



**SOUTH BAY
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER**

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

July 2012 News and Events

First South Bay Measure R Highway Project Completed by Hawthorne

The City of Hawthorne has completed a \$4.1 million improvement project on Rosecrans Avenue at the I-405 Freeway. The highway improvement project is the first to be finished of more than 40 projects programmed for design and construction during the next five years by the South Bay Cities Council of Governments and Metro using Measure R sales tax funds. Project funding for the Rosecrans Ave. project was provided from the Measure R half-cent sales tax for transportation that was approved by LA County voters in November 2008, a Federal Appropriation Grant secured by Congresswoman Maxine Waters, from federal and from local funding sources.

“This project is a wonderful example of the significant operational improvements that are being implemented to benefit South Bay freeway and highway travelers and leverage scarce public resources,” said Ralph Franklin, chair of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments. Hawthorne Mayor Daniel Juarez noted, “The federal, state, regional and local partnership that was effectively managed by the City of Hawthorne is a model for other cities in the South Bay that will be implementing operational improvements over the next 30 years using Measure R and other transportation funding sources.”

The Rosecrans Improvement Project consisted of widening Rosecrans Avenue to add a westbound lane dedicated to receiving traffic that is exiting the southbound I-405 Rosecrans off-ramp. Prior to the project, traffic frequently backed up into the main lanes of the southbound I-405. The extra lane allows many more vehicles to merge more efficiently onto westbound Rosecrans Ave. and clear the off ramp to improve traffic flow on the I-405. In addition a new widened eastbound lane was added to facilitate traffic entering the northbound I-405 on-ramp.

To accomplish the operational improvement goals of the Measure R program, the project included the street widening, construction of new sidewalks with ADA-compliant

ramps at intersections, new curbs and gutters, relocated fire hydrants, street lights and signal controller cabinets and signal poles. The road was reconstructed with concrete curb lanes to handle heavy loads and buses, reconstructed pavement structural layers and a new rubberized asphalt overlay.

New signal control technology was installed to improve the safety of left turn lanes for both westbound and eastbound traffic at Rosecrans Ave. and Isis Ave. as well as Rosecrans Ave. and Inglewood Ave. In addition the latest video detection camera systems for signal control were installed at intersections of Hindry Ave., Ocean Gate Ave. and Inglewood Ave. with Rosecrans Ave. The new signal technology replaces traditional detection loops cut into the pavement which hasten deterioration of the street surface. Bicycle detection and pedestrian countdown signals with improved pedestrian push buttons were also included in the project.