



State of California • Department of Transportation

# NEWS RELEASE

**Date:** January 19, 2016  
**District:** 04  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### THE BAY LIGHTS RETURNS TO THE WEST SPAN OF THE SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND BAY BRIDGE ON JANUARY 30, 2016 AT 7:25 PM

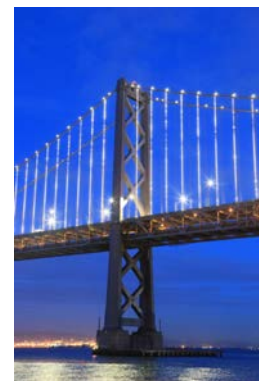
**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Lights installation by artist Leo Villareal is returning to the West Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge as a permanent fixture through a collective partnership between Caltrans, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and ILLUMINATE.

The Bay Lights, a light sculpture comprised of 25,000 LED lights on the West Span of the Bay Bridge, made its debut from March 2013 to March 2015. A re-lighting ceremony is scheduled for January 30, 2016 at 7:25 PM during Super Bowl 50 celebrations.

“The Bay Lights have become a global phenomenon and are now engrained in the cultural identity of California,” says founder Ben Davis of ILLUMINATE, the non-profit organization that conceived and drove the project to success. “The radically accessible artwork directly contributes to the quality of life, cultural fabric, and economic vitality of the entire Bay Area.”

“I am honored that the people of the Bay Area have chosen to bring The Bay Lights back and make it a permanent part of their lives. It’s the ultimate compliment to an artist,” says Leo Villareal. “My favorite aspect of the piece is how it brings people together.”

“We are proud to work with artists to enhance the integration of transportation infrastructure in communities throughout California. The Bay Lights does this on a grand scale,” says Caltrans District Director Bijan Sartipi.



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