

Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

4900 Rivergrade Rd. Ste. A120 Irwindale, CA 91706 (626) 962-9292 fax (626) 962-3552 www.theaceproject.org

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Mark Christoffels Chief Executive Officer Contact: Paul Hubler ACE Construction Authority

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OFFICIALS DEDICATE ROADWAY UNDERPASS TO REPLACE HAZARDOUS & CONGESTED RAILROAD CROSSING

Nogales Street grade separation project eliminates crossing collisions, traffic delays, locomotive horn noise and reduces emissions

(City of Industry/Rowland Heights) – Federal, state and local officials today marked the opening of a six-lane roadway underpass at a once-hazardous and congested railroad crossing at Nogales Street north of the Pomona (60) Freeway.

Located on the transcontinental Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) corridor – among the busiest freight rail lines in the nation – the Nogales Street crossing was a top priority for grade separation. During the decade before construction began in March 2014, 10 crossing collisions were recorded. The roadway carried more than 40,000 vehicles a day and was blocked by 49 trains a day, a number that is projected to increase to 91 trains per day by 2025.

"The Nogales Street project eliminates the potential for train-vehicle collisions, delays for emergency responders, locomotive horn noise and reduces emissions," Montebello Councilman Jack Hadjinian, Chair of the ACE Construction Authority Board of Directors, said during dedication ceremonies today. "We appreciate the support of our partner agencies for providing the funds needed to complete this important project."

The \$118.2 million project was completed using funding from the California state transportation bond, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the federal government and contributions from the City of Industry and Union Pacific Railroad.

"The ACE grade separations to address the community impacts of goods movement along transcontinental freight rail lines merit strong federal support," said U.S. Rep. Grace Napolitano, California's ranking member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. "That is why I successfully advocated for the establishment of new national freight programs to provide \$2 billion a year to support projects like the ACE grade separations and have urged the U.S. Department of Transportation to award discretionary freight grant funds to ACE."

MORE-MORE-MORE

ROADWAY UNDERPASS DEDICATED

"I strongly support the applications submitted by the ACE Construction Authority seeking federal freight funds," said U.S. Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27th District). "New national programs established just this year will provide significant federal funding for freight projects to help our nation remain competitive in global markets while also supporting projects like the ACE grade separations to improve community safety and quality of life."

The ACE Corridor carries about 60 percent of the containers that arrive at the San Pedro Bay ports – the busiest in the nation, handling more than 40 percent of our nation's container trade. In doing so, the corridor plays a critical role in the economic vitality and quality of life for Southern California. Goods movement and related industries represent one-third of all jobs and economic activity in the region.

"While trade provides economic benefits, we must also address the negative impacts caused by traffic congestion and collisions at our rail crossings. The Nogales Street project will help improve quality-of-life and safety, and ease traffic congestion in Rowland Heights, while supporting a critical freight corridor," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe.

Said State Senator Bob Huff, Vice Chair of the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus in Sacramento, "As founding Board Chairman of the ACE Construction Authority, I strongly support the ACE program. ACE is a success story for the San Gabriel Valley and has the united support of the region's state representatives in Sacramento."

"The goal with this project is to ensure the safe and efficient travel of goods and people in Southern California," said Deputy Federal Highway Administrator David S. Kim. "We need more projects like this nationwide that balance the needs of local residents and the business community."

"With international trade flourishing and rail projects being advanced at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, local communities will see a steady increase in freight trains along the rail mainlines in Los Angeles County," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis. "The ACE grade separations are integral to Los Angeles County's strategy to enhance safety, reduce local congestion and improve the efficiency of goods movement throughout the region."

"To improve mobility, air quality and safety, ACE continues to efficiently and effectively deliver vital grade separation projects like this one," said Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich who serves on the ACE Board of Directors. "Dividing streets from tracks will result in safer crossings, pollution reduction, and improved travel times for our local residents and the entire region."

"Los Angeles County Metro is a major funding contributor to the ACE grade separation program," said Duarte Councilman John Fasana, First Vice Chair of the L.A. County Metro Board of Directors. "The success of the ACE program highlights the critical importance of LA County Metro's voter-approved sales tax measures in delivering priority transportation improvement projects and programs in Los Angeles County."

"The City of Industry places a high priority on providing the best quality infrastructure to sustain our vibrant business sector, an economic engine of the San Gabriel Valley. We are pleased to work closely with the ACE Construction Authority to deliver the ACE grade separations and associated roadway projects," said ACE Board member and City of Industry Mayor Mark Radecki.