



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SANITATION DISTRICTS**
Converting Waste Into Resources

CLEARWATER PROJECT

Public Information Meeting

August 9, 2025

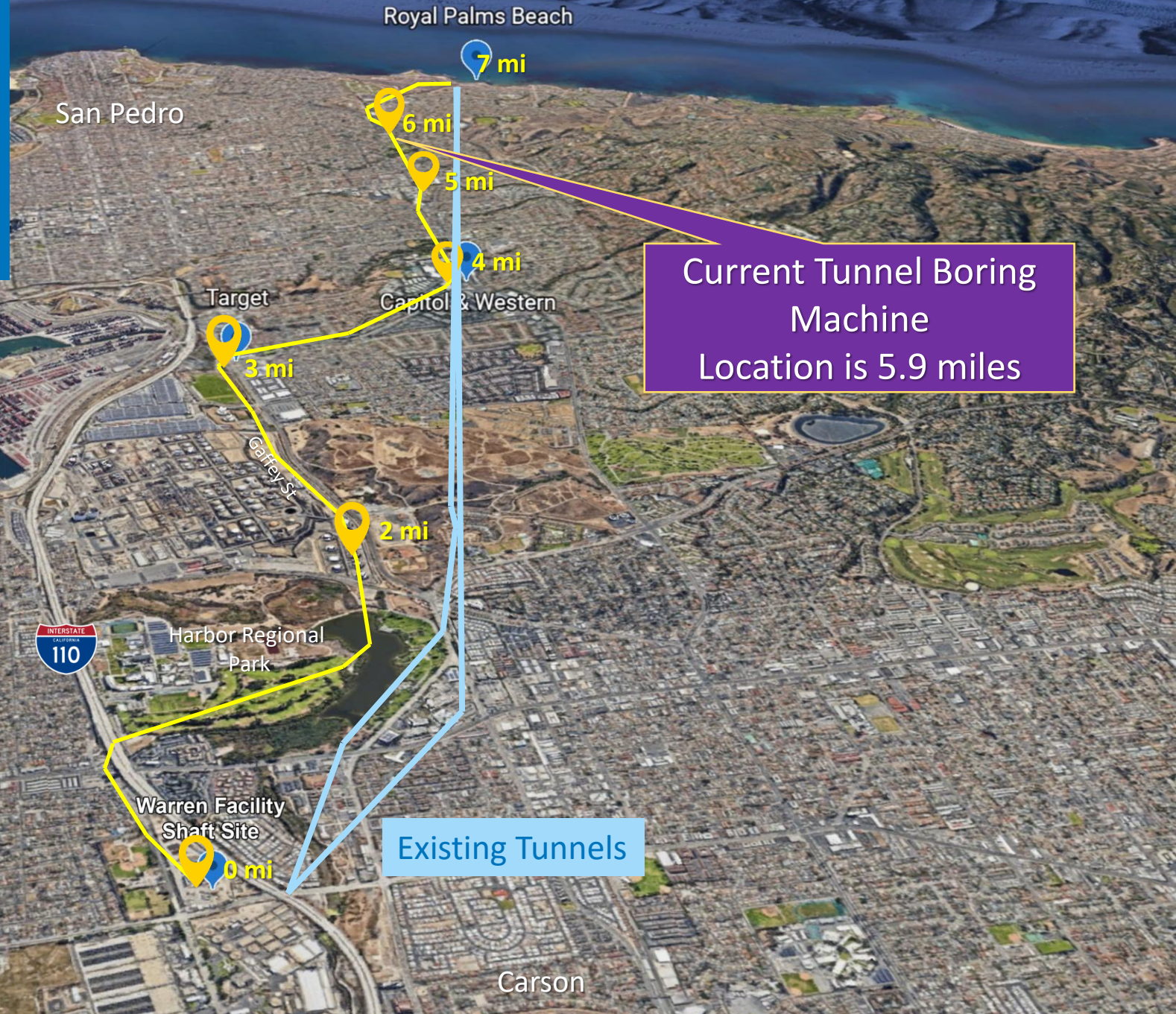


Tunnel Construction Overview

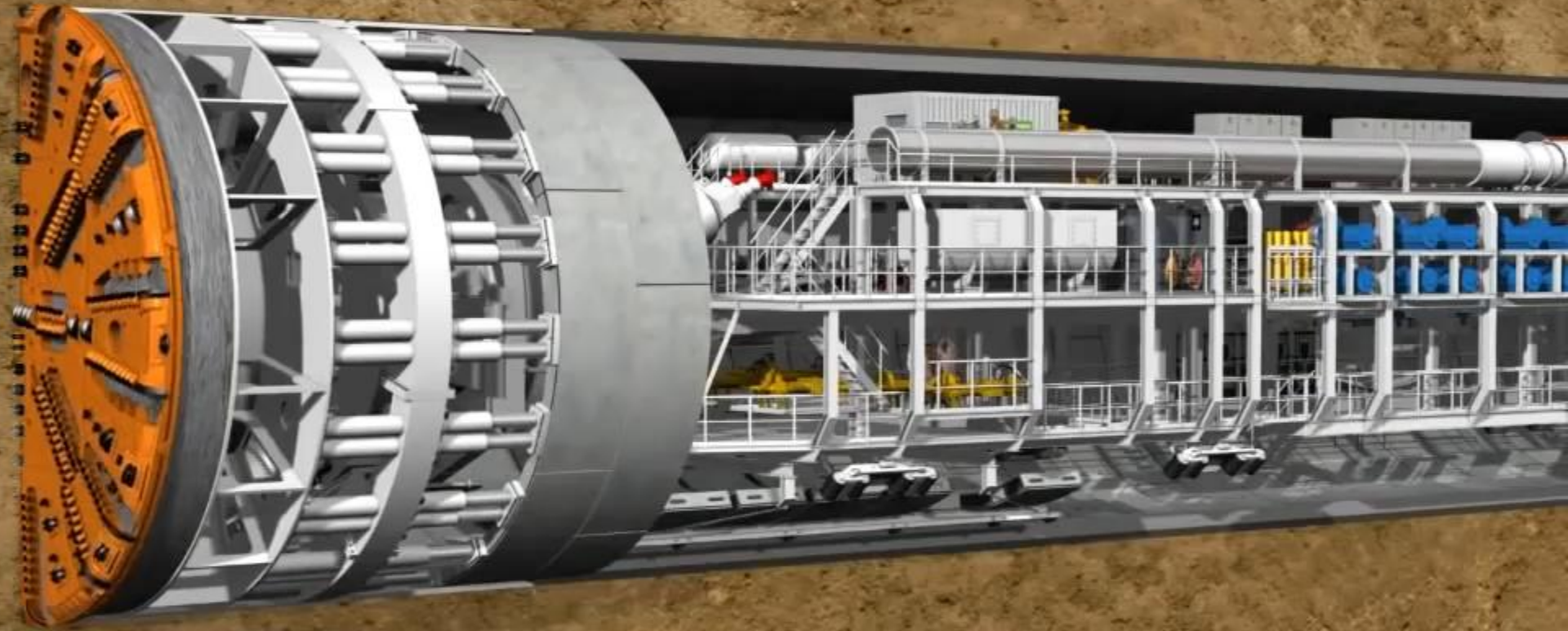
✓ Aging infrastructure 

✓ Seismic Concerns 

✓ Major Storm Events 



A Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) Builds As It Digs



Tunnel Breach Incident Location



5th St.

Western Ave.

LOCATION
OF BREACH

TUNNEL PATH

Dodson Ave.

Tunnel Breach Location Within Public Right-of-Way



Breach Incident on July 9

The Multi-Service Vehicle (MSV) operator left the TBM to return to the main shaft to reload materials.

Upon arriving at the location of the breach the MSV operator observed he could not pass.

The MSV operator returned to collect the crew from the TBM and to evacuate from the tunnel.

All workers exited the tunnel safely past the breach and were medically evaluated at the surface by the LA Fire Department.



Next Steps

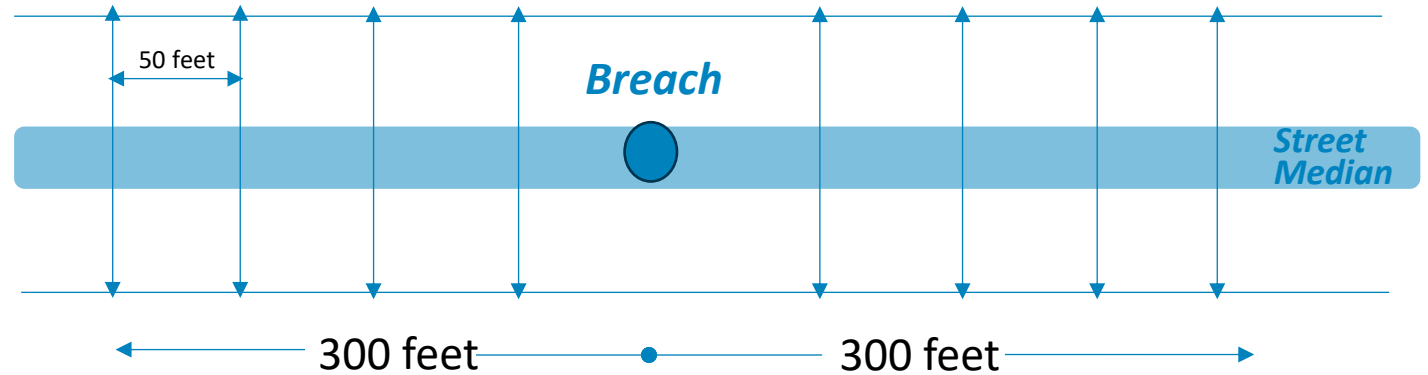
- 1 Obtain approval to re-enter the tunnel from CalOSHA based on our contractor's access plan for tunnel re-entry.
- 2 Access and assess the entire tunnel to the breach point.
- 3 Determine cause of failure and repair plan.
- 4 Districts to hire additional tunnel expert consultants for an independent review and added expertise.



Surface Monitoring on Western Avenue



Districts/Contractor perform daily survey monitoring of the surface along Western Avenue



Readings are taken 300 feet before and after the breach, and in 50-foot intervals

Survey crews verified there is no discernible movement on the surface



Ongoing Surface Monitoring on Dodson Avenue



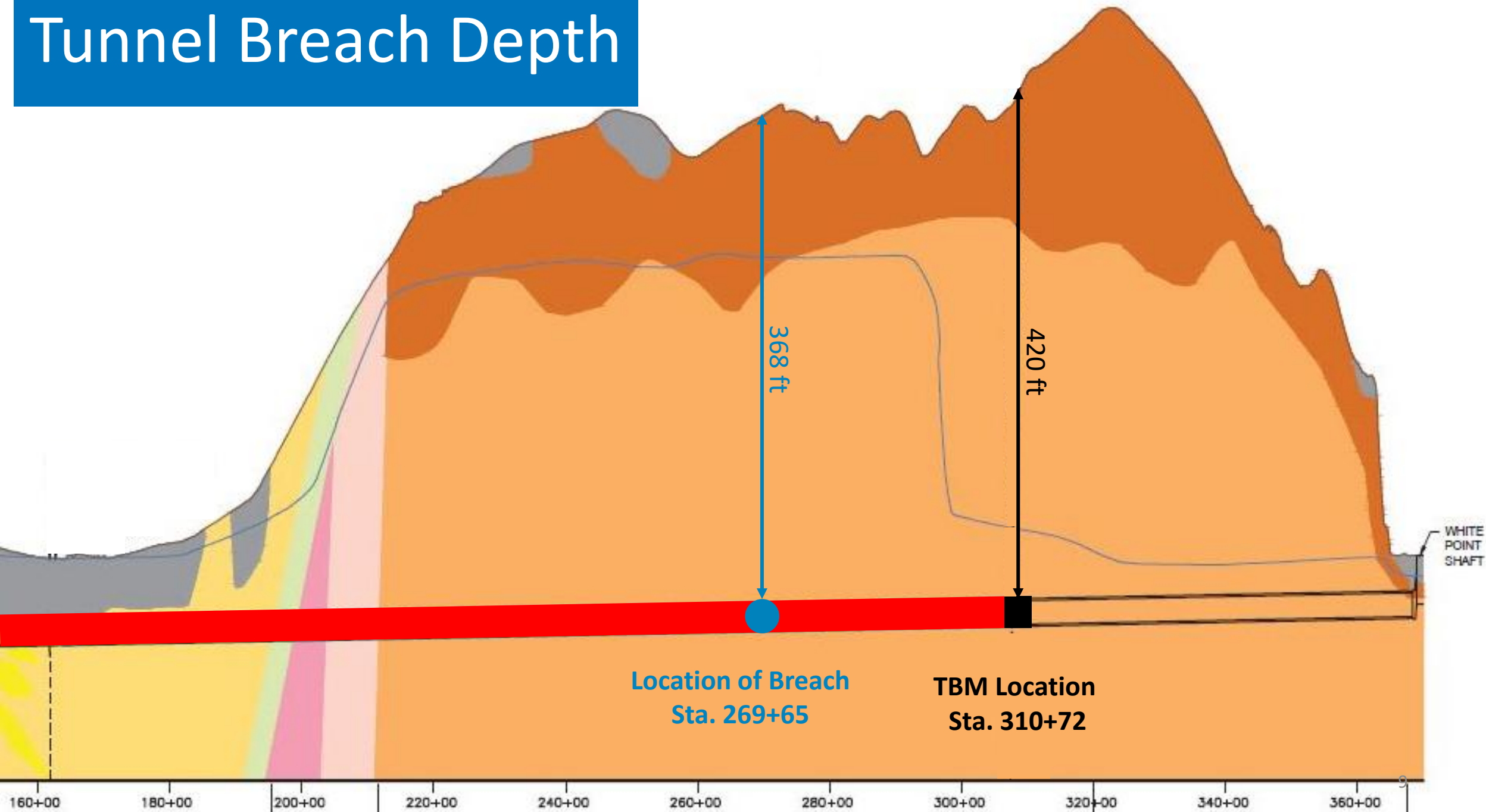
Monitoring stations measure ground movement along Dodson Avenue.

Automated scanning of multiple points.

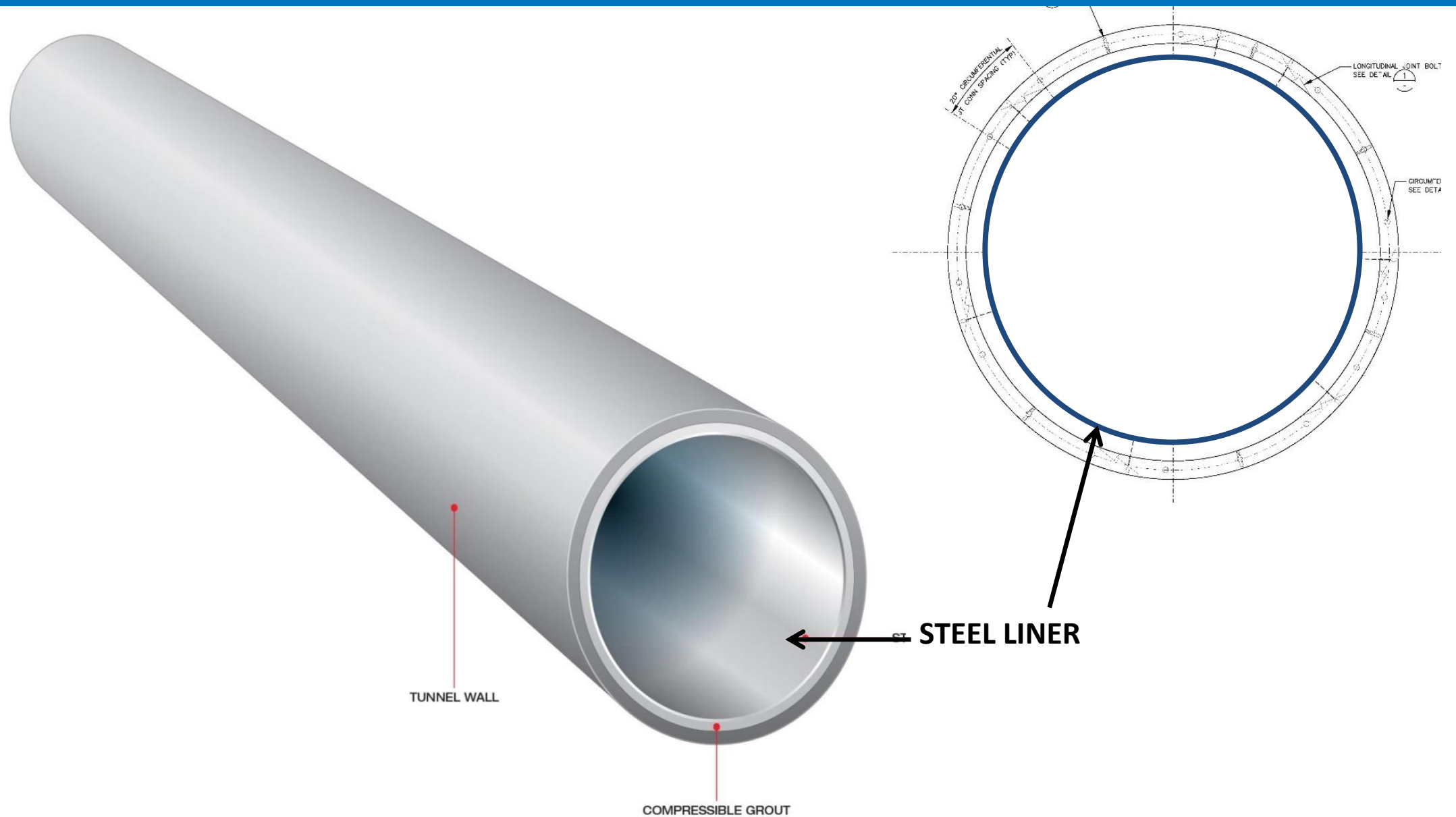
No discernible ground movement detected.



Tunnel Breach Depth



Tunnel Designed for Earthquakes



Key Takeaways for Residents

No land movement or impact at street level.

There is no timeline as to when tunneling work will resume. Work will not resume tunneling until all engineering, structural safety, and worker safety concerns have been addressed.

The Sanitation Districts continues to work closely with our contractors, CalOSHA and our third-party tunneling experts to understand, prevent and address all tunnel conditions and concerns as we move forward.

Questions?

Districts will provide updates as critical steps are accomplished:

- Access to inspect tunnel
- Detailed inspection of the collapsed portion
- Identification of potential causes of failure
- Development of repair plan and repair progress

Updates posted on our webpage and social media

www.clearwater.lacsd.org



ClearwaterProjectLA

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