



# NEWS RELEASE

**Today's Date:** October 17, 2013  
**District:** 10 - Stockton  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **TRAFFIC ADVISORY STATE ROUTE 99 FROM BUCHANAN HOLLOW ROAD TO CHILDS AVENUE IN MERCED COUNTY**

**Merced County** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will open the new #1 (left) lane on northbound State Route 99 (SR-99) from south of Childs Avenue to north of McHenry Road on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at 6:00 a.m. The #1 (left) lane was constructed as part of the SR-99 Mission Avenue Interchange Freeway Project, which was completed on March 12, 2008. The \$73.3 million project converted approximately two miles of SR-99 from a four-lane expressway to a six-lane freeway from McHenry Road to Childs Avenue, and constructed a full interchange at Mission Avenue.

As part of the new alignment for SR-99, Caltrans will perform a traffic switch from the existing northbound SR-99 lanes to the new northbound SR-99 lanes. Crews will open the #2 (middle) and #3 (right) lanes on northbound SR-99 from north of McHenry Road to north of Buchanan Hollow Road on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, at 6:00 a.m.

Crews will also perform striping beginning Sunday, October 20, 2013, through Friday, October 25, 2013, from 7:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. Work will occur as follows:

- The left shoulder and #1 (left) lane on northbound SR-99 from McHenry Road to Colony Slough (past Gerard Avenue) will close beginning Sunday, October 20, 2013, through Friday, October 25, 2013, from 7:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.;
- The #1 (left) lane on northbound SR-99 from Sandy Mush Road to Deadman Creek Bridge (past Athlone Road) will close beginning Monday, October 21, 2013, through Wednesday, October 23, 2013, from 7:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.

Motorists should expect 15 minute delays. Alternate routes should be taken whenever possible.

This work is scheduled to begin as listed, but is subject to change due to traffic incidents, weather, availability of equipment and/ or materials, and construction related issues.

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This work is part of the \$128 million SR-99 Arboleda Drive Freeway Project which began on June 27, 2012. The project will construct a new interchange at Arboleda Road and upgrade SR-99 from a four-lane expressway to a six-lane freeway on a seven-mile section just south of Merced between Buchanan Hollow Road and the Miles Creek Overflow. The project received approximately \$92 million from Proposition 1B, the \$19.9 billion transportation bond approved by voters in 2006; and will ease congestion, improve mobility, decrease travel times, improve operations, and enhance safety for both commute and recreational traffic in Merced County. The project is anticipated to be completed in late 2015.

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For the safety of workers and other motorists, please Slow For the Cone Zone.

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