



NEWS

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MTA CALLS OPENING OF CARPOOL LANE ON SAN DIEGO FREEWAY A MAJOR TRANSPORTATION MILESTONE FOR THE REGION

MTA praised the opening of the carpool lane along the San Diego Freeway from the Ventura Freeway to the Golden State Freeway in the San Fernando Valley, calling it a major transportation milestone for the region.

"The completion of this carpool lane in the San Fernando Valley represents over 100 miles of car and van pool lanes now in existence along Southland freeways," said MTA Board Chairman Larry Zarian. "MTA is proud to be a part of this major transportation milestone."

The recently opened carpool lane on the San Diego Freeway stretches just over 10 miles and provides a north/south link, crossing almost the entire width of the San Fernando Valley.

The San Diego Freeway carpool lane, built by Caltrans, was funded through MTA's Call for Projects program. The project cost \$26.1 million, of which, \$23.1 million was funded by MTA.

"Completion of this project illustrates to Los Angeles taxpayers another tangible result of their sales tax dollars at work improving transportation mobility," said MTA Chief Executive Officer Joseph E. Drew.

"Carpool lanes provide a tremendous incentive for drivers to share a ride as users can expect to save at least a minute per mile during rush hours over travelers using regular lanes along the freeway," said Drew.

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The San Fernando Valley will receive additional congestion relief when carpool lanes currently under construction on the 118 Freeway open from the Ventura County line to Route 5. This will add an additional 11.4 miles of carpool lanes before the end of the year.

In addition, motorists also benefit from other carpool lanes that opened recently, including 6.1 miles on the 170 Freeway and 12.9 miles on the 134 Freeway.

"The addition of this new carpool lane reaffirms MTA's commitment to building and operating a countywide transportation system that includes buses, rail, bikeways and highway improvements," said Zarian.

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