



THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE SEISMIC SAFETY PROJECTS

CALTRANS

BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

BAY BRIDGE LABOR DAY WEEKEND CLOSURE TO START THURSDAY EVENING

Extra Time Essential to Ensure Worker and Public Safety

SAN FRANCISCO, June 5, 2009 – The Labor Day weekend closure of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge will begin at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 3. The bridge will reopen by 5 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8 as Caltrans completes an essential and unprecedented construction feat.

While the bridge is closed, a 300-foot-long double-deck section of the East Span will be cut and rolled out of the way, 150-feet above Yerba Buena Island (YBI). A new double-deck section will be slid into place to connect the bridge with a detour that will route traffic off the existing tunnel approach, allowing crews to connect the new East Span to the YBI tunnel.

During the closure, motorists are encouraged to take public transit and/or alternate driving routes. The latest information on transportation alternatives is at 511.org.

Worker and public safety is the paramount priority. This year's construction is more susceptible to weather than previous closure-related work in 2006 and 2007. The Thursday night start should provide enough time to complete this complex operation safely if weather becomes a concern.

The public can learn more about the bridge closure, the vital seismic retrofit work being performed, and transportation alternatives at www.BayBridgeInfo.org.

The \$5.7 billion Bay Bridge East Span replacement is scheduled for completion in 2013. It is part of the \$8.7 billion Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program overseen by the Toll Bridge Program Oversight Committee, which includes Caltrans, the Bay Area Toll Authority and the California Transportation Commission.

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