



NEWS RELEASE

Date: April 19 2010
District: 06
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fresno – Caltrans today announced **the beginning of construction for the State Route 41 Shields/McKinley Avenues Ramp Metering System Project**, financed **entirely** by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). This project and many others around the state are being completed sooner than expected thanks to Governor Schwarzenegger's efforts to expedite Recovery Act funding.

"My Administration is working hand-in-hand with President Obama's team to ensure stimulus dollars are pumped into California quickly and responsibly to stimulate the economy and in this instance - invest in the future of California's transportation infrastructure," said Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

This project will widen the southbound (SB) on-ramps at McKinley and Shields Avenues and install three Ramp-Metering Systems (RMS). One RMS will be located on the SB loop on –ramp of McKinley Avenue and the other two at Shields Avenue SB loop and direct on-ramps. The project also includes replacement of curb and gutter, sidewalk, resurfacing and re-striping of all three ramps.

Director Iwasaki said, "This project and others like it, help us keep communities financially secure and growing while decreasing congestion on local freeways."

Quote from Ramon Medina Construction Manager for Granite Construction:

"In this economy, these ARRA funded projects not only provide Granite Company workforce the ability to provide for their families, but Granite Construction is a "Team Company" and everyone on our team benefits from these Federal Dollars, from the exec's to our employees working out in the field shoveling dirt."

"Under Governor Schwarzenegger's leadership, California leads the nation with \$2.54 billion in Recovery Act funding obligated to 912 highway, local street, and job training transportation projects statewide. For more information on the Recovery Act visit: <http://recovery.ca.gov/>"

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