



600 S. Grand Central Parkway · Suite 350, Las Vegas, NV 89106 · 702-676-1500

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RTC, NDOT, federal, state and local leaders officially “sign-off” on \$318M I-11 project

Signatures on concrete culvert signal start of 15-mile project, creating 4,000 new jobs

BOULDER CITY, Nev. – The creation of Interstate 11 (I-11) connecting Las Vegas and Phoenix took a major step forward today as federal, state and local elected officials, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), and community and business leaders celebrated the launch of one of the largest state transportation projects in history.

The event marks the launch of construction on I-11 from I-515 to U.S. 93, a landmark project that will support Nevada’s continued economic prosperity through enhanced commerce, increased tourism and improved connectivity between Nevada and Arizona as well as beyond to Canada and Mexico.

The Boulder City High School band, color guard and cheerleaders, along with Las Vegas showgirls kicked off the festivities with a marching parade to the ceremony. Federal, state and local leaders signed their names on a 4,000lbs concrete box culvert stage that will be installed for drainage under the new interstate. The box culvert was signed with the help of two showgirls who carried an I-11 flag that was staked in front of the stage to officially break ground, and mark the I-11 site.

Designated by the federal government as the future highway, I-11 will connect Las Vegas and Phoenix, the only two cities in the nation with populations of more than one million residents not currently linked by an interstate. In addition to significant economic benefit, upon completion, I-11 will relieve congestion and improve safety for the millions of cars and trucks on the road each year travelling between the two metropolitan areas.

“The southwest region has experienced significant economic growth and increased traffic over the past few years, and I-11 is necessary so more people and goods can travel safely and efficiently between Nevada and Arizona, as well as along the entire trade corridor between Canada and Mexico,” stated U.S. Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid. “Breaking ground on these first 15 miles is a testament to the importance the local, state and federal governments have placed on building transportation infrastructure to support our state’s future and the region’s economic impact.”

For Boulder City, I-11 will relieve traffic congestion that primarily results from heavy commercial trucking en route to and from Arizona. It will also improve the cost and efficiency to move goods through the area. Estimates place the drive time savings at a minimum of 30 minutes from the Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge to Henderson due to higher speeds and no traffic backups at signal lights. The saved time is expected to be higher on weekends.

“The construction of I-11 is critical to the continued economic vitality of Nevada,” said Gov. Sandoval. “By improving traffic flow between Las Vegas and Phoenix and providing relief to congested north-south highways like I-5 and I-15, the new I-11 will spur increased trade and commerce, advancing our economic development initiatives and ensuring we remain globally competitive.”

The construction of the project will cost approximately \$318 million and is funded from federal, state and local sources, including Fuel Revenue Indexing. Projected to be completed in 2018, the project will generate approximately 4,000 jobs in the region.



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“Thanks to our local, state and federal partnerships, we are able to construct a historic interstate that will support our state’s future prosperity and create thousands of jobs in an area that has experienced one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation in recent years,” stated State Senator Joe Hardy.

Clark County Commissioner and RTC Chairman Larry Brown added, “Backed in part with Fuel Revenue Indexing funds, this project will provide a great return on our investment. Today is a historic day for transportation in Southern Nevada – after all, it is not every day a new interstate breaks ground.”

In addition to Gov. Sandoval, Sen. Reid, Commissioner Brown, and State Sen. Hardy, the event, held across from the Hoover Dam Lodge, included U.S. Sen. Dean Heller, U.S. Reps. Joe Heck and Crescent Hardy, Nevada Lt. Governor Mark Hutchison, Clark County Commissioner Mary Beth Scow, Boulder City Mayor Roger Tobler, and Federal Highway Administration Acting Administrator Gregory Nadeau.

Construction of the I-11 project will occur in two simultaneous phases coordinated by the RTC and NDOT beginning this spring. The RTC will construct approximately 12.5 miles from I-515 to U.S. 93 near the new Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge. NDOT will build 2.5 miles of roadway improvements from I-515 to U.S. 95. Work on both phases is made possible through a combination of \$22 million in Fuel Revenue Indexing (FRI) funds, \$291 million in federal funds and 5 million in state funding.

The four-lane highway also will showcase scenic areas of Southern Nevada with overlook areas for motorists and wildlife crossings over the roadway.

Prime contractors are Las Vegas Paving for the RTC (Phase 2) and Fisher Sand & Gravel for NDOT (Phase 1). Subcontractors will include local small businesses and women and minority owned enterprises. For more details on the project, please visit the [RTC](#) or [NDOT](#) websites.

About the RTC

The RTC is the transit authority, transportation planning and funding organization and regional traffic management agency for Southern Nevada. The RTC’s vision is to provide a safe, convenient and effective regional transportation system that enhances mobility and air quality for citizens and visitors. The RTC encourages residents and visitors to use a variety of transportation choices to help reduce traffic congestion, clean the air and improve the quality of life in Southern Nevada. For more information, visit rtcsnv.com.

About the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT)

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is a 98-year-old, 1,800 employee public agency that is responsible for the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the 5,400 miles of highway and 1,100 bridges that make up the state highway system. NDOT is overseen by a seven-member Board of Directors, chaired by the governor, and directed by senior staff.

About FRI

This project is paid for, in part, by fuel revenue indexing. Fuel revenue is generated each time a motorist fills up their vehicle with gas. A portion of what they pay at the pump helps fund transportation projects throughout Clark County. The Clark County Commission approved fuel revenue to be tied to the rate of inflation from January 2014 to December 2016. This funding measure will help keep up with material and labor costs, raise \$700 million, fund 199 projects and create 9,000 jobs. For motorists, this averages out to about a dime a day over the next three years. For more information, visit www.rtcsnv.com/fri.



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CAPTION (L to R):

PHOTO 1 - U.S. Sen. Dean Heller, Nevada Lt. Governor Mark Hutchison, U.S. Rep. Crescent Hardy, Clark County Commissioner Mary Beth Scow, Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval, City of Henderson Councilwoman Debra March and Boulder City Mayor Roger Tobler, surrounded showgirls celebrate the I-11 groundbreaking.

PHOTO 2: Nevada Governor Brian Sandoval and RTC General Manager Tina Quigley sign the box culvert stage that will be used at the new interstate.

Photos courtesy of the RTC

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