

**Sacramento County – Department of Transportation
Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency**

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Contacts:

Dan Regan, Sacramento County
Public Information Officer
916-591-0047

Angela Jones, SHRA
Public Information Officer
916-440-1355 (ofc)/916-919-3090 (cell)

COUNTY AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OFFICIALS HOLD GOLDEN SHOVEL EVENT TO MARK OFFICIAL START OF PHASE 2 FRANKLIN BOULEVARD STREETScape IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Sacramento CA – Supervisor Jimmie Yee (District 2) along with Mike Penrose, Director, Department of Transportation; La Shelle Dozier, Executive Director, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency; and Frank Cable, President of the North Franklin District Business Association officially kicked off the start of construction on April 10 with a golden shovel groundbreaking for the Franklin Boulevard Streetscape Improvement Project at 6011 Franklin Boulevard. The work is part of continuing efforts since 2001 to help revitalize the Franklin Boulevard corridor with new landscaping, enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and increased traffic safety.



“This project will create a safer and more attractive experience for pedestrians and motorists while also making Franklin Boulevard more economically competitive in the region,” said Supervisor Yee.

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Phase 2 construction implements improvements recommended in the SHRA Franklin Boulevard Urban Design Master Plan. County officials say this project is essential to the economic future of the area.

“This project is very important because Franklin Boulevard is the heart of the Franklin area and also a vital north/south corridor in the unincorporated area of Sacramento,” said Mike Penrose, Director, Department of Transportation.

In 2008, construction of a \$5 million Phase 1 project between Turnbridge Drive and 47th Avenue was completed using \$1.8 million in federal community development block grant (CDBG) funds. Also as part of Franklin Boulevard Design Master Plan, the City of Sacramento also completed a \$1 million improvement project in 2008 at the Fruitridge Road and Franklin Boulevard intersection that included the addition of bike lanes, curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements, landscaping, and two new turn lanes to ease congestion in the existing left turn lanes. SHRA contributed over \$600,000 redevelopment and CDBG funds to the project.

SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier pointed out the importance of the CDBG program which enables the Agency to continue providing assistance for revitalization projects since redevelopment funds are no longer available.

“These are federal funds that flow to the community and provide flexible solutions that allow us to implement many of the same types of programs and activities that improve deteriorating communities and help low and moderate income residents,” said Dozier.

The \$2.1 million Phase 2 project in the County will construct additional streetscape and landscape enhancements along Franklin Boulevard from 400 feet south of 47th Avenue north to the County line, a distance of approximately two-thirds of a mile. Roadway improvements will include curb, gutter, and sidewalks with accessible ramps, landscaped medians, street lighting, bicycle lanes, enhanced pedestrian street crossings, modification of the traffic signal at Franklin Boulevard and 47th Avenue, and various drainage modifications.

Phase 2 is supported with Federal transportation funds provided by the SACOG Community Design Program, and \$200,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds provided by SHRA. The project is expected to be completed by September 2014.

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