



## Perris News

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### Highway 74 Gets a \$7.5 Million Facelift

Highway 74 in Perris' south end is getting a \$7.5 million facelift, a major improvement that City officials say will benefit residents, businesses and visitors now and in the future.

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch and City Councilwoman Joanne Evans joined Riverside County Supervisors and members of the county's Economic Development Agency recently to cut the ribbon on a pair of Highway 74 Beautification Projects.

Improvements include the installation of curbs and gutters, trees, landscaping and bus turnouts on the 1.5 mile stretch of Highway 74 between Trumble and Palomar roads.

The stretch of Highway 74 serves as a gateway to Perris from the south and east.

Future development for that area also calls for the construction of a four-story hotel, restaurants, and a gas station.

"This is a huge bonanza for our City," Evans said. "The hotel is sorely needed. That whole area needs some tender loving care and this project will provide it. "This project is good for the community. This is where government works." Other improvements slated for the southern edge of Perris include the Marion Ashley Community and Childcare Center, the Heritage High School Stadium, the Perris Valley Big League "Field of Dreams" and Eller Park.

Mayor Busch thanked Riverside County for funding the project, which has been in the works for nearly eight years. Busch said ground will break on the planned "Field of Dreams" this week—a project that could bring thousands of young baseball players and their families to Perris annually—and the City Council is expected to discuss the hotel project within the next month.

"We want to give a big kudo to the county for paying for this," Busch said. "The City of Perris will benefit sales taxes and other revenues. This will bring in a lot of major activities to our City." Riverside County Supervisor Marion Ashley, who lives in Perris, said the renovations will reinvigorate what has been an underserved area.

"The Highway 74 Beautification Projects are a collaborative effort among various entities...to improve this neglected area," Ashley said. "In this tough economic climate, we are doing our best to not only provide construction jobs, but also jobs for the community."

Supervisor Jeff Stone said the improvements will have a long term and significant impact on Perris and surrounding cities and unincorporated areas.

"This effort is creating jobs but commercial opportunity that will have tremendous implications for the quality of life and growth for this community," he said.



Highway 74 Beautification Projects Trumble Road & Interchange Dedication and Phase II & III Kick Off