



## RE-ENVISIONING DOYLE DRIVE



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For Immediate Release  
May 21, 2015

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### Doyle Drive Weekend Closure Postponed

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The extended weekend closure of Doyle Drive, previously scheduled for May 28 at 10:00 p.m. – June 1 at 5:00 a.m., has been **postponed** to complete all testing and software integration of the tunnel fire-life-safety, traffic and communications systems. These systems work in concert and include ventilation, heat detection monitors and a state-of-the-art water deluge system for fire protection. A new closure date will be announced when system software integration and testing is finished and certified by the State Fire Marshal.

“The project team is working closely with the State Fire Marshal to follow required testing protocol and secure approval to open the roadway. The tunnels cannot be opened to traffic before it has been demonstrated that the systems work as they were designed and are properly integrated,” said Ron Richardson, Chief Engineer with Golden Link Concessionaire.

The tunnel safety systems are monitored by staff in the 24-hour Operations and Maintenance Center (OMC), located near the Log Cabin in the Presidio. Traffic signals, the radio override system and variable message signs, operated remotely, will communicate with motorists if any emergency action is required. The tunnels include a voice evacuation system that can broadcast messages to motorists during an emergency and a video incident detection system to warn operators of various traffic problems.

The tunnels are an important part of the final design of the Presidio Parkway. Pedestrians and bicyclists will be able to cross over the roadway on top of the tunnels, resulting in new connections between the upper Presidio and the historic coastal defense batteries, Crissy Field and the waterfront. The open spaces on top of the Main Post and Battery Tunnels constitute over ten acres of new parkland for residents and visitors to enjoy, and they will provide panoramic views of the Bay and Golden Gate Bridge. The design is sensitive to community needs and the national park setting, and the tunnels also aid in reducing freeway noise.

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#### About the Presidio Parkway Project

The replacement of Doyle Drive with the Presidio Parkway is a collaborative effort led by the California Department of Transportation, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority and the Federal Highway Administration.

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Doyle Drive is the portion of Route 101 located within the Presidio of San Francisco. The roadway winds 1.5 miles along the northern edge of San Francisco, connecting the San Francisco peninsula to the Golden Gate Bridge and the North Bay. Each weekday, more than 100,000 vehicles travel between Marin and San Francisco, over the Golden Gate Bridge and along Doyle Drive.

The old Doyle Drive was structurally and seismically deficient and had to be replaced. The roadway was facing the same problem that threatens other crucial components of the nation's infrastructure - the ravages of time and continual use. Originally built in 1936, Doyle Drive had reached the end of its useful life. The new Presidio Parkway replacement is based on a world-class design that will improve the seismic, structural and traffic safety of the roadway. It will also be far more sensitive to community needs and the national park setting, reducing impacts on biological, cultural, historical and natural resources and on the surrounding neighborhoods.

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