



SR 22

Orange County, California

The SR-22 Garden Grove Freeway project is the first improvement to an existing California Highway using the design build method. A single contract has been awarded for both the design and construction which will save almost three years from the original estimated completion date. The owner, Orange County Transportation Authority in conjunction with Caltrans, has awarded the contract to improve 12 miles of the Garden Grove Freeway built in 1960. The highway improvements include adding HOV lanes, enhance freeway transitions, widen existing bridges and eliminate bottlenecks. SR 22 carries more than 200,000 cars daily and is a vital

east-west route in central Orange County. As existing freeways become more crowded and with the possibility of obtaining new right of way being very limited, SR 22 will be a model for future highway expansion of existing right of way.

Granite/Myers/Rados (GMR) was awarded the contract in late 2004 and selected SSL to participate in this project as the wall system designer and supplier of 24 Mechanically Stabilized Earth Walls totaling 310,000 square feet. The MSE walls supplied by SSL included ramp walls for interchanges as well as walls used to construct HOV lanes. SSL also provided all engineering and shop





drawings as well as special details for the MSE walls on the project. SSL supplied our 5' x 6' MSE Plus™ Precast Panel System for all of the MSE walls on the project. GMR personnel are very pleased with the ease and economy of installing the SSL MSE Plus™ Wall System and have saved a significant amount of money compared to the cost of a traditional Cast in Place type wall.

Wall aesthetics is also very important for this project. SSL provided a fractured fin form liner for the wall fascia panels. These panels cast face down on steel forms provides a much better appearance with fewer blemishes than a cast in place wall. Different form liners with finishes such as ashlar stone, raised relief, moss rock, and fractured granite are available depending on the owner's desire.

