



District



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# CALTRANS TRAFFIC ALERT

**Date:** May 23, 2016 #16-142  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

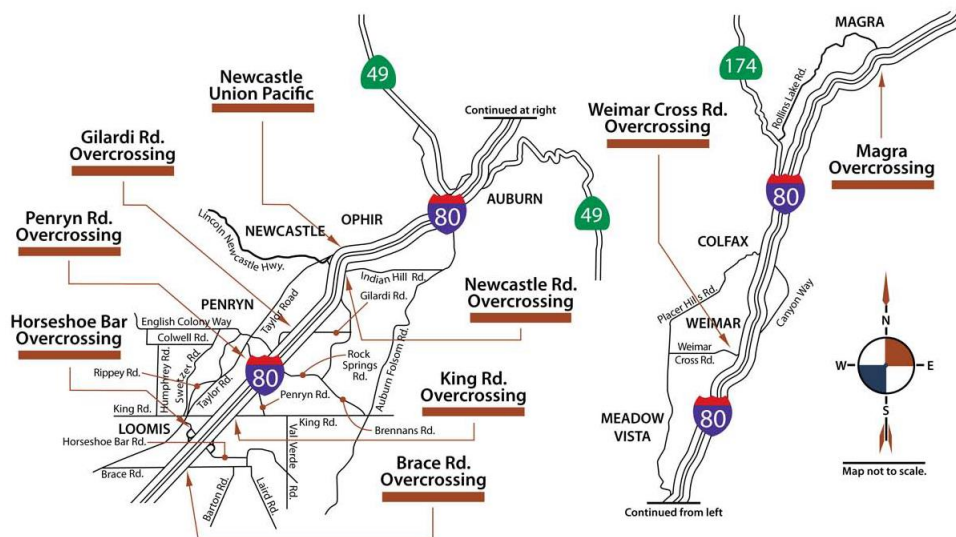
### Caltrans Announces Early Completion of Interstate 80 Excavation in Newcastle

*All Nine Structures in South Placer County Now Meet Federal Clearance Standards*

NEWCASTLE – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is alerting motorists that freeway excavation on westbound Interstate 80 (I-80) in Newcastle under the Newcastle Union Pacific Railroad bridge was completed Monday, May 23, four days earlier than scheduled. All lane restrictions have been lifted, including the closure of the westbound I-80 exit to Newcastle. High-profile trucks will now be able to successfully travel under the railroad trestle overcrossing.

Work around the clock by the contractor went smoothly and successfully reduced the time required for lane and ramp closures. Additionally, anticipated traffic delays of up to two hours did not materialize with the commuter traffic delays lasting only around 15 minutes.

The Newcastle Union Pacific Railroad bridge is the last structure to be addressed in the three-year, \$36 million, “Raise80” vertical clearance project that has increased the vertical clearance of nine freeway overcrossings on I-80 between Magra and Loomis in south Placer County.





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Seven of the structures have had their bridge deck raised approximately two feet, and two structures have had the roadway beneath lowered to achieve the necessary clearance. Now, all nine structures meet today's 16 feet, 6 inches federal clearance standards for high-profile vehicles and national defense, eliminating the need for most high-profile vehicles to use local roads as detours.

Construction work continues on the seven lifted overcrossings (Brace, King, Horseshoe Bar, Penryn, Gilardi, Newcastle and Magra) to complete the project's new sidewalks and barrier railings, new pavement and striping, and landscaping and drainage. Caltrans, in response to community feedback, is also installing additional bicycle railings on the Horseshoe Bar Road, Penryn Road and Gilardi Road overcrossings. All project construction is anticipated to be completed by mid-July.

[Raise80.com](http://Raise80.com) is the central source for information about construction details, alternate routes, detours, maps and project updates. Updates regarding weather or other unexpected events that may prolong the work or cause construction activities to be rescheduled are also posted.

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/raise80>
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