



INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

Sacramento County Department of Transportation
Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency
Joint Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Freedom Park Drive Enhancement Project Completed Including:
North Highlands Town Center Startup & "Green Street" Construction
~Ribbon-Cutting Event: October 15 @ 10:30 A.M.~**

Sacramento, CA – Supervisor Phil Serna, the Sacramento County Department of Transportation and the Sacramento Housing & Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), are hosting a ribbon-cutting event to celebrate completion of the Freedom Park Drive Enhancement Project. This project advances the vision of a North Highlands Town Center, and includes construction of Sacramento County's first "green street." Green streets incorporate low-impact development design so that stormwater is cleaned and filtered via landscaping. Information about the ribbon-cutting event is as follows:

Date/Time Monday, October 15, @ 10:30 A.M.

Location Southwest corner of Freedom Park Drive and 34th Street.

Speakers Assemblymember Roger Dickinson (9th District).
Supervisor Phil Serna (District 1).
La Shelle Dozier, Executive Director - SHRA.
Michael J. Penrose, Director - Department of Transportation.

According to Supervisor Serna, "The Freedom Park Drive Enhancement Project gives Sacramento County residents their first "complete green street" here at the northerly edge of one of the country's most successful base reuse efforts -- McClellan Business Park. Today, we are acknowledging years of hard work to make Freedom Park Drive something we can all be proud of as the necessary first step to help our

environment, improve our streetscape, and make progress towards the long awaited objective of establishing a North Highlands Town Center. Equally important, this project improves prospects for additional public and private investment on Freedom Park Drive and in North Highlands.”

The project includes the following enhancements:

- A bio-swale landscape system that cleans and filters storm water and provides ground-water recharge.
- Complete street improvements including on-street bike lanes and separated sidewalks.
- Two roundabouts on Freedom Park Drive at 32nd Street and 34th Street that control speeds and keep traffic moving efficiently, which not only improves safety but helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Replacement of asphalt with new trees and landscaping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
- Rubberized asphalt was used to provide a quieter driving surface and reduce landfilled waste.
- Energy efficient LED induction street lighting is also part of the project.

In addition to Town Center and “green street” benefits, this project is intended to facilitate and incentivize infill development. The Freedom Park Drive Town Center area is “shovel-ready” for development with sewer and water infrastructure now available to all properties at this location. Getting building sites “shovel-ready,” makes vacant land ready to develop and reduces the time and cost to build -- a significant investment incentive. Sacramento County is targeting areas such as Freedom Park Drive for infill development in order to attract investment into parts of the County close to jobs, transit and other amenities.

Funding for this \$5.4 million project was provided by Sacramento County, SHRA, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District.

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Visuals to Support Story: Elected officials, SHRA and County staff will cut a 2-ft x 14-ft banner to ceremonially complete the project. Staff will be available to provide additional information about the green street features of the project.