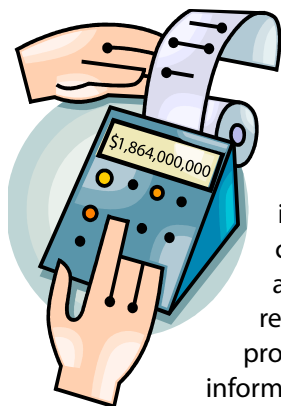




## State Budget Outlook Brightens

Concerns about a substantial State Budget shortfall all but disappeared with an announcement that personal income tax collections in April were considerably higher than projections.

When income tax collections through the end of March were more than \$1.6 billion below the forecast, that news and the slowdown in the housing market (which affects property tax revenue) caused budget analysts to be concerned that the budget for the upcoming fiscal year (beginning in July) would be more difficult to balance than had been anticipated. However, the April income tax collections were \$1.3 billion above projections. Corporate tax collections through April were \$564 million more than anticipated.



On May 14, the Governor will issue his May Revise, which consists of an update and adjustments to his January revenue estimates and budget proposal. The latest revenue information should make those documents more optimistic than they might have been a week or two earlier.

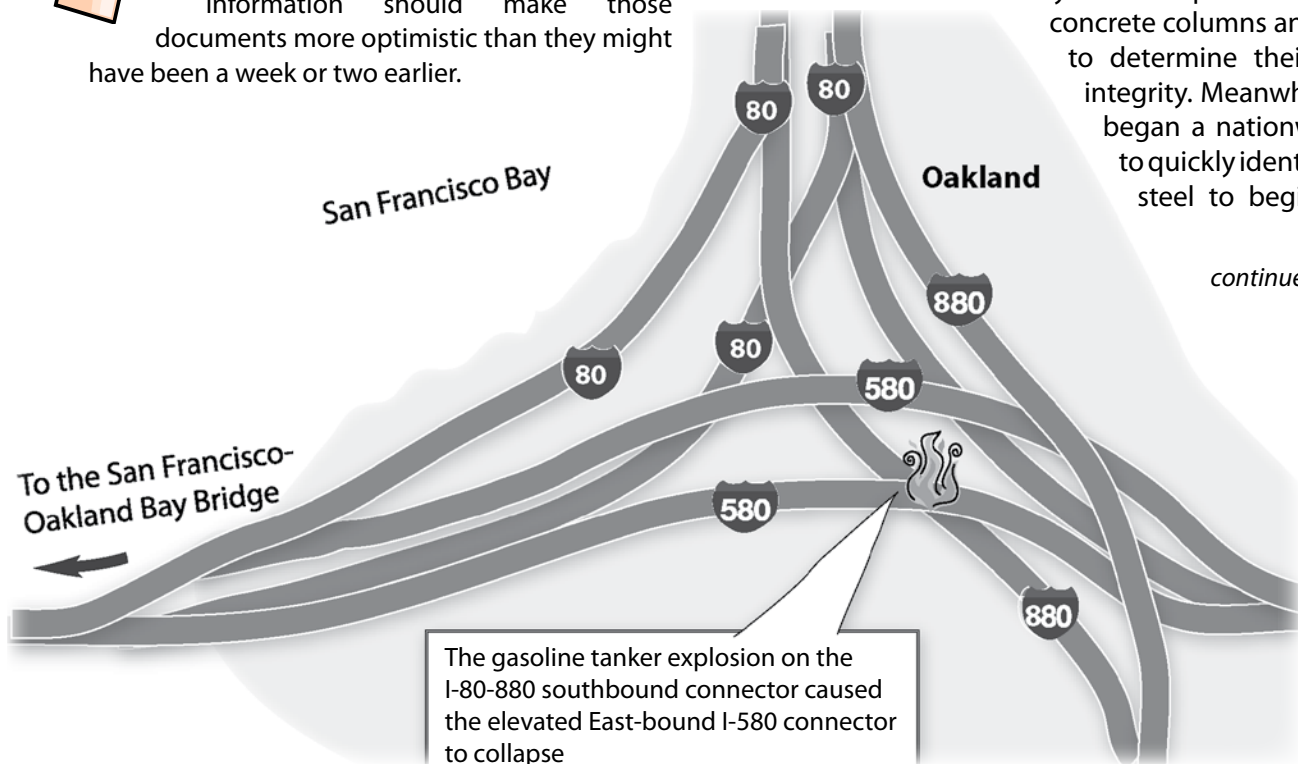
## Repairing the MacArthur Maze Mess

In the early morning hours of Sunday, April 29, a gasoline tanker overturned and caught on fire, causing temperatures estimated at 3000 degrees. Girders and bolts melted, causing two 82-foot spans of the Eastbound connector from the Bay Bridge to I-580 in Oakland to collapse onto the connector from Westbound I-80 to Southbound I-880 beneath it. Amazingly, no one was injured except for the tanker driver, who suffered second degree burns.

The Governor issued an emergency declaration to suspend certain statutes and regulations in order to expedite repairs. Caltrans structural engineers immediately went to the site to assess the damage. Cleveland Wrecking Company, which had been doing work in the area, was awarded a \$2 million emergency contract to demolish the damaged structure. Subcontractor Tutor-Saliba put supports under the remaining roadways to protect against further damage or collapse.

Caltrans design engineers began to analyze repairs and replacements to the structures. The debris was cleared from the site in 48 hours and engineers began taking x-rays and samples of the steel and concrete columns and roadways to determine their structural integrity. Meanwhile, Caltrans began a nationwide search to quickly identify available steel to begin repairing

*continued on reverse »*



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## Repairing the MacArthur Maze Mess

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and replacing the collapsed and damaged spans. The effort was successful, as six U.S. companies identified adequate steel for the upper deck reconstruction.

On Wednesday, May 2, Governor Schwarzenegger and Caltrans Director Will Kempton announced that the lower (I-80/I-880) span was "damaged" but structurally sound. It will be repaired and open within ten days, which Kempton appropriately called "very good news."

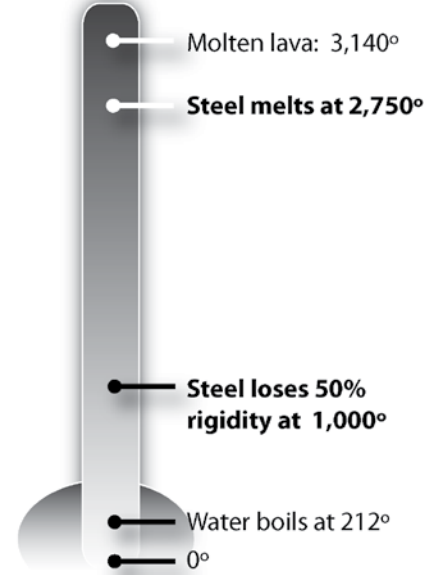
Meanwhile, Caltrans engineers quickly developed plans for reconstruction of the I-580 spans which collapsed. On May 3, bid packages were provided to construction contractors. Bids will be opened on May 7; the contract will be awarded the same day; and the construction contractor can begin work on May 8, just nine days after the bridge collapse!

Caltrans is using a process similar to the expedited design and reconstruction of Los Angeles freeways after the Northridge earthquake in 1994. In addition to payments for doing the work, the contractor will be rewarded or penalized \$200,000 per day for completing the work before, or after, June 29.

### Heat's Effects on Steel



Engineers estimated that flames fed by the tanker explosion on Sunday soared to nearly 3,000 degrees.



*Congratulations to Caltrans Director Will Kempton, Chief Engineer Rick Land, the demolition contractors, and all the Caltrans District 4 and other personnel who responded so quickly and effectively to this emergency. Mr. Land said the department's employees are "awesome"!!*

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