



# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** May 18, 2012  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### NEW PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD BRIDGE TO OPEN AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

**MONTEBELLO** — Caltrans today announced it expects to open the new Paramount Boulevard Bridge on the Pomona Freeway (State Route 60) by May 21, almost a month ahead of schedule. The bridge was demolished after it was severely damaged by a fuel tanker truck fire on December 14, 2011.

“This project is a prime example of how we responded quickly to an emergency situation and created a modern, new bridge that will benefit motorists for many years to come,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty.

Construction was expected to be finished by mid-June 2012, but due to the expedited processing of \$40 million in emergency federal funds and the speed at which the contractor, Ortiz Enterprises Incorporated, and Caltrans worked, almost a month was shaved off the construction schedule.

“Through an efficient and effective partnership, our engineers and construction crews worked day and night to open this vital bridge,” said Caltrans District 7 Director Michael Miles.

The Federal Highway Administration Emergency Relief Program provided all of the funding for the project, including the initial demolition and clean-up costs, construction of a new bridge, and the realignment of ramps near the bridge on Paramount Boulevard.

The original bridge was built in 1967. The new structure, which meets current state and federal bridge construction standards, will:

- Be 128 feet wide, 32 feet wider than the old bridge.
- Have one additional northbound lane and standard 8-foot shoulder widths. Currently, there are no shoulders on the bridge.
- Include a 14-foot center median and six-foot sidewalks. The existing center median is 12 feet and the sidewalks are five feet.

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