

# NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul  
Biane

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 22, 2009

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## County to Maintain Freeway Interchange Landscaping, Trash Removal

**SAN BERNARDINO** – On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors approved a contract with a landscape company to perform monthly landscape maintenance and trash cleanups at the interchange of I-10 and Cherry Avenue in Fontana.

Waist-high weeds, overgrown bushes, ragged palm trees, and persistent trash at the busy junction prompted San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Paul Biane to propose hiring a private company to clean up and then maintain the interchange landscaping.

“The Cherry interchange falls under the jurisdiction of Caltrans District 8, but the District doesn’t have the resources necessary to maintain every interchange and every mile of freeway in San Bernardino and Riverside counties,” Biane said. “The Cherry interchange is the first thing people see when they get off the freeway to enter the Fontana community, and we want to make sure that first impression is good one.”

The County worked closely with Caltrans to secure permission to perform landscape maintenance work within the agency’s right of way.

The landscape maintenance contract will cost \$11,780, which includes \$1,040 for County Public Works to administer the contract and perform inspections of the work. Funding comes from a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the County and the City of Fontana that was adopted in 2007. The MOU call for the County to set aside 37% of the sales tax collected in unincorporated Fontana to use for projects that will benefit the community. In return, the City of Fontana agreed to make the City’s sewer service available in the unincorporated Fontana area.

The Cherry Avenue interchange is scheduled to be rebuilt in 2014. The new interchange will have minimal landscaping to negate the need for extensive maintenance and watering. The County will evaluate the need for continuing the landscape maintenance contract prior to construction.

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