



THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE SEISMIC SAFETY PROJECTS

CALTRANS

BAY AREA TOLL AUTHORITY

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE

SAS TOWER TO BE NEARLY COMPLETE WITH LATEST CONSTRUCTION LIFT

Latest Sections Will Bring SAS Tower to 480 Feet of Its 525 Foot Height

Oakland, February 28, 2011 – The latest lift of tower sections for the Self-Anchored Suspension Span (SAS) will see the tower eclipse the original East Span, whose high point stands at 388 feet tall. The tower will grow to 480 feet, about 91 percent of its final 525 foot height. The work is scheduled to begin Monday, Feb. 28 and be completed later in the week.

The latest set of four tower sections arrived in the Bay Area on February 14. The tower is made up of four independent legs, each of which is composed of five vertical sections. The fourth set of tower sections are 105.6-feet-tall and each weighs nearly 1 million pounds. When completed, the SAS, the signature element of the new East Span, will take its place on the list of iconic Bay Area landmarks.

Two strand jacks will hoist each section about 55 stories into the air, so that each segment can be moved into the erection tower just above the first three sections of the tower. Once the fourth section is lowered into place, crews will bolt it to the third section using splice plates. These are the final individual leg sections to be placed; the next lift is a single piece that connects to all four legs at the top of the tower.

Crews will work around the clock, using two 12-hour shifts, to erect all four tower sections; it takes approximately 30 hours to lift, place and bolt each section and then lower the strand jacks into position before the next section can be lifted.

Crews placed the first tower sections onto the foundation in July 2010, the second set in October 2010 and the third in December 2010. The fifth and final section, which also arrived in mid-February, is expected to be placed in April.

For more information visit BayBridgeInfo.org/projects/sas-tower.

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