

Quarterly Update

January 2026



Samples from horizontal rock coring, taken during geotechnical drilling completed in January 2026. The data collected will help shape design and construction of the Last Chance Grade bypass tunnel.

Last Chance Grade Updates

These updates are intended to help communicate the wide range of complex activities happening both in the field and behind the scenes to help Caltrans avoid and minimize impacts while working toward a long-term solution for Last Chance Grade.

Recent and Current Activities

- Final Environmental Document (FED) Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) process underway
- Fall 2025 geotechnical exploration will be completed in January 2026. Planning for next phase of geotechnical exploration underway
- Caltrans meeting with Tribes, Redwood State and National Parks, and State Historic Preservation Office to advance Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding cultural resources
- Huffman Stakeholder Working Group meeting held on December 4, 2025; Planning for next meeting in June 2026
- Continuing with development of mitigation measures
- Awarded the Independent Cost Estimator (ICE) Contract
- Procurement process for the Final Design Consultant contract is ongoing

- Begin Independent Technical Support Services (ITSS) Consultant procurement process
- Finalization of the FY 25/26 Quarter 2 LCG Project Funding Plan

Decisions

- Selection of PCSInfra as Independent Cost Estimator (ICE)

Timeline/Schedule - Upcoming Activities

Quarter	Activities
Quarter 2: Apr - Jun 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Environmental Document (FED) Approved ICE team integrates with the project team to advance the project Award the Final Design Consultant Contract Continue the ITSS Consultant Procurement Process Planning for Fall 2026 Geotechnical Investigation Huffman Stakeholder Working Group Meeting Public Open House
Quarter 3: Jul - Sept 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Final Design Phase Final Design Consultant team integrates with project team to advance the project Complete the ITSS Consultant Procurement Process Start Fall 2026 Geotechnical Exploration
Quarter 4: Oct - Dec 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue Final Design Phase ITSS Consultant team integrates with project team to advance the project Continue Fall 2026 Geotechnical Exploration