

# New segment of Kings Canyon Expressway project completed

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The second segment of the Kings Canyon Expressway was completed on Friday, the project now having widened nine miles of Highway 180 from a two-lane highway to a four-lane expressway.

The newly completed segment was a three-mile section stretching from just east of Quality Avenue to just west of Smith Avenue. Already completed was a six-mile section between Temperance Avenue and Academy Avenue.

The segment cost \$37.6 million. Funds were made available by using \$11.5 million from the voter-approved Proposition 1B, a 2006 transportation bond, Measure C, a half-cent local sales tax for transportation, and state and local partnership programs.

As funding becomes available, the final segment will be constructed, a 4.5-mile route that runs from Smith Avenue to just east of Frankwood Avenue.

The widening project first started in 2009 and aims to help cut commute times and speed up the movement of agriculture along the highway.

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