



Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 24, 2017

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OFFICIALS INAUGURATE TRAIN SERVICE IN SAN GABRIEL RAILROAD TRENCH

Project ends crossing congestion, collisions & horn blasts

(SAN GABRIEL) – Officials gathered today to inaugurate train service in the newly constructed 1.4-mile San Gabriel Trench in the City of San Gabriel, located on the transcontinental Alameda Corridor-East Trade Corridor.

The project, by the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE), will eliminate crossing congestion, collisions and horn noise from trains carrying goods to and from the San Pedro ports, while also reducing vehicle emissions from idling cars and trucks. Four new bridges for cars, trucks and pedestrians span the 30-foot-deep trench.

“The San Gabriel Trench is the largest project we have undertaken. Opening it to rail traffic is the most significant project milestone and a cause for great celebration in the City of San Gabriel,” said Juli Costanzo, Mayor of the City of San Gabriel and Chair of the ACE Board of Directors.

The \$313 million project began construction in 2012 and final completion is scheduled for early 2018. The trench project received a \$237.7 million construction allocation from the state Trade Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF), placing it among the top three of 98 high-priority rail, port and roadway projects across California funded from the trade corridors program.

“The San Gabriel Trench and the ACE projects have been top priorities of mine in Congress,” said Congresswoman Judy Chu, who represents the City of San Gabriel. “Investment in freight projects mitigates the negative impacts of goods movement on local communities while ensuring our nation remains competitive in global markets.”

“I supported the establishment of new federal freight programs providing \$2 billion annually for freight highway and grade separation projects, and I will continue to advocate for federal funding for the ACE projects,” said Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, California’s highest-ranking member on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

About the ACE Project: The ACE program calls for constructing safety improvements at 39 crossings and 19 roadway-railroad grade crossing separations. The ACE Project will relieve traffic congestion, improve safety and reduce emissions and noise at rail crossings while helping ensure the San Gabriel Valley’s continued economic vitality. For a copy of the ACE Project DVD, please call (888) ACE-1426 or visit www.theaceproject.org.

“For years, I was proud to represent San Gabriel and the San Gabriel Valley in Congress, and was glad to support this important regional transportation priority. I join with ACE and the entire community in celebrating this important milestone -- the first train passing through the San Gabriel trench -- and pledge my continued support for these vital improvements in the flow of people and goods,” said Congressman Adam Schiff.

“Reducing congestion, improving air quality, and allowing for better goods movement have been a long-term priority for me,” said State Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez, Vice Chair of the San Gabriel Valley Legislative Caucus. “I applaud the ACE program for continuing to deliver high-priority infrastructure improvements to protect communities and economic vitality in the San Gabriel Valley.”

“The San Gabriel Trench grade separation project will significantly ease congestion, improve safety and reduce emissions for my constituents,” said Assemblymember Ed Chau. “I congratulate ACE for diligently working with the community to ensure that this important milestone was reached with the full support of the local community.”

“Our region has benefited greatly from the ACE grade separations that address the adverse impacts of freight rail traffic and improve the quality of life of our local communities,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor and ACE Board Member Hilda L. Solis. “I am proud to be a longtime supporter and advocate of the ACE projects.”

“By delivering vital grade separation projects like the San Gabriel Trench project on time and budget, ACE is improving traffic safety and air quality and reducing congestion and commute times for our local residents and the region,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, a member of the ACE Board of Directors.

“The California Transportation Commission invested one-time voter approved Proposition 1B state bond funds totaling \$237.7 million for construction of the San Gabriel Trench. The benefits of this project to California's economy, environment and quality of life highlight the importance of ongoing revenues for trade corridor projects. Thankfully, the recently enacted Senate Bill 1 Road Repair and Accountability Act provides ongoing revenue so that projects such as this will continue to be built,” said California Transportation Commission Vice Chair Fran Inman.

“Voter-approved sale tax measures provided \$55.4 million toward the San Gabriel Trench project,” said Duarte Mayor Pro Tem John Fasana, the San Gabriel Valley's representative to the Metro Board. “LA County Metro sales tax funds have been critical to delivering San Gabriel Valley projects and will continue to fund priority transportation improvement projects and programs in our region.”

The Alameda Corridor-East, designated by Congress as a trade corridor of national significance, accommodates about one-fifth of the nation's cargo containers, carried on trains to and from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.