



## MURRIETA: California Oaks interchange contract awarded

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Granite Construction has been awarded an \$11 million contract to rebuild the interchange at Interstate 15 and California Oaks Road in Murrieta.

Council members awarded the contract Tuesday.

Murrieta Public Works Director Pat Thomas said construction work is expected to begin in February, and take 18 months.

The work will entail rebuilding the turn lanes that drivers use to enter and exit the freeway into through traffic lanes, which will make California Oaks a six-lane road with a median.

A new loop ramp will be built so drivers heading west can access I-15 south from the right lane. They'll also be able to access I-15 north from the far right eastbound lane of the road.

City officials had set aside more than \$21 million, making this the second freeway project to cost half the anticipated price.

The Clinton Keith Road/Interstate 215 project, which involves widening the Clinton Keith Road bridge and rebuilding freeway ramps, was expected to cost \$26 million, but the low bid was \$12.6 million. That project is 70 percent complete, Thomas said.