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# FAST FORWARD

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

SPRING 2013



## RCTC Selects Atkinson/Walsh as 91 Project Design-Builder

A joint venture team headed by Atkinson Contractors and Walsh Construction Company was selected as the design-builder for the 91 Project in Corona and Riverside. The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) awarded a \$664 million contract to the Atkinson/Walsh team at its May 8 meeting.

The Atkinson/Walsh team, which includes URS as its lead designer, was chosen from a field of four design-builders that were prequalified to submit proposals. The team was selected based on its innovative proposal and competitive price. Atkinson Construction has experience with construction of State Route 210 in Rialto and San Bernardino, widening of Interstate 10 in Redlands and improvements to State Route 22 in Orange County. Representatives from RCTC and partner agencies, including the City of Corona, Orange County Transportation Authority and Caltrans, evaluated the proposals, with oversight by the Federal Highway Administration.

A 9.4% goal has been set for the hiring of disadvantaged businesses to serve as subcontractors for the project. This equates to more than \$62 million in available contracting opportunities for designated disadvantaged business enterprises.



RCTC's contract award paves the way for work to design-build work to begin on the 91 Project. Some early work will be scheduled, including utility relocation and adjustments to property along the roadway. A ceremonial groundbreaking is planned for December, followed by full construction activity in early 2014.

RCTC received legislative approval in 2010 to use a design-build approach to the 91 Project, rather than a traditional design-bid-build approach. By having the same team design and build the project, RCTC expects to speed up delivery by three to four years. The new lanes are scheduled to open in 2017.

## Safety is RCTC's Top Priority

The safety of construction crews and the public is RCTC's highest priority on the 91 Project. Please note these safety reminders:

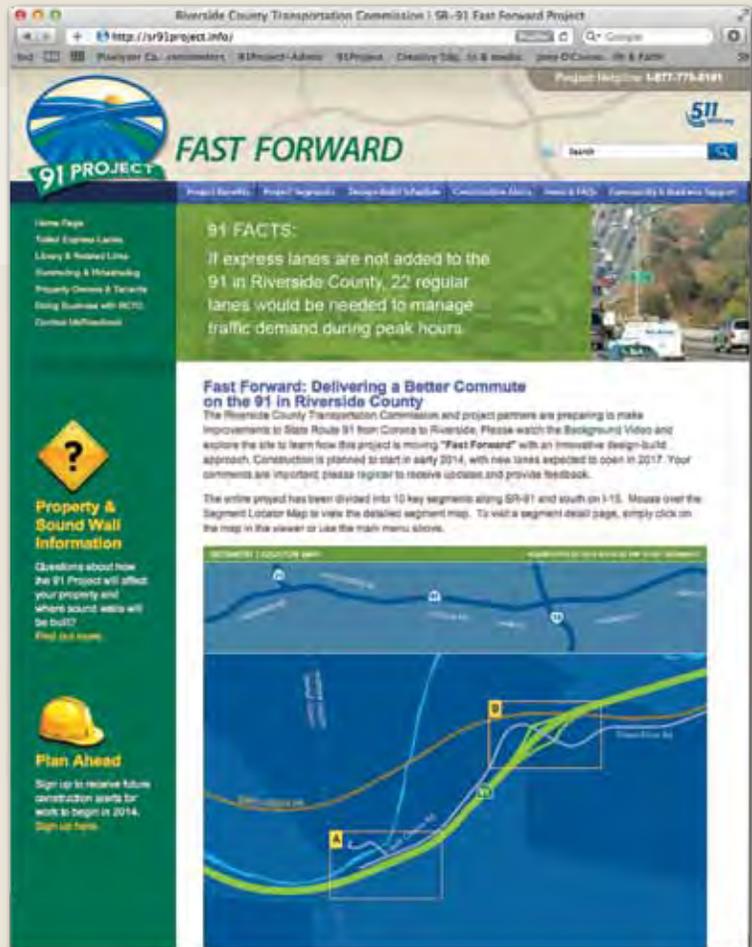
- Slow down and watch for workers and equipment
- Allow extra time to get to work and school
- Be extra careful when driving at night or in the rain
- Avoid use of mobile phones and other distractions

- Watch for closures and follow detours
- Check with RTA and the Corona Cruiser about changes in bus routes
- Watch speed limit reductions and note that fines are doubled in construction areas
- Follow the "Move Over" law and move away from freeway construction work when safe to do so, or slow down

## New Website Offers Early Look at Construction

The 91 website, [sr91project.info](http://sr91project.info), has a new look. Launched in December, the site features interactive maps of “before” and “after” construction images, two new videos and a set of “Frequently Asked Questions” related to tolled express lanes, property purchases and sound walls.

Once construction is under way, viewers can check out Construction Alerts, photos and 91-second videos to learn about the latest project details. Website visitors also can use the “Contact Us/Feedback” page to ask questions, offer suggestions and sign up for Construction Alerts.



## Register to Receive Construction Alerts

With construction starting soon, residents, business operators, commuters and other stakeholders can stay connected with the 91 Project by registering to receive electronic Construction Alerts. Use the “Contact Us/Feedback” page of the project website, [sr91project.info](http://sr91project.info), or call the helpline, **877-770-9191**, and leave a message with your name, email address and phone number.

Construction Alerts will be issued approximately once each week, with information about roadway closures, detours, noise or other construction activity. Drivers can save time and frustration by receiving advance notice of these changing conditions near the 91 Project area.

In addition, explore the [IE511.org](http://IE511.org) website or call 511 (877-694-3511 outside of the Inland Empire) for real-time traffic information, bus and train trip planning assistance and carpooling options in the inland empire.

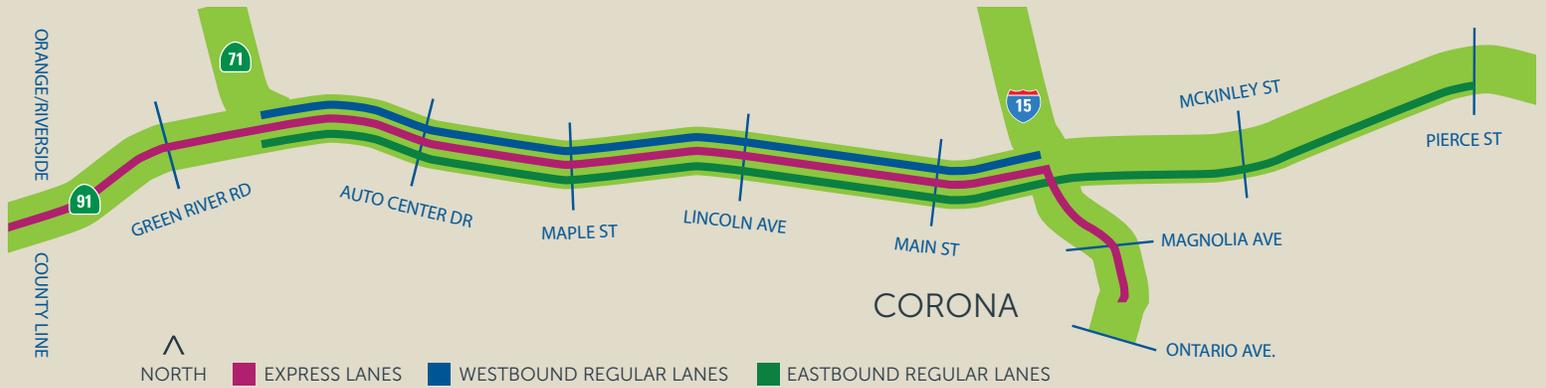
## Early Construction Work Expected Before Year’s End

Although construction of the 91 Project isn’t set to begin until early 2014, community members will see signs of early construction work this summer and fall. Crews will be surveying properties, testing materials, realigning railroad tracks, relocating utilities, restriping lanes and clearing or reconstructing properties to prepare for roadway work.

RCTC is working with utility companies to obtain permits and schedule removal and relocation of power lines, cables and pipes in the project area. This will prevent delays once the project begins full construction next year.

In addition, RCTC has purchased a number of properties and is in the process of relocating some businesses and residents. The Corona Fire Department and Corona Police Department will be using some of the newly purchased properties for training exercises before the structures are removed to make way for construction.

# 91 Project to Add Regular Lanes, Tolled Express Lanes



With a wider 91 on the horizon, drivers will have a choice to use new regular lanes or tolled express lanes between Corona and Riverside. The project will add the following lanes:

- One westbound regular lane between Interstate 15 and State Route 71
- One eastbound regular lane between State Route 71 and Pierce Street
- Two westbound and two eastbound tolled express lanes between the Orange County/Riverside County line and Interstate 15, replacing existing carpool lanes

- A direct express lane connector between eastbound 91 and southbound 15, with a southbound express lane from this connector to Interstate 15 south of Magnolia Avenue
- A direct express lane connector between northbound 15 and westbound 91, with a northbound express lane from Interstate 15 south of Magnolia Avenue to the connector
- Auxiliary lanes at key locations to help with vehicles merging on and off the 91

Vehicles with a transponder will be able to use the tolled express lanes. Vehicles with three or more occupants and a transponder can use the express lanes at no charge, except Mondays-Fridays from 4 pm to 6 pm, when these lanes are half-price for carpoolers. This same pricing structure applies for motorcyclists with a transponder.



## By the Numbers

**90:**

Number of minutes that express lane users may reduce their round-trip commute during peak hours.

**16,200:**

Number of jobs the 91 Project is forecast to create, with about 4,600 related to project construction.

**\$1.3 billion:**

Total project cost, provided by a combination of federal, state and local funds, as well as toll revenue bonds.

**\$664 million:**

Estimated design-build contract amount to be awarded in spring 2013.

**3-4:**

Number of years saved by using a design-build approach, compared to a traditional design-bid-build approach

**280,000:**

Average number of vehicles that travel the 91 each day. This number is expected to grow by another 140,000 by 2035.

**80:**

Percent of existing 91 Express lane users who said they plan to use the new RCTC tolled express lanes.

**877-770-9191:**

The 91 Project's helpline for questions and comments. Calls will be returned by the next business day.

# Property Acquisitions Continuing Along 91

The Riverside County Transportation Commission is continuing to buy properties next to the 91 Project boundaries to prepare for upcoming construction. Some properties are being purchased in full; other purchases are for portions of properties or easements.

RCTC follows all federal and state laws to protect the rights of owners and occupants. Project staff members have been meeting one-on-one with owners and tenants to explain acquisition and relocation details. In most cases, residents will not be asked to move until just before construction begins.

Owners and tenants with questions about how their properties may be affected can call the project helpline at 877-770-9191 or go to the "Contact Us" section of the project website, [sr91project.info](http://sr91project.info). A team member will research questions and respond promptly.



91 Project Manager David Thomas, left, explains during a March 5 meeting how the project will affect some residents of the Corona West Mobile Home Park.

## DOWN THE ROAD

- **Summer/Fall 2013:** Design and preliminary construction begins
- **December 2013:** Ceremonial groundbreaking
- **Early 2014:** Full construction starts
- **2017:** New lanes to open to drivers

### Project Partners:



**Project Helpline:** 877-770-9191

**Website:** [sr91project.info](http://sr91project.info)