

Frequently Asked Questions

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is currently constructing Phase 3 of the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry (LPOE) reconfiguration and expansion project. Construction will begin September 23, 2017 and will require a series of lane and roadway closures within the southbound Interstate 5 (I-5) and Interstate 805 (I-805) corridors. This will include complete lane closures at various stages of the project. Phase 3 allows GSA to deliver state of the art infrastructure to the traveling public in the greater San Diego/Tijuana region.

- **What does the Phase 3 project include?**

The Phase 3 project shifts the I-5 south freeway to the west for a smoother alignment with Mexico's inspection station, El Chaparral and expands the total number of southbound vehicle lanes from five to 10, substantially increasing southbound processing capacity at the port. It also includes the construction of a new secondary inspection canopy and staff facilities to support U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) operations and will add eight northbound vehicle lanes with a 15 inspection booths.

- **Why is the Interstate 5 south being temporarily realigned?**

GSA is realigning a portion of the Interstate 5 south freeway as part of Phase 3 of the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry project. The temporary shift will allow GSA to expedite the construction and delivery of eight northbound vehicle lanes and 15 primary vehicle inspection booths. Those lanes and booths will be constructed in the area where the existing roadway is located.

- **When will the roadwork to realign the freeway take place?**

The roadwork is scheduled to begin in September 2017 and last through summer 2019.

- **Will there be any lane closures or disruptions to southbound vehicle traffic on either the southbound 805 or 5 freeways?**

Yes, in order to complete the necessary roadwork, the I-5 and I-805 south freeways south of the State Route 905 freeway will be closed for a 57 hour period beginning on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 3 a.m. continuing through Monday, September 25, 2017 at 12 p.m. Southbound traffic to Mexico will be rerouted to the Otay Mesa LPOE. Additionally, motorists can expect some lane reductions on the I-5 and I-805 freeways at the San Ysidro Land Port of Entry for the duration of the realignment project. The roadwork project is scheduled for completion in summer 2019.

- **Why is the freeway closing for 57 hours?**

The 57 hour closure is necessary to safely remove a large canopy structure used by CBP officers for southbound vehicle inspection operations that covers a portion of the southbound I-5 lanes. Construction crews will also update underground utilities, install new infrastructure, remove several cast-in-place concrete crash barriers and will complete temporary roadway paving and striping

- **Is there any other way to accomplish this work without a full closure?**

No. Public safety is a top priority and the removal of the

large canvas canopy and other critical tasks require the work area to be closed to public traffic during construction.

- **How will southbound vehicles cross into Mexico during this period?**
Southbound vehicles to Mexico will be detoured to the Otay Mesa LPOE, located about nine miles east of the San Ysidro LPOE via either the California state routes 905 east and/or 125 south.
- **Will the realignment project impact northbound vehicle crossing at San Ysidro?**
GSA's I-5 south roadwork project will not affect northbound vehicle traffic.
- **Will the realignment project impact pedestrians crossing at San Ysidro?**
This Phase 3 roadwork project will not impact northbound or southbound pedestrian crossing at the San Ysidro LPOE. Pedestrians will continue to cross on the east side of the port and at PedWest on the west side of the port. For additional public transportation options, travelers can also visit the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System website at www.sdmts.com.
- **How will the 57 hour closure impact southbound traffic at the Otay Mesa LPOE?**
Travelers can expect longer than average wait times at Otay Mesa due to the rerouting southbound vehicles that would otherwise cross through El Chaparral. Southbound drivers should anticipate additional wait times during the closure.
- **Are there mass transit options in the area?**
Yes, the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) serves the San Ysidro LPOE with trolley and bus services. For more information, please visit www.sdmts.com/.
- **Where can I find more information about the GSA's San Ysidro LPOE expansion and modernization project?**
GSA has a dedicated project website, at www.gsa.gov/sanysidro, that contains fact sheets, renderings, construction progress photos, presentation slides and traffic advisories. Project specific information for Phase 3 can be found www.gsa.gov/5realign.