

Santa Monica's California Incline Reopens After \$17M Reconstruction Project

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The iconic roadway underwent a 17-month renovation to comply with seismic standards. Wider pedestrian and bike paths also were added.

Santa Monica's California Incline reopened Thursday morning after 17 months of reconstruction.

The renovation project, which kicked off with the ramp's closure in April 2015, was aimed at making the bridge portion of the iconic roadway compliant with seismic standards. The old bridge was demolished, making way for a new structure that also includes wider — and safer — sidewalks and bicycle lanes.

The \$17 million project was paid for by federal funds.

A celebration marked the reopening early Thursday morning. A Big Blue Bus drove through the ribbon to make it official.

"We needed to shore this up for many, many, many years," Mayor Tony Vasquez said in a press conference held on the ramp Thursday morning, according to KABC. "And the bridge that you're going to see, also, has now also been retrofitted for seismic [regulations]."

Starting at 10 a.m., the Incline was opened to pedestrians and cyclists; vehicles will have access by 5 p.m.

According to the Los Angeles Times, the ramp is used by 15,000 vehicles every day.

Watch a time-lapse video of the construction work, courtesy of [Work Zone Cam](#), below.