

Media Alert

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Ribbon-cutting Celebrating the Lake Isabella Sidewalk Project with Pedestrian Bridge

Investing in the community with 3.7 miles of bike lanes and 1.5 miles of ADA-compliant sidewalks



What: Kern County Public Works to celebrate the completion of the sidewalk project with pedestrian bridge in Lake Isabella.

When: **Thursday, May 28, 2026**
10:00 a.m.

Where: **Ceremony**
County Administrative Building: 7050 Lake Isabella Boulevard, Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Parking: Available near the event site

Who: Ribbon-cutting Ceremony Remarks and Attendees:

- Kern County Supervisor Phillip Peters, District 1 – *Master of Ceremonies*
- Kern County Public Works Assistant Director, Salvador Gomez & Staff

Background: Join Kern County Public Works, elected officials, and community members as we celebrate the completion of new sidewalk improvements and a pedestrian bridge in the Lake Isabella community.

The Lake Isabella Sidewalk Project with Pedestrian Bridge represents a major investment in safety, accessibility, and community connectivity, and has already received regional recognition.

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Earlier this year, the Kern Council of Governments (KernCOG) honored Kern County Public Works' Capital Projects Division with their Regional Award of Merit for Transportation.

This achievement was led by **Senior Engineer Cornelio Mangon**, who oversaw the project design, and **Senior Engineer Sergio Pinedo Felix**, who guided construction through completion. Together, they turned an ongoing community need into a meaningful investment for Lake Isabella residents.

This project is the result of years of persistence and dedication. Kern County Public Works' Advanced Planning team first pursued funding in 2015 and again in 2016. After reimagining the project to address the area's most critical safety concern – the narrow crossing over the Borel Canal – the team successfully secured \$5.14 million in Cycle 4 Active Transportation Program (ATP) funding in 2018.

The project originally launched as "Walk Isabella," a campaign focused on promoting walking and encouraging active transportation throughout the community.

The completed project delivered:

- 3.7 miles of bike lanes
- 1.5 miles of ADA-compliant sidewalks
- A new pedestrian bridge providing safe access where none previously existed

Improvements were completed along Lake Isabella Boulevard from Tank Park to the Kern County Library – Kern River Valley Branch, and along Erskine Creek Road from Lake Isabella Boulevard to the nearby middle schools and Kern Valley High School. The pedestrian bridge was constructed over the Borel Canal at the Lake Isabella crossing.

The project totaled approximately \$7.18 million, including \$5.14 million in ATP grant funding. Construction began on February 3, 2025, and was completed on May 14, 2026.

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