Overview

For almost a century, the North First Avenue Bridge has served as a critical lifeline for the surrounding community, and it serves as the main thoroughfare to essential services such as schools and hospitals as well as Fort Irwin. Located in rural Barstow and built in 1930, the North First Avenue Bridge has been deemed structurally deficient and functionally obsolete.

The San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), in cooperation with the City of Barstow and Caltrans, is leading the construction effort to replace the existing North First Avenue bridge over a Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railyard.

This project will include construction of new access roadways to the bridge, a new two-lane bridge, and the demolition of the old bridge once the new bridge is open to traffic. The replacement bridge will enhance traffic safety, improve Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access, enhance pedestrian walkways, and re-establish a safety connection between the two parts of the City of Barstow - the residential north portion and the downtown business district.

Schedule

SEPTEMBER 2016
Completion and Approval of Final Environmental Document (Project Approved)

MARCH 2022
Completion of Final Design

JANUARY 2023
Anticipated Start of Construction

FALL 2024
Anticipated End of Construction

Funding

LOCAL $11.8 Million
(Includes Measure I)

FEDERAL $73.2 Million

TOTAL $85 Million

Stay Connected

877-55-SBCTA
info@goSBCTA.com
goSBCTA.com/
NorthFirstAvenueBridge

We Plan.
The North First Avenue Bridge project was approved in September 2016. The project is funded by Federal Highway Bridge Program funds, other federal and state funds, City of Barstow funds, and approximately $5.6 million in Measure I funds. Measure I is the ½ cent sales tax collected through San Bernardino County for transportation improvements. Voters first approved the measure in 1989, and overwhelmingly its extension in 2004 with more than 80% voting to extend the measure through 2040. SBCTA administers Measure I revenue and determines which projects receive Measure I funding.

We Build.
This project will include construction of new access roadways to the bridge, a new two-lane bridge, and the demolition of the old bridge once the new bridge is open to traffic. During construction, activities may include the removing and rebuilding of existing and new structures, digging up roads for utility work, pavement and restriping work, traffic shifts, and intermittent lane closures. Be in the know and sign up to receive the project-specific construction alerts and interactive Google Map with real-time closures and detours – goSBCTA.com/NorthFirstAvenueBridge.

You Move.
The North First Avenue Bridge serves as the main thoroughfare to essential services such as schools and hospitals as well as Fort Irwin. The replacement bridge will enhance traffic safety, improve (ADA) access, enhance pedestrian walkways, bicycle safety and re-establish a safety connection between the two parts of the City of Barstow - the residential north portion and the downtown business district.

Frequently Asked Questions

WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION BEGIN?
Construction is anticipated to start January 2023.

HOW IS THE PROJECT BEING FUNDED?
The project is funded by Federal Highway Bridge Program funds, other federal and state funds, City of Barstow funds, and approximately $5.6 million in Measure I funds.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION?
The existing bridge will remain open during new bridge construction. Crews will reroute traffic onto the new bridge once completed. During construction local traffic may be routed to other access points if temporary local street closures are required. Signage and traffic alerts will be issued to advise you of these detours. Advanced notice of these detours will be posted on our website and sent out in our weekly construction alert.

Please be aware and use caution throughout the corridor as workers and heavy equipment will be present. Be in the know and sign up to receive the project-specific construction alerts and interactive Google Map with real-time closures and detours – goSBCTA.com/NorthFirstAvenueBridge.

WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE A QUESTION OR CONCERN ABOUT CONSTRUCTION?
Our team is available by phone (877-55-SBCTA) or email (info@gosbcta.com) and committed to respond to you within 24 hours.