

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE  
PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD/SR60 OVERPASS**

**Updated January 26, 2012**

Q. How long will the overpass be closed?

**A. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is the state agency responsible for the construction of the overpass. The preconstruction work includes design, geotechnical work, permits and utility relocation. As of January 23, 2012, Caltrans anticipates that construction of the Paramount Boulevard overpass will begin in late February and that the bridge will be operational no later than June 14, 2012.**

Q. What is the City of Montebello doing to help residents get around?

**A. A traffic circulation plan is in place and is posted on the City's website—[www.cityofmontebello.com](http://www.cityofmontebello.com). The City has been in constant consultation with the various responding agencies since this incident occurred. Working with Los Angeles County Public Works, Caltrans and the California Highway Patrol, the City implemented an immediate traffic detour plan. As details of the reconstruction project have taken shape, the City has worked with appropriate agencies to implement a long-term traffic mitigation plan. We are continuing to evaluate and will modify the detour plan as needed to accommodate traffic. City staff continues to participate in meetings with Caltrans, Los Angeles County Public Works and the City of Monterey Park on the design of the overpass and revised detour plans.**

Q. How much will the reconstruction cost the City of Montebello?

**A. The overpass will be rebuilt at no cost to the City. The City will continue to work closely with the Caltrans, the agency responsible for the reconstruction of the overpass, to ensure that the City is not exposed to significant fiscal impacts from this incident. The City and other agencies have already been successful in getting Governor Brown to declare a state of emergency locally because of this incident, which will make available additional funding. As well, the city, county, state and local congressional delegation is working with the federal government to secure access to additional emergency relief funds—\$2 million in federal emergency funds have already been released. It is the City's understanding that the reconstruction of the overpass and all previous emergency activities will be fully reimbursed by the Federal Highway Administration through the Emergency Relief Program provided the work is completed within 180 days of the occurrence of the event that destroyed the overpass.**

Q. How much will it cost to demolish and rebuild the Paramount Boulevard overpass?

**A. Caltrans recently revised its estimate for the total cost of the demolition and replacement of the Paramount Boulevard overpass. Including incentives to the contractor to complete the work as quickly as possible, this all inclusive cost is now estimated to be \$39.3 million.**

Q. Where can I learn more about traffic detours?

**A. Visit our website at [www.cityofmontebello.com](http://www.cityofmontebello.com) or call 511 or visit Metro's Go511 website at [www.go511.com](http://www.go511.com). The key detours to be aware of are:**

- Paramount Boulevard north of SR60: While the Paramount Boulevard Overpass is being reconstructed, the east and west bound freeway on and off-ramps will be accessible to the general public. Note: Access to the south side is available at San Gabriel Boulevard and Wilcox Avenue.**
- Paramount Boulevard south of the SR60: While the Paramount Boulevard Overpass is being reconstructed, the east and west bound SR60 on and off-ramps will be accessible to the general public.**

- **Detour Signs are located at various locations along the northbound lanes on Montebello Boulevard.**
- **Detour signs are located around the intersection of SR60 and San Gabriel Boulevard. Due to the Paramount Boulevard overpass closure, traffic is anticipated to be heavier at this key intersection. The general public should plan additional time to get through this intersection during the holiday season or seek an alternate route using Rosemead Boulevard, San Gabriel Boulevard and Plaza Drive. Montebello Boulevard north from Beverly Boulevard is another alternate route around SR60.**

Q. Will there be any disruption of utility services during the rebuilding?

**A. The City does not anticipate any disruption to utility services. The City and responding agencies are working closely with the various utility providers throughout this response. Caltrans and utility providers are taking every precaution to ensure that there are no service interruptions during the reconstruction effort. If any planned shutdowns are necessary, the city will work with utility providers to ensure timely advance notification is provided to those impacted.**

Q. Will the overpass be rebuilt to the newest design codes?

**A. Caltrans, the City and County will ensure that the rebuilt overpass will meet the current design codes. The city will take an active role in ensuring that any design suits the needs of residents and businesses. Based on the revised plans for the overpass, the bridge section will be increased from the existing width of 96 feet to 128 feet in width to accommodate long term traffic demands above those foreseen when the overpass was originally constructed.**

Q. How much revenue will the City lose because of this incident?

**A. Data is not yet available to make that determination. It is likely that emergency costs for field and operations personnel related to the incident will be reimbursed from federal and/or state emergency funds so long as the city submits requests for reimbursements to the proper federal and state emergency funding sources. The various departments involved in the response to this incident are carefully evaluating and monitoring both the initial and ongoing cost associated with this situation, and based on eligibility the City will submit timely requests for funds. Further, the City is working closely with local retailers to make sure the circulation plan supports access to all retail stores; this should minimize possible loss of sales tax revenues.**

Q. What is the City doing to protect residents from potentially harmful substances, like the asbestos that delayed demolition?

**A. The City's top priority is to protect the health and safety of residents and the community. Caltrans was very responsible during the demolition phase, halting demolition as soon as a potentially harmful substance was identified. During the reconstruction, the City will coordinate closely with all applicable agencies and the contractor to ensure that every precaution is taken to continue to protect the community's health and safety.**

Q. Will response times for fire and police be impacted? What alternate routes to the hospital have been established?

**A. The City's police, fire and other responders acted quickly to ensure that response times and emergency service routes would not be impacted following the immediate response or the longer term reconstruction. First responders have made sure that adequate response protocols and staff are available to protect the health and well-being on the community. A significant number of public safety agencies are coordinating closely to ensure the safety of the public is protected.**

Q. What will be the environmental impacts of the overpass construction?

**A. As with any project in the City of Montebello officials will take every necessary action to ensure that potential adverse environmental impacts are mitigated and that all construction adheres to the highest environmental standards. The City and Caltrans will work together to ensure the environmental health of our community is protected.**

