



Construction is underway to bring you an improved Bear Valley Parkway

Crews are hard at work in the beginning stages of the \$15 million Bear Valley Parkway North Widening Project. Construction broke ground in late September and is anticipated to be complete in the summer of 2016. The County of San Diego thanks everyone in the community for their patience during construction. Improvements that are on their way include:

Roadway Improvements

Bear Valley Parkway's existing two-lane road will be widened between San Pasqual Valley Road (SR 78) and just north of Boyle Avenue. The new roadway will be four lanes with two-lanes in each direction and is designed to reduce congestion by providing a seamless connection to the portions of Bear Valley Parkway that are already four lanes north of Boyle Avenue and south of SR 78. Roadway improvements include a new center median separating the travel lanes, left hand turn pockets, signals and a paved shoulder on both sides of the street. Additionally, the project includes drainage improvements that will relieve the roadway of water runoff during heavy rainstorms.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements

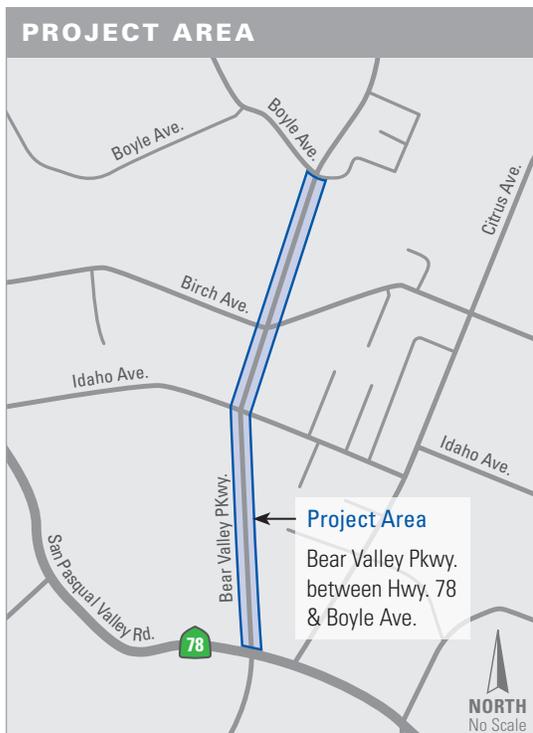
In addition to new lanes for motorists, infrastructure for walking and bicycling is also being improved. The project includes adding continuous designated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the Bear Valley Parkway. These additions will provide non-motorized travelers a better way to walk, ride or roll.

Utility Undergrounding and Landscaping

In addition to supporting all travel modes – walking, bicycling and driving – the new roadway also includes utility and drainage improvements. Existing overhead utility lines will be relocated underground. There, they will be protected from weather events and other incidents. The utility undergrounding will clear the area's views of unsightly utility lines. Another aesthetic improvement is the new water efficient landscaping that will be planted adjacent to the roadway.

Share the News and Stay in Touch

Help spread the word by posting this information on your social media accounts so your neighbors can sign up to receive project updates. For more information call our dedicated project information line at (760) 630-ROAD (7623).



The project by the numbers

So what does it take to widen a roadway and replace and underground its utilities? It's a big effort that involves many people and types of tools and equipment to get the job done right. The first main activity is earthwork. This process involves clearing and grading the area to prepare it for construction. Once the area is cleared, crews are able to begin excavating dirt to replace the water pipeline and creating the foundation where the new roadway will be.

For the Bear Valley Parkway North Widening Project crews are using:

- 2 excavators
- 2 rollers
- 1 loader
- 1 side dump front loader
- 3 backhoes

So far crews have excavated 9,500 cubic yards of dirt. That is almost triple the size of an Olympic sized swimming pool! So you might say construction is going *quite swimmingly*. There is still approximately 16,500 cubic feet left to excavate.

Once the earthwork is complete, the existing 18" and 27" diameter cement mortar and coated steel water pipeline will be replaced with a new poly(vinyl chloride) (PVC) water pipeline that is 24" in diameter throughout the project area. PVC is a lightweight versatile material that is non-corrosive, so it will require less maintenance in the future.



Pipeline construction activities

Meet the Team

County of San Diego Project Manager Mark Perrett

Each month we will introduce members of the team who are delivering this project. This month we introduce County of San Diego Department of Public Works Project Manager Mark Perrett.

Q How long have you worked at the County of San Diego's Department of Public Works (DPW)?



Project Manager Mark Perrett at project site

A For 18 years. First, I worked as an intern at the Department of Public Works for three years when I was a Civil Engineering student at San Diego State University. After graduation, I worked with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works for 12 years, until 1999 when I returned to the County of San Diego. I have been a Project Manager there for the last 15 years.

Q What is your role on the project?

A As the Project Manager, I am responsible for overseeing all aspects of the project from the very earliest planning through the environmental, design, and right-of-way acquisition phases. During construction, I along with our project team, support our inspectors to ensure that the project is completed on time and within budget.

Q How will traffic along Bear Valley Parkway be affected during construction?

A There will be one lane open in each direction at all times during construction.

The contractor will be allowed to temporarily stop traffic for short durations during the project (approximately 15 minutes) when construction work crosses the road.

Q What is your favorite part of your job?

A Seeing construction completed for a large project like this that provides many benefits to the community.

Q What is the biggest benefit this project is providing?

A Traffic flow will be greatly improved on Bear Valley Parkway between Boyle and SR 78 with an additional travel lane in each direction, left turn pockets, dedicated 5-foot bike lanes, sidewalks, and new traffic signals. Significant drainage improvements are also included with the project that will reduce flooding in and near the roadways. Finally, visual aesthetics along Bear Valley Parkway will be improved with the undergrounding of all overhead utility lines as well as the addition of plants and trees in the parkway area.

Did you know, according to the Escondido History Center, Bear Valley Parkway/Via Rancho Parkway used to be called Sunset Drive? Many streets in Escondido changed their name in the 1930 when the Post Office started home delivery of mail.

