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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 26, 2018

## **\$78 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDS PROPOSED FOR GRADE SEPARATIONS**

Roadway underpass at Montebello Boulevard & overpass at Turnbull Canyon Road planned at busy rail crossings in San Gabriel Valley

(April 26, 2018) - California Transportation Commission staff has recommended the award of \$78 million in grant funding for two projects to separate the roadway from hazardous rail crossings along the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) freight rail corridor in eastern Los Angeles County. The proposed grants are among a statewide list of projects recommended for funding from the state's new Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) administered by the Commission.

"The ACE grade separation program will eliminate crossing collisions, traffic delays and locomotive horn noise and reduce vehicle emissions at the most congested and hazardous crossings in the San Gabriel Valley," said San Gabriel Councilwoman Juli Costanzo, Chair of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, which oversees the construction program. "We appreciate this proposed robust support which will provide significant matching funds toward construction of our final two ACE projects."

The staff recommendations released late Wednesday are scheduled to be adopted by the Commission at their May 16-17 meeting. The competitive grant program for trade corridor projects is funded with revenues provided from the new SB 1 state tax on diesel fuel and from the state's share of federal freight highway program funds. The grant program would contribute \$49 million toward construction of a \$128.61 million roadway underpass on Montebello Boulevard in the City of Montebello and \$29 million toward an \$86.2 million roadway overpass on Turnbull Canyon Road in the City of Industry and unincorporated Los Angeles County. The Montebello crossing is the second most-hazardous freight rail crossing in Los Angeles County and the Turnbull Canyon crossing will see a near tripling of rail traffic over 20 years. Both projects are entering the final design phase with the construction phase anticipated to begin prior to summer 2020.

The ACE projects were part of an application submitted by Los Angeles County Metro for a Southern California regional freight rail strategy of investing in on-dock freight rail projects to reduce future truck trips on Southland roadways, the most congested highway network in the world, while also grade separating the highest priority crossings on the ACE rail corridor.

About the ACE Project: The ACE program calls for constructing safety improvements at 39 crossings and 19 roadwayrailroad 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 video, please call (888) ACE-1426 or visit www.theaceproject.org.

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