



**STANISLAUS COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: November 15, 2021

**THE NEW HICKMAN ROAD BRIDGE OVER TUOLUMNE RIVER WILL OPEN  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021 AT 2:00 P.M.**

The new Hickman Road Bridge over Tuolumne River will open to the public on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 2:00p.m. Stanislaus County and project partners, City of Waterford, Caltrans, NV5, MCM, and Dewberry Engineers appreciate the public's patience during project construction and the recent two-week closure.

Construction crews began work on Hickman Road Bridge in June 2020. The \$18 million, 750-foot long, 75-foot tall, 5 span replacement bridge is supported on 100-foot deep piles with diameters ranging between 8 and 10 feet. The bridge construction required a temporary trestle, cofferdams, and river diversions to protect the environmental habitat of the river channel during construction.

The Stanislaus County Department of Public Works replaced the existing bridge, which was constructed in 1964, because it was determined by Caltrans (the California Department of Transportation) to be "Structurally Deficient" and "Scour Critical." The existing bridge has acute undermining occurring at the three center piers. Emergency repair efforts constructed in 2004 reduced the rate of erosion, but the bridge supports continue to be undercut. To fully complete this construction project, over the next few months, crews will demolish the existing bridge. The estimated project completion date is Late Winter / Early Spring of 2021/2022.

The existing bridge was home to more than 6,000 bats. Mitigation measures were taken to protect them during construction. The new bridge includes bat "houses" on the outside of the superstructure to provide a new home for the bat colony.

Project updates, road closures and other key project information is updated regularly on the project website at [www.hickmanbridge.com](http://www.hickmanbridge.com). The website features a project description, key project elements, live cam images, location map, construction updates, FAQ's, and construction photos. The website also provides interested parties the ability to sign up for electronic notifications of project updates.

A 24-hour project hotline is available at (209) 399-2028. You are welcome to leave a message with questions, comments, and/or concerns. A project team member will get back to you.

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