



Date: September 8, 2025

District: District 7

Contact: <u>AmestoyPOC@dot.ca.gov</u>

Caltrans Project Update: Amestoy Avenue POC and Louise Avenue OC Improvements in Encino

Hello Encino Neighborhood Council,

We wanted to give you an update on this Caltrans project in Encino, that will be sent out later today to interested parties in the Encino community (who signed up for project updates). Caltrans appreciates your partnership and support as this project moves forward, and the project team looks forward to attending the Encino Neighborhood Council Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting on Sept. 15 to provide information and updates on the project.

The U.S. 101 Amestoy Avenue Pedestrian Overcrossing and Louise Avenue Overcrossing Improvements Project is currently in the environmental phase of development and programmed for construction in 2028. The purpose of this project is to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility across U.S. 101 by rehabilitating the Amestoy Avenue Pedestrian Overcrossing (POC) and Louise Ave Overcrossing (OC), which have not been upgraded since their construction in 1958.

Caltrans is not considering demolishing the Amestoy Avenue POC. The existing structure is structurally sufficient, and demolishing would not meet the need and purpose of this project to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility across U.S. 101. Caltrans also recently conducted a pedestrian count survey on Amestoy Avenue POC using time-lapse footage from Aug. 25-31 and observed an average of 24 daily crossings, verifying that the bridge is used regularly by local residents and visitors. As part of rehabilitation, the project proposes replacing the existing bridge railing, improving security, and enhancing the surroundings to maximize the benefit of infrastructure spending. More information can be found on the project webpage (tinyurl.com/amestoyovercrossing) and an online survey is currently open (https://tinyurl.com/amestoybridgesurvey) to gather preliminary feedback on potential improvements. Comments and questions may also be submitted via email to AmestoyPOC@dot.ca.gov.

Due to feedback from members of the Encino community and elected officials during public engagement for Encino Ave POC (demolished in 2022), Caltrans initially considered a demolish option for Amestoy Ave POC. Caltrans acknowledges that some members of the Encino community have continued to request the pedestrian bridge be demolished, while others note it as a vital asset to the community. The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) expressed official support in favor of maintaining the pedestrian bridge at Amestoy Ave after conducting a connectivity analysis in 2023, finding that removal of the bridge would greatly impact connectivity for thousands of Encino residents.

Caltrans looks forward to engaging with the Encino community as this project develops and will keep the community informed with opportunities to learn more about the project, which remains open to public feedback and comments. We appreciate your continued participation in this transportation safety project.

Thank you,

Colleen Park
Public Information Officer
Caltrans – District 7

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