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Hazel Avenue Improvement Project 2011 SACOG Salutes Regional Project of the Year Award Winner

Sacramento CA – The Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SACDOT) is pleased to announce that the recently completed Hazel Avenue Improvement Project – Phase 1, has won the prestigious Sacramento Area Council of Governments 2011 SACOG Salutes Regional Project of the Year award. Award recipients were honored at the SACOG Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, December 15. Phase 1 of the Hazel Avenue Improvement Project was completed in September, and is part of a major roadway infrastructure project to improve Hazel Avenue from U.S. 50 to Madison Avenue, to reduce congestion and improve safety and mobility for all modes of transportation in this corridor.

According to Mike Penrose, Director of the Department of Transportation, "We are honored to receive the Regional Project of the Year Award for the Hazel Avenue project. From initial community input efforts, to the planning, environmental, project design and approval process to final construction -- our contractors, consultants and County staff have completed a great project with many benefits to the community and to local and regional roadway infrastructure."

Completion of the Phase 1 project is a big step forward in Sacramento County's efforts to improve the Hazel Avenue corridor. The Phase 1 bridge widening effort came first, and future project phases will complete the widening from Curragh Downs Drive to Madison Avenue. The Phase 1 project provides immediate benefits for motorists, users of local recreational facilities, bicyclists, pedestrians and equestrians. In addition, this \$22 million construction project helped support local businesses, material suppliers and contractors during this continued downturn in the economy.

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Roadway improvements completed in Phase 1 project work included:

- Widening Hazel Avenue from four to six lanes over the American River Bridge from U.S. 50 to Curragh Downs Drive.
- Construction of new bicycle, pedestrian and equestrian facilities and improved connections to the American River Parkway.
- Architectural treatments on the bridge structure and decorative street lighting.
- Extensive landscaping and decorative retaining walls along Hazel Avenue.

Phase 1 project construction costs were \$22 million and covered with a combination of Developer Fees, Measure A Sales Tax funds and State and Federal funding sources.

Please contact Dan Regan (Communication & Media Officer) at 916-874-7056 or (regand@saccounty.net) for additional information.

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