The City of Atascadero Public Works Department will provide business owners near the intersection of Del Rio Road and Highway 101 with periodic updates on the status of the design and construction of the freeway interchange project, and the Walmart / Annex development.

**What’s New on the Interchange Project?**

Over the past several months since the *Del Rio Road Specific Plan Project* approval the City has completed topographic and right-of-way surveys, aerial photography, initial meetings with Caltrans, and completed a lengthy “Request for Proposals (RFP) for Design Services” process.

The City Council, at their November 13, 2012 meeting, approved a contract with the Wallace Group (including a talented group of technical experts) for the design of the Del Rio Road freeway interchange, and the associated traffic engineering, environmental review, and processing of approvals with Caltrans. Contracts are being finalized and initial work will begin after the first of the year.

Caltrans will require that several alternatives be developed early on in the process in order to evaluate which option minimizes environmental impacts while meeting their long-term transportation needs.
What is the Freeway Interchange Schedule (as we understand it today)?

The design and permitting process through Caltrans is very time consuming and is expected to take approximately two years. The current schedule is estimated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Estimated Completion Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Initiate Design / Caltrans Processing</td>
<td>January 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Complete Project Study Report / Project Review w/Caltrans</td>
<td>August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Complete Project Report / Environmental Clearances</td>
<td>June 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Freeway Interchange Construction</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(The schedule is subject to change once more information is developed)

What is Happening with the Walmart / Annex Sites?

There have been no construction plans submitted by either project. As we understand it Walmart wishes to resolve the pending lawsuit before proceeding with further site design and permit processing with the City. There is no definitive date when the lawsuit will be resolved or Walmart will proceed. However, we still anticipate that Walmart will be under construction well before the interchange plans are approved by Caltrans.

What is the Status of the City ECR Sewer Main Replacement Project?

The City has completed the design of the El Camino Real Sewer Main Replacement Project fronting the Mission Oaks Plaza shopping center, and has received bids for its construction. The project will replace 1300 lineal feet of sewer pipe in El Camino Real from just south of the Mission Oaks Plaza northerly to a point roughly 300 feet north of Del Rio Road. The replacement is needed due to damaged pipe.

Project construction is anticipated to begin in February 2013 and last until late April 2013. Active trenching and backfilling will be occurring for less than half of the project duration. Businesses will be advised on a weekly basis of the project status and what to expect the following week.

The project construction will maintain access on El Camino Real, and two access points in and out of the center at all times. During trenching in the Del Rio Road intersection at El Camino Real one-way flagger controlled traffic will be required for a few days. This will be minimized to the greatest extent possible. There should be no interruption of sewer service during the project as this is a parallel line replacement.

Closing

We appreciate your involvement and hope you will stay in touch regarding issues and concerns. Follow us, and all City projects, on Facebook at “Atascadero Public Works”. You can always call the Public Works Department at 470-3180 with questions or concerns.

Next Update (No.2) will be sent out in March / April 2013