



Entering Hard Hat Zone

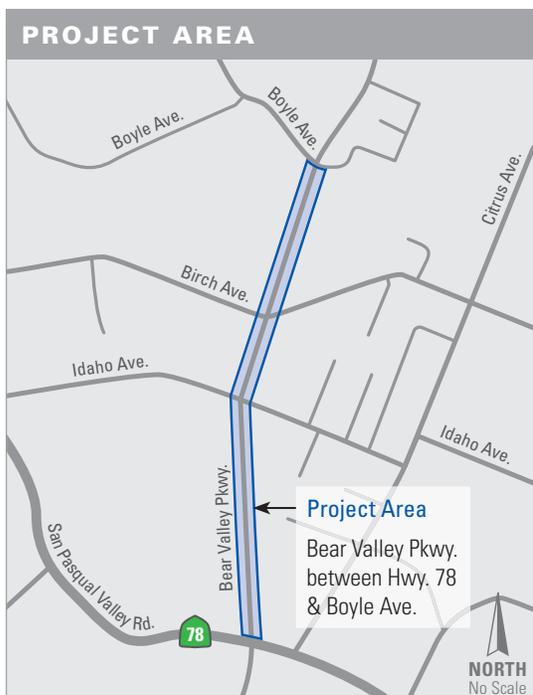
"Safety First" is not just a slogan used in meetings, but it is implemented in every phase of project construction. For instance, crews are currently digging trenches to remove the old gas pipeline and place new storm drain pipes along the west side of the roadway, and are incorporating safety practices while they excavate soil and remove heavy infrastructure.

Crews have worked in open trenches, lifted and moved pipelines weighing many tons, and delivered large amounts of soil and asphalt onto and off of the project site. All of these activities require advanced planning, coordination, and communication to safely complete on the project site.

Crews maintain safety on and off the project site with these efforts:

- › **On-site Safety Training:** Crews are trained in best practices for conducting construction work using standards from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the federal agency that oversees workplace safety. Precautions like supervisory oversight and coordination between construction teams ensure that crews are always aware of activities around the project site.
- › **Audits by Safety Personnel:** In addition to training on-site for all County and contractor employees, specific crewmembers are trained to conduct regular safety audits (inspections of quality and safety of work). Safety personnel record work and safety compliance and identify anything on the project site that can be improved to enhance worker and pedestrian safety.
- › **Traffic Plan:** A traffic plan for the Bear Valley Parkway project that outlines how to safely have vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians pass through the project site during its construction phases.

With these tools of training, planning, and auditing, the County makes every consideration to ensure the work on Bear Valley Parkway is safe for everyone around the project site.



Project Update: Current Construction Activities

In February, crews will work on the following:

- › **Storm Drain Excavation and Installation:** Crews will continue to excavate trenches and place the new storm drain line along the west shoulder of the roadway.
- › **Utility Undergrounding:** Crews will continue to install protective casings (conduits) for gas and electric utilities in the open trenches on the west side of Bear Valley Parkway. To date, crews have installed approximately

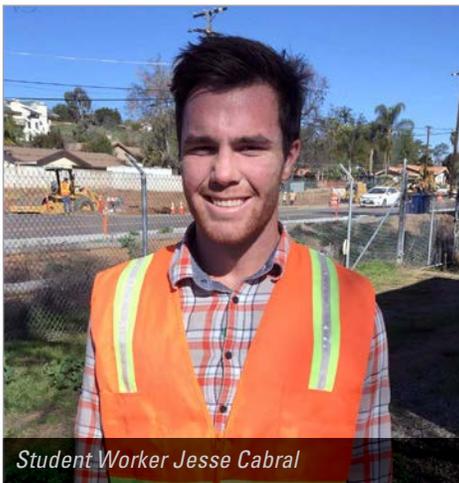
85% of the utility conduits. When the conduit is installed, utility companies will feed gas and electricity utilities through the conduits.

- › **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP):** Crews will continue to ensure that piles of loose soil are covered with tarps along the open trenches to minimize and avoid dust and protect storm water quality.
- › **Traffic Coordination:** Crews will continue to coordinate traffic around entrances to residential streets with limited access along Bear Valley Parkway. Crews will continue to maintain driveway access and guide drivers to and from homes around the project while excavating trenches.



Meet the Team

Jesse Cabral
Student Worker
Department of Public Works
Construction Engineering



Q What are some of your responsibilities on this project?

A I support the resident engineer (RE) and assistant resident engineers on the job. This includes tracking contractor's daily progress, quality assurance, taking field measurements, and filing paperwork.

Q Please walk us through your typical day on the job.

A When I arrive at the jobsite at Bear Valley Parkway, I complete a log of all the heavy equipment that is on site, and then work where I am needed. Some days, I check the final grade of the roadway to ensure that the road we pave will be smooth and without bumps. Other days, I check the spacing on rebar (steel rods that reinforce concrete), and confirm the delivered paving materials have the proper mix of asphalt.

Q What is something unique about this project people might not know about?

A All of the materials used for our roadway incorporate recycled materials. The pavement for Bear Valley is laid in three layers, and the last layer incorporates Rubberized Asphalt Concrete, which uses pellets made from recycled car tires as a part of the adhesive mix that binds the asphalt material together. This makes for a much quieter ride and helps to reduce waste and our impact on the environment.

Q What is the biggest lesson you've learned from working on this project?

A Two sets of eyes are better than one. When you have two people looking at a challenge project, there is more experience to develop a proper solution.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) mission is to assure safe and healthy working conditions for workers by setting and enforcing standards, providing training, and conducting outreach. As an agency of the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA provides job training for a number of fields, and collects data across all levels of employment to analyze and propose improvements to workplace function. OSHA specifically has safety protocol related to the construction industry for workers using scaffolding, ladders, trenching, machinery like cranes and forklifts, and environmental impacts. Next time you travel through the project site, you can see these OSHA construction protocols and workers conducting safety audits.

**Did
You
Know**