



**PRESS ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
February 8, 2013

CONTACT:

Melissa Tigbao of the City of Richmond Engineering Department
Melissa_tigbao@ci.richmond.ca.us
510-412-2039 or
Zak Conway, Project Resident Engineer
zconway@swinerton.com
415-308-1741

DORNAN DRIVE TUNNEL TEMPORARY CLOSURE DURING CONSTRUCTION

In January, the City of Richmond initiated a project to repair the concrete lining of the 100-year old Dornan Drive Tunnel, which connects the commercial area of Point Richmond with shoreline areas of Keller Beach Park, and the Brickyard Cove and Seacliff neighborhoods. The scope of work includes repairing cracked areas of the tunnel lining, adding of carbon fiber strips to strengthen this lining, and installing a new drainage system.

On Friday, February 8, 2013, the contractor for this project, TPA Construction Inc., encountered an area on the top of the inside of the tunnel that showed significant concrete failure, which was causing large pieces of concrete to fall to the ground. Upon further investigation, the construction team, which includes TPA Construction Inc., project manager Swinerton Management and Consulting, and City of Richmond engineering staff discovered a large void above the tunnel lining. Upon further visual inspection, the void, which would be analogous to an attic crawl space above a ceiling in a house, is approximately 12 feet long by 10 feet wide with a 4 foot depth. The remaining concrete that separates the void from the inside of the tunnel is approximately 4-5 inches thick, without any structural reinforcement to keep it in place.

Upon the recommendation of The Crosby Group, the design engineer for the project, and a licensed structural engineer, the Dornan Drive Tunnel has been closed. For the safety of the Richmond community and the workers, the closure will be in effect throughout the structural repair of this void and throughout the remainder of the project to repair and enhance the concrete lining as originally scoped.

In the short term, additional structural reinforcement will be temporarily placed under the area of the void, while the construction management team works with the structural engineer to develop the safest long-term solution.

The estimated duration of the Dornan Drive Tunnel closure is approximately three months, until April 30, 2013. During this closure, detours will be in place for access from the Point Richmond commercial area to Keller Beach Park and the Brickyard Cove and Seacliff neighborhoods. Motorists can access those areas via Washington Avenue to Western Drive.

Alternatively, the Brickyard Cove and Seacliff neighborhoods can be accessed through Canal Boulevard and Seacliff Drive.

While we understand that the temporary closure of the Dornan Drive Tunnel is an inconvenience to residents, we also believe that it is in the best interest of public safety. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

For future updates on this project, residents can follow:

http://twitter.com/CoR_Engineering; or

Follow the City's E-News on the City's website at www.ci.richmond.ca.us.

If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Tigbao of the City of Richmond Engineering Department at melissa_tigbao@ci.richmond.ca.us and (510) 412-2039, or the Project Resident Engineer, Zak Conway, at zconway@swinerton.com and (415) 308-1741.

DORNAN DRIVE TUNNEL DETOUR MAP

