



THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE SEISMIC SAFETY PROJECTS

CALTRANS

BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

BAY AREA TO GET FRONT ROW VIEW OF SELF- ANCHORED SUSPENSION SPAN TOWER

Latest Sections for 525-Foot-Tall Tower Will Be Visible to Bay Bridge Drivers

Oakland, October 19, 2010 – The erection of the Self-Anchored Suspension Span’s single 525-foot tall tower will reach new heights starting the week of October 24 as crews lift the second set of sections into place, bringing tower construction into full view for Bay Bridge drivers. These latest sections will rise more than 10 stories over the Bay Bridge, giving motorists an up-close glimpse of the herculean endeavor to replace the existing East Span. The public is encouraged to focus on driving safely and to not be distracted by the construction.

“We are celebrating another major construction milestone of the iconic Self-Anchored Suspension Span as the tower starts to soar above the deck and comes into full view,” said Toll Bridge Program Manager Tony Anziano. “We understand that people will want to take a peek at what we are doing as they cross the bridge. Despite that temptation, we strongly encourage drivers to keep their eyes on the road.”

The second set of four tower sections arrived in the Bay Area on October 9. The tower is made up of four independent legs, each of which is composed of five vertical sections. The second four sections are 107 feet tall, each weighing 617 tons or 1.2 million pounds. With the placement of these sections, the tower will be 272-feet-tall, a little more than halfway toward its ultimate height.

Two strand jacks will hoist each section about 30 stories into the air, so that each segment can be moved into the erection tower just above the first sections of the tower. Once the second section is lowered onto the first, crews will bolt them together using splice plates.

Crews will work around the clock, using two 12-hour shifts, to erect all four tower sections; it takes approximately 16 hours to lift, place and bolt each section. The work is expected to be completed by this weekend.

Crews placed the first tower sections onto the foundation in July 2010. The arrival of the third group of tower sections is expected in December 2010.

For more information visit BayBridgeInfo.org.

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