THE BAY BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED
LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2013
8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28 to 5 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3

FULL BRIDGE CLOSURE DURING HOLIDAY WEEKEND
This Labor Day weekend, the Bay Bridge will be closed to take the original East Span out of service and to open the new East Span to traffic. Work will be done at the Oakland Touchdown and the Yerba Buena Island Transition Structure to connect the new bridge to the existing Toll Plaza and Yerba Buena Island, respectively. Crews will also perform essential construction activities, including paving, striping and erecting barrier rail. Throughout the closure, maintenance will work on the West Span, replacing lighting fixtures, cleaning and painting the cable, and repairing finger joints. For more information about construction during the weekend, see the reverse side of this factsheet.

While the Bay Bridge was closed during Labor Day weekends in 2006, 2007 and 2009, essential construction work was successfully completed on schedule. Taking advantage of historically light traffic on the bridge during the holiday weekend helps minimize disruptions to motorists, residents and businesses. Experience gained from previous closures will help us perform this construction safely again this year.

This closure marks the final step before the new bridge opens to traffic. Since 1936, the original East Span has facilitated the movement of people and goods throughout the Bay Area. The 7.1-magnitude Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989 significantly damaged the region’s transportation structures, and exposed the vulnerability of the existing East Span. Since that day, the Toll Bridge Program Oversight Committee has worked diligently to replace the original bridge and move everyone onto a safer structure. Following the safe rerouting of traffic to the new East Span, the original East Span will be demolished, a process that will take approximately three years.

GETTING AROUND
Residents and visitors will have numerous alternatives for getting around the Bay Area while the entire Bay Bridge is closed during Labor Day weekend.

Motorists should allow extra time for travel and use of other bridges, including the Golden Gate Bridge, the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge and the Dumbarton Bridge.

Vehicle access to Yerba Buena Island and Treasure Island for residents, employees and visitors will be maintained via special permit from San Francisco.

For updates on other transit options, including ferries, BART and MUNI, be sure to visit 511.org or call 511 for real-time traffic conditions.
NEW EAST SPAN DEBUTS NEW DRIVING EXPERIENCE
When the bridge reopens to traffic on Tuesday, Sept. 3, motorists will encounter a new driving experience, as traffic moves from the upper and lower decks of the original bridge to the parallel, side-by-side decks of the new East Span. The new side-by-side configuration will open up panoramic views of the San Francisco bay and surrounding hills.

BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH
For the first time pedestrians and cyclists will have the chance to travel across the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge’s East Span, on a 15.5-foot-wide bike/pedestrian path that will extend the 2.2 miles to Yerba Buena Island.

Before the pathway can fully connect to Yerba Buena Island, crews will need to demolish a portion of the existing bridge that sits in the way of the new bike and pedestrian path. Contractors must dismantle portions of the original bridge, including the S-Curve detour that was put into place in 2009, in order to install the rest of the path and connect it to Yerba Buena Island, as well as replace the temporary path at Oakland Touchdown. The bike path is expected to be complete by summer 2015. Information about pathway access will be available prior to bridge opening.

STAY INFORMED
Baybridgeinfo.org features information on the opening of the new East Span, including important closure details and construction simulations, and drive-throughs of the new span.

For updates on other transit options, including ferries, BART and MUNI, be sure to visit 511.org or call 511 for real-time traffic conditions, detour routes and public transit alternatives. Check back often for the latest updates.

For more information, visit BayBridgeInfo.org, or contact:

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