



Next Phases of I-215 Widening Project Break Ground

On September 14, the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) held a ceremonial groundbreaking for Phases 3 & 4 of the I-215 Widening Project, which drew national attention as the country's first \$100 million plus stimulus funded road improvement project to begin construction.

Among the more than 200 people in attendance were Administrator Victor Mendez, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and Dale Bonner, State of California Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, who celebrated the jobs that will be created as a result of the \$128 million received from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Earlier this year, SANBAG led an Inland Empire effort, supported by agencies and elected officials that successfully secured ARRA funding totaling \$128 million for Phase 3 work. It is one of only six projects in the U.S. that received more than \$100 million in stimulus funding.



Phases 3 & 4 of the project spans from Rialto Avenue to University Parkway and includes connectors from I-215 to State Route 210. The project is expected to be completed by 2014. For more information on the I-215 Widening Project, please visit www.sanbag.ca.gov.

Para información en español:

sobre planes de revitalizar el centro de San Bernardino, por favor de contactar a Roberto Chevez por teléfono, 909-886-8188, o por correo electrónico, rchevez@westboandcommunications.com



Plan View of Transit Village as depicted in Vision/Action Plan

Implementing the Vision: Two New Planning Efforts Help Revitalize Downtown

Downtown San Bernardino revitalization efforts gains momentum as two important projects move forward in the planning process.

Intermodal Transit Station and TOD Village

Omnitrans has started their visioning effort for an Intermodal Transit Station and Village for Downtown San Bernardino. The Visioning Project, which will include community input, will be completed in two phases. The first phase is the development a preferred alternative followed by a preliminary design and engineering phase.

Public outreach for this Visioning effort is scheduled to begin this month. A "Transit Symposium", in collaboration with the Leonard Transportation Center, will take place at the Obershaw Dining Facility, Commons Building, on the campus of California State University, San Bernardino, on November 6, 2009, 7:30 am – 6 pm.

Plans for a transit station and TOD village have been in the works for years. The proposed five acre site is located just south of Rialto Avenue, between E and F Streets. The station will serve as a transfer point for bus routes serving the Downtown area, future connections to the sbX Bus Rapid Transit system, a proposed Metrolink extension, and a proposed Redlands Passenger Light Rail System. The TOD village would feature mixed-use developments such as housing, commercial and retail, office and institutional uses, and provide job opportunities.

The Visioning Project, which will take up to a year, will be performed by a team of planning, transportation and urban design professionals

from Cooper Carry. Public input will be taken into consideration as recommendations for the Intermodal Transit Station and TOD Village are developed. Improving mobility and access in Downtown and the introduction of mixed-use developments will serve as economic catalysts for revitalization efforts. For more information, contact Brett Clavio, Project Manager, Omnitrans, at (909) 379-7256, or visit the Web page at www.omnitrans.org.

Downtown Water Study

The second project moving forward is being led by the Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA). Funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Agency, IVDA is working on preliminary design and engineering plans to mitigate high ground water and liquefaction hazards associated with development in downtown San Bernardino. The study area is bounded by Third Street, Waterman Avenue, Rialto Avenue and Arrowhead Avenue

The project will include a number of tasks that includes community input, the formulation of alternatives, and the preparation of a masterplan which will define the integration of water feature corridors in Downtown San Bernardino. Findings will help identify revitalization opportunities and the infrastructure needed to implement the Downtown Core Vision / Action Plan. The preliminary design and engineering for this project could take less than a year. This project is being led by a team of engineering and planning professionals from PACE Advanced Water Engineering. For more information, contact Alex Estrada, Project Manager, IVDA, at (909) 382-4100.

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Need more information?

Click the link for the Downtown Core Vision / Action Plan at www.sbrda.org. To share your thoughts and ideas, contact Jeffrey Smith, Project Manager, via e-mail at jsmith@sbrda.org



California Theatre Nominated for Prestigious National Register

The City of San Bernardino's historic and iconic California Theatre has been nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is an esteemed list of historical, preserved landmarks in the United States that share authentic components of an area's past.

From its opening in 1928 to the present, the California Theatre has played an integral role in making San Bernardino an entertainment and cultural destination. From 1928 to 1950, the Theatre was a reflection of Hollywood's "Golden Age." During these years, the Fox Film Corporation, which owned and operated the theatre, hosted several movie "world premiers" and screen tests for classics such as "King Kong" and the "Wizard of Oz." to name a few. Film and stage legends such as Clark Gable, Shirley Temple, Will Rodgers and Bob Hope graced the stage or attended premieres at the California Theatre.

The State Historical Resources Commission invites public comments on this nomination in writing or at the October 30, 2009 meeting. Copies of nominations are available by request through the Office of Historic Preservation. Written comments can be sent to: State Historical Resources Commission, P.O. Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001.

Questions or Comments?

The Downtown Core Vision / Action Plan Newsletter is prepared as part of the public outreach effort. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Project Manager:

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Environmental Criteria to be Discussed at Brownfields Workshop

The City of San Bernardino Economic Development Agency (EDA) is currently developing an inventory of potential and actual Brownfields sites contaminated by hazardous substances. A Brownfields site is defined as an abandoned, idle, or under-used industrial or commercial facility where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

A component of this inventory exercise is to engage the public. A Public Workshop has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 28, 6:00 p.m., EDA Boardroom, 201 North E Street, Suite 301, San Bernardino. The focus of this workshop is to discuss criteria for environmental investigation pertaining to the City of San Bernardino Brownfields Grant. For more information, contact Kathleen Robles, Project Manager, Economic Development Agency, at (909) 663-1044, or visit the EDA web page at <http://www.sbrda.org/brownsfield.htm>

81st Season at California Theatre Underway

This month, the 2009-2010 season of the California Theatre kicked off its 81st year of continuous entertainment. This season has a spectacular lineup that includes performances from Wayne Newton, Rick Springfield, Tanya Tucker, Art Garfunkel, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Riverdance, Fred & Ginger, and the Fab Four, to name a few. Classical music director and conductor Carlos Ponti also returns to lead the San Bernardino Symphony. We hope you join us this season. For more information, visit us at www.californiatheatre.net or call (909) 663-2293.



Join Us Wednesdays in October for the Downtown Harvest Market

Building on the very successful Downtown Core Vision community meetings and the recent 20th Annual Route 66 Rendezvous, the City of San Bernardino is working to draw people once again to Downtown by hosting the Downtown Harvest Market every Wednesday in October from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The public can enjoy live music, arts, crafts, food, and purchase fresh produce. The Downtown Harvest Market will be located on Court Street Square between D and E Streets. There is no cost to the public.

In a letter from San Bernardino Mayor Patrick J. Morris to the community, he invited downtown area employers, workers and the public to come out and enjoy this daytime event that will continue building momentum for an active Downtown. For more information on the Downtown Harvest Market and to find out more about the entertainment line-up, please visit www.courtstreetsquare.com.

