



PRESS RELEASE

Today's Date: Thursday, July 2, 2009

District: District 6 – Fresno

Contact: Gloria Rodriguez

Phone: (559) 444-2409

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY HELD TODAY IN MENDOTA

FRESNO-The California Department of Transportation Caltrans, District 6 Fresno, in partnership with the City of Mendota, Fresno County and Council of Fresno County Governments held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony today at 10:30 a.m. at the Caltrans Maintenance Yard located within the City of Mendota.

This \$9.1 million dollar **State Route 180 Mendota East Widening** construction project was completed by RGW Construction, Inc., Livermore, CA and was completed ahead of schedule.

This improvement project located on State Route 180 just east of the City of Mendota from Belmont Avenue to the Whitesbridge San Joaquin Valley Railroad crossing is a welcome addition for the County, City of Mendota, residents and businesses. As a result, almost 3-miles of new roadway now provide improved mobility for east-west travelers, while increasing motorist safety.

Project improvements included the rehabilitation of the existing roadway, widening the shoulders, widening the north side of the two Kings Slough Bridges and widening the north side of the Kings Slough Bridge. In addition, this project included adding a left turn channelization lane from westbound State Route 180 to Panoche Road. In order to alleviate previous flooding issues within the project limits, a section of the roadway was raised, drainage ditches were placed on both sides of the highway and additional cross culverts and other drainage improvements were made. This improvement project was made possible by funding sources received from the Federal Government and the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP).

Event speakers were: **Malcolm Dougherty**, Caltrans District 6 Director; **Robert Silva**, Mayor of Mendota; **Congressman Jim Costa**, 20th District; **Debra Tom** Representative for Assemblyman, Juan Arambula, 31st District; **David Castenada**, President, Mendota Chamber of Commerce.

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