

SR-65 to I-80: Improving Mobility, Safety, and Economic Development

The SR-65 to I-80: Improving Mobility, Safety, and Economic Development Project will address multiple transportation challenges, focusing on improving mobility, safety, and economic development in a congested region.

Project Scope

Construct an outside southbound third lane (1.4 miles) from Blue Oaks Boulevard to Galleria Boulevard and southbound auxiliary lane (0.8 miles) from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Galleria Boulevard.

Needs and Benefits

Traffic Congestion: This segment of southbound SR65 backs up from 7AM to 7PM every weekday. Traffic is expected to worsen between 2028-2048 without the project due to rapid residential and commercial growth, leading to significant delays. The project would reduce travel times by up to 50%, saving 1,786 hours daily (623,758 hour annually) during rush hours in 2028 alone.

Safety: There is high concentration of rear end collisions due to bottleneck congestion and a rapid drop in speeds. Five fatalities occurred between 2020 and 2022.

National Security: Beale Air Force Base has a critical role in national security. Traffic congestion affects daily commutes for Placer County's 4,000 base personnel and has been identified as impacting readiness and operations.

Economic Development

- **Freight:** The congestion at the I-80/SR-65 interchange hinders the movement of goods, impacting regional manufacturing and distribution centers, which rely heavily on truck traffic. The 8,900 truck per day will realize an average travel time savings worth \$70 million over 20 years.
- **Tourism:** The Gateway Corridor is crucial for tourism to Lake Tahoe and the northern Sierra Nevada. Efficient transportation supports the local economy, including major attractions like United Auburn Indian Community's 5,000-person capacity Thunder Valley Casino Resort and its 2,700 employees.
- **Retail and Housing:** Western Placer County is one of the fastest growing areas in the state, with the cities of Rocklin, Roseville, and Lincoln growing 26%, 24% and 16% respectively between 2010 and 2020. Reducing congestion will support the continued increase of retail, housing, and job growth.

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Readiness and Schedule

Environmental: Completed March 2018 (CEQA and NEPA), NEPA revalidation and permit reissuance by June 2026.

Final Design: currently 95% complete.

Right of Way: No permanent acquisitions needed.

Advertise for Construction: Fall 2026.

Construction Complete: December 2028.

Funding

Total Construction Cost: \$28,100,000

BUILD Grant Request: \$22,480,000 (80%)

Local Match: \$5,620,000 (20%)

Congestion on SR-65

“has a direct impact on national security.” –

Beale Air Force Base
Public Affairs Unit

“We try to only book appointments between 10am and 3pm for properties along SR-65 due to the intense congestion” –

Local Commercial Real
Estate Brokers

