

For Immediate Release

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MCAG Members Celebrate Completion of Highway 99 Project Near Livingston

MERCED, Calif., Feb. 26, 2008 – Over 50 elected officials, Caltrans workers, and local residents celebrated completion of the Livingston Project on Highway 99 last Friday. This was the first of several projects along Highway 99 to be completed in the next five years.

Merced County Association of Governments, as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency, worked with Caltrans to identify and secure funding for projects. MCAG is an association of city and county governments who meet to solve regional problems such as transportation, solid waste, and air quality.

The Highway 99 projects are funded through a special earmark – the only earmark carved out of Prop.1B by Governor Schwarzenegger. It was billed as a landmark achievement for the long-neglected San Joaquin Valley and received widespread bipartisan support in the Valley.

Located in County Districts 1 and 4, the Livingston Project converted two miles of Highway 99 to six lanes, constructed an overcrossing interchange at Sultana Drive/Liberty Avenue, extended Sultana drive, realigned Peach Avenue, and constructed a frontage road.

MCAG's next ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on March 28 for the Mission Interchange in Merced.

Caltrans District 10 Director Kome Ajise introduced the project and the speakers, who included Stacie Dabbs, representing Congressman Cardoza; Kristine Hansen for Senator Jeff Denham; Mary Ward for Assembly Member Cathleen Galgiani; Merced County Supervisor John Pedrozo; and Livingston Mayor Gurpal Samra. Pedrozo and Samra sit on the MCAG Governing Board.

For more information on regional road projects, go to www.mcagov.org or call 723-3153.

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Pictures are located on the next page/pages below





