Thousands of commuters use the Firestone Boulevard Bridge over the Los Angeles River daily as a gateway into the City of South Gate. Commuter activity results in traffic congestion throughout the day and the City is in the process of addressing this issue with the Firestone Boulevard Bridge Widening Project. The project will broaden the south side of the bridge and provide an additional eastbound lane which will provide dedicated access to the I-710 Freeway. This project is funded with Federal, State and Metro grants that total just over 9 million dollars. Construction began March 8, 2016 and is scheduled to be completed in December 2016.

By widening the bridge and providing additional access to the I-710 freeway, traffic congestion will be lessened, making it easier and safer for drivers to get to and from South Gate. This will serve as a benefit for local businesses as more drivers will be allowed to flow through the City without increasing gridlock. Improving transportation access is vital to local economic growth as it improves a business’ ability to provide goods and services while simultaneously expanding their market scope.

The City understands that construction projects affect residents and local businesses. This is why the Public Works Department has developed a strategic construction approach to ensure that construction activity impacts are minimized as much as possible. For more information on this project please visit www.cityofsouthgate.org under the Public Works tab or call (323) 357-9657.

On May 10, 2016, Governor Jerry Brown signed Senate Bill 269 which gives some relief to small businesses under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The bill gives businesses 15 days following a complaint under the Americans with Disabilities Act to resolve alleged violations. Some examples of those violations are toilet paper rolls that are too low or too high, toilet flush handles that are on the side closest to the wall, signage or even parking lines that are a quarter of an inch off. This legislation will protect small businesses from lawsuits, while ensuring that those who have legitimate ADA claims are not denied due process.
DISCOUNT GROCERY CHAIN OPENS IN SOUTH GATE

The discount grocery chain ALDI opened in South Gate on May 19, 2016. Currently, ALDI operates 1,400 stores in 32 states and has steadily grown over the last few years. The South Gate location is 17,600 square feet, and sells just under 1,300 items.

ALDI, which is a sister company of Trader Joe’s, specializes in staple items, such as fresh produce, organic products, beverages, toilet paper, sanitary articles, and other inexpensive household items. Many of its products are ALDI-exclusive brand products, with the number of other brands usually limited to a maximum of two for a given item. In addition to its standard assortment, ALDI has weekly special offers.

To learn about their weekly offers, visit aldi.us.com and subscribe to receive their weekly ad via email.

Address
5830 Firestone Blvd. (corner of Garfield Avenue)

Business Hours
Monday—Sunday 9am to 9pm

How Can SBDC Help Your Business?

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program provides new or existing businesses with confidential, one-on-one advising and expert training – at no cost.

Their services include:
- Business Planning
- Finance & Accounting
- Legal and Human Resources
- Marketing

To schedule an appointment with a Business Counselor; learn more about SBDC services or to sign up to receive their newsletter visit smallbizla.org or call 1-866-588 SBDC.