

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 20-23, 2026**

91 EASTBOUND CORRIDOR OPERATIONS PROJECT

ISSUE: Over 140,000 vehicles—including commuters and freight carriers—travel a segment of State Route 91 each day, creating a persistent afternoon and evening chokepoint that restricts mobility and harms regional economic efficiency. The 91 Eastbound Corridor Operations Project (91 ECOP) will relieve this bottleneck by improving traffic flow between the State Route 241 Toll Road connector and the State Route 71 connector in Corona.

ACTION: The Monday Morning Group urges Congressional members to directly communicate their support for Riverside County Transportation Commission’s (RCTC) \$25 million Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation to strengthen the project’s competitiveness.

BACKGROUND: In discussions with the U.S. Department of Transportation, staff encouraged the RCTC to seek congressional engagement for future discretionary grant applications. In February 2026, RCTC submitted its 91 ECOP BUILD grant request, with award announcements expected no later than June 28, 2026.

Riverside County has added nearly one million residents since 2000 and is projected to add another 500,000 by 2048. To prepare for this continued growth, voters renewed Measure A in 2002, funding major corridor improvements including the SR-91 Corridor Improvement Project, which delivered new general-purpose lanes, auxiliary lanes, Riverside County’s first tolled express lanes, and the SR-91/I-15 Express Lanes Connector.

Although the 91 ECOP was originally included in earlier environmental documents for the corridor, it was deferred due to funding constraints. RCTC resumed the project in 2023 and is advancing environmental review and approval, anticipated for completion in 2026. The project is utilizing the progressive design-build delivery method, with construction expected to begin in 2028.

Recognizing that the project spans both Riverside and Orange counties, RCTC and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) are partnering closely on funding, planning, and project delivery to ensure coordinated improvements along this critical regional corridor.

The 91 ECOP will add a new eastbound lane along three miles of SR-91 between SR-241 and SR-71, improving traffic operations and regional mobility. The project has also received strong federal support, including two Community Project Funding awards championed by Representative Young Kim in federal Fiscal Years 2024 and 2026.