

Route 85 Texture-grinding Project

FACTS

Overview

The project will address community noise concerns along Route 85 between Interstate 280 (I-280) and Route 87 by texture-grinding this segment of the freeway.

Objective

Reduce impact of tire noise along a segment of Route 85 between I-280 and Route 87.

Project Description

Texture-grinding is a newer type of pavement grinding in which machines with parallel saw-wheels grind away roadway surface bumps and rough spots, leaving a smooth surface with a pattern of narrow, longitudinal grooves while retaining safe skid resistance. The concrete pavement industry asserts that texture-ground pavement is quieter than traditional diamond-ground pavement.

In 2002 VTA conducted a trial study on a section of Route 85. The results of the study indicated that texture-grinding the freeway pavement reduced overall noise, but it was less than the 3 dBA threshold that is perceptible to the human ear. However, the study determined the grinding caused a downward shift in the tonal characteristics of the sound and decibel reductions at frequencies that are easily heard by humans. Based on comments from the community, the combined effect has been a perceived reduction in noise.

Maintenance of Traffic Flow

For the safety of the public and construction workers, traffic control measures (such as temporary lane closures and detours) will be used when needed. Contractors will make every effort to maintain access and minimize disruptions.

Operations

Upon completion, Caltrans will operate and maintain the newly improved Route 85.

Capital Cost/ Project Funding

\$9.0 million from the 1996 Measure B local sales tax funding.

Project Schedule

Construction begins: Mid 2005

Project complete: Mid 2006

How to Reach Us

For more information on this project, please contact VTA Community Outreach (408) 321-7575, TDD for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330. You may also visit us on the web at www.vta.org, or email us at community.outreach@vta.org.

For information regarding existing light rail and bus transit service, please contact VTA Customer Service (408) 321-2300, TDD for the hearing impaired (408) 321-2330, or visit us on the web at www.vta.org.

85 Grinding 10/28/05-F



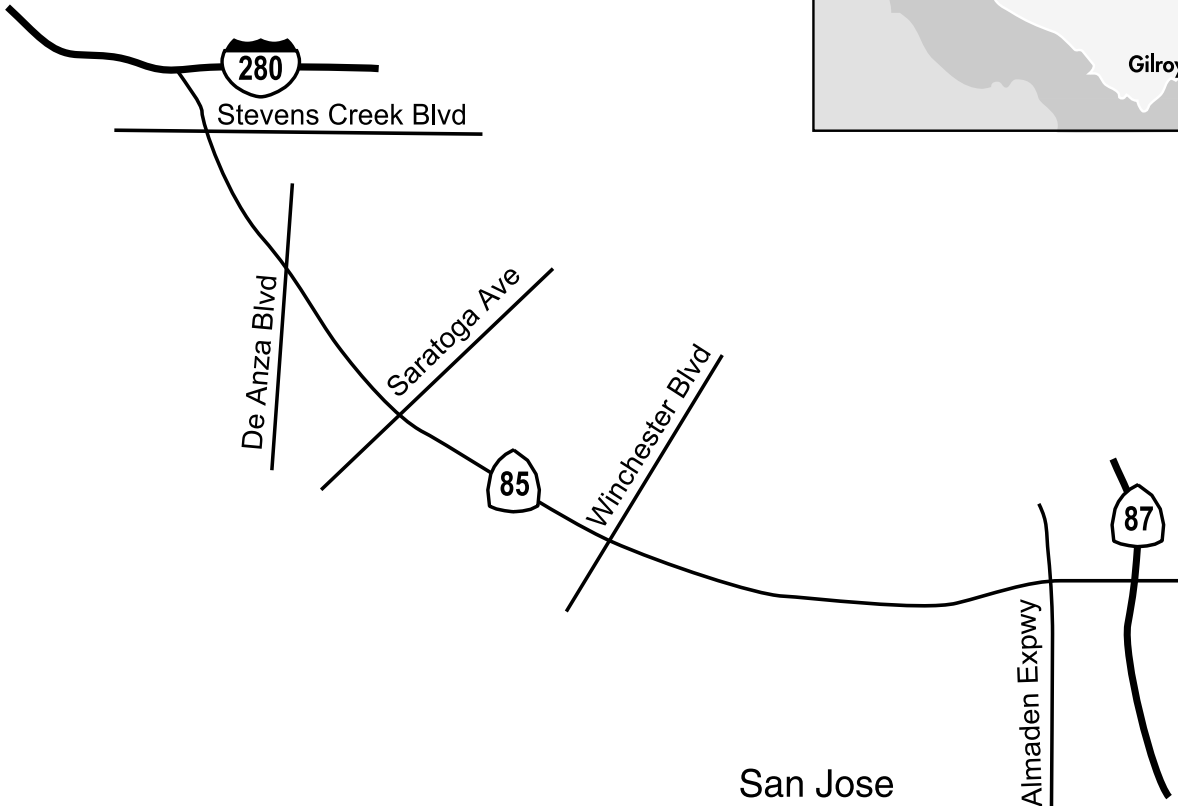
Measure B
Transportation Improvement Program
County of Santa Clara



SANTA CLARA
Valley Transportation Authority



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Not to Scale

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