

Nevada County Transportation Commission

The Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) is the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Nevada County. NCTC coordinates state and federal transportation programs for Nevada County, the City of Grass Valley, Nevada City, and the Town of Truckee.

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The Nevada County Transportation Commission Newsletter is published quarterly. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please write or call the Nevada County Transportation Commission office.

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Upcoming NCTC Meeting

The next meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission is scheduled on: **Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 9:30 a.m., Truckee Town Council Chambers, 10183 Truckee Airport Road, Truckee, CA.**



NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Issue 45

September 2010

A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words

Nevada County has been busy this summer with construction projects aimed at improving transportation throughout the county by upgrading roadways and building trails.



A truck feeds asphalt into machinery to apply a "bonded wearing course" on SR 20 east of Nevada City

Caltrans funded a project to install a "bonded wearing course" surface treatment on SR 20 from Nevada City to I-80. The project was done to address concerns regarding wear on the highway surface caused by detoured traffic onto SR 20 during the 2009 construction season for I-80 projects. An ultrathin hot asphalt mixture was applied over a thick polymer modified asphalt emulsion membrane. The finished surface provides good skid resistance and improves driving visibility by reducing back-spray and tire splash during rainy periods. This surface treatment has a life expectancy of three to five years. The project cost \$4.4 million of State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds, and is scheduled for completion the end of September 2010.

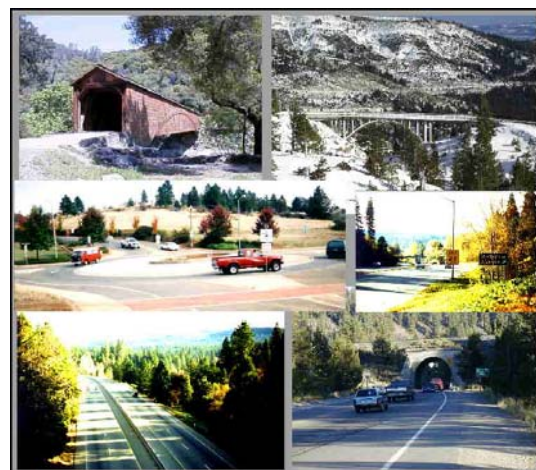
(article continued on pages 2 & 3)



SR 20 surface overlay funded by Caltrans to address wear and tear on highway in 2009 from detoured traffic to accommodate I-80 construction

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Nevada County Summer Projects cont'd.

The three projects featured below are mentioned in our March 2010 Newsletter, which told of 31 projects scheduled for summer construction in Nevada County. Nine projects were funded by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds.



The Town of Truckee utilized \$633,342 of ARRA funding to construct a segment of the Truckee River Legacy Trail pedestrian/bike path.



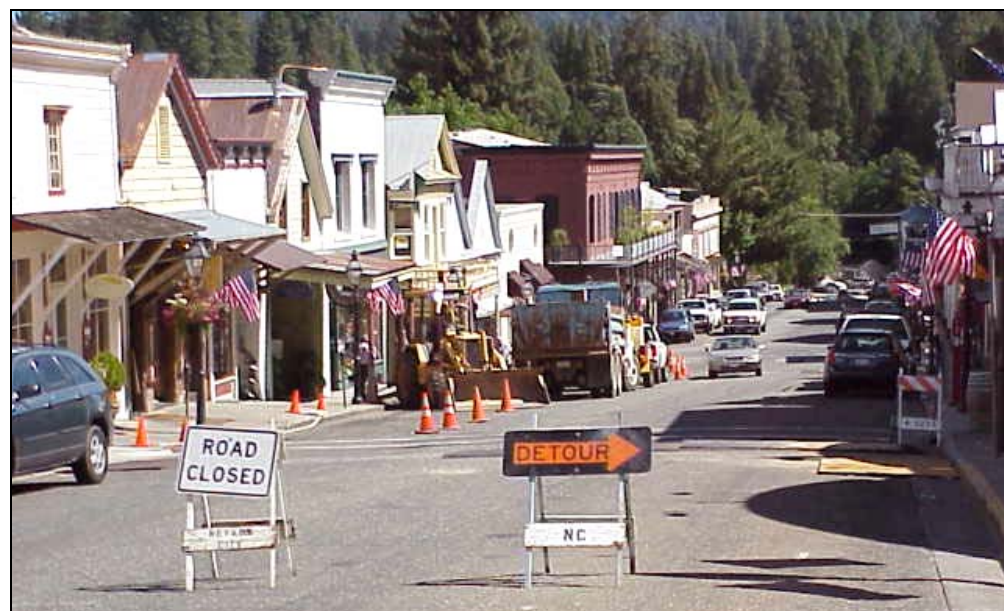
Major reconstruction on So. Auburn Street in Grass Valley was made possible with ARRA funding

The City of Grass Valley used \$506,555 of ARRA funds to do a major reconstruction project on South Auburn Street from Hanson Way to McKnight Way. Trisha Tillotson, City of Grass Valley Associate Civil Engineer, said one of the main features of the project was the installation of raised crosswalks at the Race Street intersection to improve pedestrian safety (see photo to left).

Nevada City is utilizing \$120,438 of ARRA funding to do an asphalt replacement project on Broad Street (photo on bottom left). This will be the first time in over fifty years that the pavement has had such extensive work. The project is slated for completion by October 1, 2010.

Nevada County is using \$255,000 of ARRA funds and a federal earmark of \$747,000 to construct a Transit Transfer Center in Grass Valley between Bank Street and East Bennett Street. A transfer bay for buses will be built, plus a sidewalk and waiting area with shelters for passengers, and a storage building that will house a restroom. The bid for construction went out the week of September 13th. Plans are to complete the facility by early summer 2011.

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Removal/replacement of the asphalt on Broad Street in Nevada City paid for with ARRA funds

Nevada County Summer Projects cont'd.

The Nevada County Department of Public Works utilized \$1,621,751 of ARRA federal funds during the 2010 summer construction season to build a bike path along Penn Valley Drive (see below), create a transit bus stop at the Lake Wildwood Gate, improve shoulders and overlay sections of La Barr Meadows Road, and complete turn lane and shoulder improvements on Magnolia Road in south county. The county expended \$900,000 of ARRA funds on additional overlay projects in western Nevada County. They also used \$310,000 of Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to construct a walkway from SR 49/North Bloomfield Road to the Madelyn Helling Library in Nevada City (photos on right).



Penn Valley Drive paved Class 1 Bike Path built with ARRA funds



Pedestrian walkway from No. Bloomfield Rd. to Madelyn Helling Library at the Nevada County Government Center paid for with CMAQ funds



The Town of Truckee – In response to concerns about pedestrian safety in the SR 89 Union Pacific Railroad undercrossing, known as the Mousehole, Caltrans did an interim project to add pedestrian actuated signals at the Mousehole and to improve access for pedestrians going through the facility (see photo on left). The project was funded by \$475,000 of SHOPP funds.

The Town of Truckee and Caltrans are jointly working on a project to construct a pedestrian tunnel next to the existing Mousehole. The environmental document for that project will be available for review in October 2010. The Town is currently seeking funding for construction of that future project. [NCTC](#)

Delay of La Barr Meadows Widening Project

The SR 49/La Barr Meadows Widening Project was unable to begin construction this summer due to delays associated with utility relocation. Caltrans announced in August that the rainy spring weather saturated soil in the project area causing approximately a three month delay for AT&T to start moving their underground utilities. Even though the contract for the project was awarded on May 28th to De Silva Gates Construction, they could not start construction until all the utility relocation was completed. Caltrans officials expect utility relocation to be completed by October 2010, construction to start in spring 2011, and the project to finish in fall 2012. The construction portion of the project could not begin this year after the AT&T utility relocation was completed because it is not feasible to perform earth disturbing activities during the winter months and stay in compliance with storm water regulations.

The project will widen SR 49 to four lanes for 1.5 miles from Tall Pines Mobile Home Park at Lode Line Way to Ponderosa Pines Mobile Home Park at Ponderosa Pines Way south of Grass Valley. In addition, the project will have a continuous median/left-turn lane, right turn pockets, add eight foot shoulders, construct frontage roads, construct concrete barriers between the mainline and frontage roads, and install a traffic signal at the relocated intersection of SR 49/La Barr Meadows Road. Three sound walls will be constructed to mitigate noise from traffic on the highway to surrounding residences.

The traffic signal is expected to be operational by October 2011. Consolidating multiple access points to a single access point at a signalized intersection via frontage roads is expected to reduce the collision rate and improve traffic operations on this portion of SR 49. Emergency vehicles leaving the fire station will be equipped with a pre-emptive signal device to reduce delays in exiting the station and improve safe entrance onto the highway to respond to emergencies. [NCTC](#)