



New Railroad Diversion Route Improves Safety, Traffic, Noise, Officials Say

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A freight railroad diversion route that opened Thursday near Cal Poly Pomona over university farmland is designed to put an end to blocked crossings, collisions and train horn noise at two key crossings.

The crossings now bypassed are at Pomona Boulevard and at Temple Avenue, which is the busiest thoroughfare in Pomona with 33,800 daily vehicles and serves as a campus gateway for 27,000 students and employees. The Temple Avenue crossing has been the site of two train-vehicle collisions over the past 10 years.

"We thank our partner agencies for providing the support to make the Temple Avenue Train Diversion Project possible," said San Gabriel City Councilwoman Juli Constanzo, chair of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, which oversaw the project as part of the Alameda Corridor-East program. "Investment in the ACE projects highlights our commitment to improving safety and mobility along rail corridors and we are pleased to announce the opening of the diversion route to rail traffic."

The total cost of the 2.3-mile rail diversion route was \$94.8 million, which was funded from federal (52 percent), Metro (40 percent), Union Pacific Railroad (7 percent) and state (1 percent) sources.

"The safety of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians is a top priority for the city of Pomona and by eliminating at-grade rail crossings, we take a significant step forward in ensuring public safety, air quality and congestion relief for our residents and visitors," said Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, a member of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee.

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