



Circulation Map/ Cooperative Agreement

Green Tree Blvd., between Hesperia Rd. and Ridgecrest Rd., was added to the Circulation Map of Victorville's General Plan.

Also, Victorville, Apple Valley and County entered into a cooperative agreement for an alignment study

1988

Alignment Study

The alignment study was completed with a road alignment close to what is now.

1994

Preliminary Design / Federal Funding Procurement

Apple Valley, Victorville and the County apply for federal funds for the Yucca Loma Rd./Yates Rd./Green Tree Blvd. Corridor from Apple Valley Rd. to Hesperia Rd.

2008

Environmental Approval

Environmental Document is approved by Apple Valley as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and by CALTRANS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

2011

Federal Funds Approved for Final Design

Federal funds for final design, programmed by the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), were authorized by FHWA.

2013

Final Design

City Council approves a Project Funding Agreement with SBCTA.

Also, City Council approves a contract with Dokken Engineering for final design and right of way acquisition.

2014

Funding Procurement

City Council approved a Term Loan Agreement with SBCTA and a cooperative agreement with Apple Valley and the County

Also, federal funds for right of way were authorized by FHWA.

2016

Construction of Phases I and II Completed

The Yucca Loma Bridge, and the widening of Yucca Loma Rd. and Yates Rd., were completed and opened to traffic.

2017

BNSF Railroad Agreement Approved

City Council approves an agreement with BNSF Railway permitting construction of the bridge

Also, approvals for all environmental permits were obtained for the project

2019

Right of Way Certification Approved

Right of way acquisition was completed by the City and certified by Caltrans. City Council approved an agreement for the construction management. Federal funds for construction, provided by SBCTA, were authorized by FHWA.

2020

Construction Contract is Awarded

Construction contract is awarded to Skanska.

2021

Projected End of Construction for the Green Tree Extension Project.

2023

DAILY PRESS

NEWS

Party on the bridge: Green Tree Extension Project completed



Rene Ray De La Cruz

Victorville Daily Press

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Rumbling trains passed below as hundreds atop the Green Tree Bridge celebrated the opening of the nearly 600-foot cement marvel, which spans the BNSF railroad tracks in Victorville.

Residents joined city, local and regional leaders to celebrate the completion of the Green Tree Extension Project and Bridge, something Mayor Debra Jones called a partnership between agencies, which personifies a “collaboration spirit.”

Skanska, Parsons, and Dokken Engineering worked to extend Green Tree Boulevard 1.5 miles east from Hesperia Road over the tracks to Ridgecrest Road near Spring Valley Lake and Mojave Narrows Regional Park.

The Green Tree project creates another east/west corridor, which connects Victorville to Apple Valley’s Yucca Loma Bridge over the Mojave River.

The nearly \$47 million project also benefits the Victor Valley by providing a much-needed travel alternative to Bear Valley Road and Highway 18, city leaders said.

The celebration included a classic car show, a presentation of the “Skanska’s Choice” car show award, a DJ, food trucks, and a fun walk on the bridge before it opened to traffic.

Standing next to his 1966 Chevelle Ultra Sport, Apple Valley resident Wendell Ansnes told the Daily Press that the opening of the bridge means he’ll be able to “avoid Bear Valley Road.”

“Bear Valley Road used to be a nice little drive, but it’s gotten way too congested,” Ansnes, 69, said. “They did a great job on this bridge and expanding Green Tree Boulevard.”

An American flag, attached to a Victorville Fire Department ladder, danced in the breeze over the crowd who stayed cool by making multiple visits to the city's hydration station.

As temperatures neared 90 degrees, air-conditioned Victor Valley Transit Authority shuttle buses transported guests from the parking area near Hesperia Road to the event location.

San Bernardino County sheriff's deputies were on both ends of the new roadway to watch over visitors who walked and rode bikes to and from the celebration.

While many lauded the completion of the extension project, several wondered why the roadway and bridge was only built as one lane in each direction.

Fulfilling 'the dream'

Apple Valley Mayor Scott Nassif told the crowd that the roars of multiple locomotives passing by could substitute for a traditional flyover.

Nassif said nearly six years ago to the day, Apple Valley officials opened the Yucca Loma Bridge, with anticipation of Victorville constructing the Green Tree Bridge.

With a panoramic view of Victorville and Apple Valley behind him, Nassif said the new bridge will better forge both municipalities.

The county's transportation authority President Art Bishop, who also serves on the Apple Valley Town Council, recognized former Victorville Mayor Terry Caldwell, who served on the dais for eight terms and is considered by many as "Victorville's architect."

Bishop looked back nearly 50 years and called the new bridge a "generational thing," with Caldwell and former city leaders working to "fulfill the dream" of its construction.

Also in attendance was former Hesperia Mayor Eric Schmitt, who cut the ribbon on the \$60 million Rancho Road Interchange project at Interstate 15 in Feb. 2015.

He was also present for the ribbon cutting of the Rancho Road undercrossing in June 2013.

"Ultimately, this is the culmination of years worth of effort. It's also the last major connecting piece that brings our communities together," Schmidt said. "I applaud the work of Victorville, Apple Valley, and the many agencies who were instrumental in the completion of this project."

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Skanska announces completion of Green Tree Boulevard extension in Victorville, CA

Press release 5/23/2023 7:00 AM EST

VICTORVILLE, CA – Skanska, a leading global construction and development firm, recently completed the extension of Green Tree Boulevard in Victorville, CA. The project connects the communities of Victorville and Apple Valley, providing access to jobs, schools, healthcare, and many more necessary services across Victor Valley. It also provides much-needed congestion relief to Bear Valley Road.

The project includes:

A 600-foot-long bridge that travels over the BNSF railroad, marking Victorville’s longest bridge

A new traffic signal where Green Tree Boulevard connects with Ridgecrest Road

The widening of Ridgecrest Road to four lanes, along with the widening of the intersection of Green Tree Boulevard and Hesperia Road, and the addition of new turn lanes

Bike lanes throughout the length of the project, creating a seven-mile-long loop throughout the community

“This was a project 50 years in the making,” said Mike Aparicio, executive vice president of Skanska USA Civil’s operations on the West Coast. “The Green Tree Blvd. extension brought a construction project of a magnitude that the City of Victorville hadn’t seen before. It required not only great engineering, but also great vision, teamwork, and collaboration. Skanska was happy to have the opportunity to work closely with the City of Victorville, along with BNSF Railway and Parsons to complete this project for the Victorville community.”

Skanska’s work on the project included roadway excavation and grading, the use of aggregate base, concrete paving, a cast-in-place concrete bridge, retaining walls, and storm drainage along with the implementation of traffic signals, signage and lighting. More than one million pounds of rebar and more than fourteen thousand cubic yards of concrete were used to construct the new bridge, and nearly twenty-eight thousand tons of asphalt and close to one million cubic yards of dirt were used for the bridge and roadway combined.

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