



Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

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

Contact: Paul Hubler
ACE Construction Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2017

Board Members

Juli Costanzo
Chair
City of San Gabriel

Victoria Martinez
Vice Chair
City of El Monte

Hilda L. Solis
County of Los Angeles

Kathryn Barger
County of Los Angeles

Janice Hahn
County of Los Angeles

Mark Radecki
City of Industry

Jack Hadjinian
City of Montebello

Tim Sandoval
City of Pomona

Barbara Messina
SGVCOG

Mark Christoffels
Chief Executive Officer

ACE LEADERSHIP JOINS IN NATIONAL PUSH ON CAPITOL HILL FOR FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

(Washington, DC) – Members of the Board of Directors of the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE) have traveled to Washington, DC, to urge federal funding for nationally significant trade gateways and corridors, including the ACE rail-highway improvement program in Southern California.

El Monte Councilwoman Victoria Martinez, Vice Chair of the ACE Board, and Montebello Councilman Jack Hadjinian, Immediate Past ACE Chair, will meet with members of Congress and U.S. Department of Transportation administrators during Infrastructure Week, a nationwide effort from May 15-19 to raise awareness of the need for infrastructure investment.

“The ACE program will mitigate the negative impacts on our San Gabriel Valley cities from the 70 freight trains that move through our region daily – projected to nearly double by 2025,” said Vice Chair Martinez. “Robust funding should be provided for freight infrastructure improvements through existing and new federal programs, including the Administration’s proposed \$1 trillion infrastructure package.”

“We are thrilled that ACE is joining Infrastructure Week. The dire state of America’s infrastructure is one of the most pressing issues facing us as a nation, and the benefits of a stronger, better infrastructure system will be far-reaching and long-lasting,” said Zach Schafer, director of Infrastructure Week. (For details, see <http://infrastructureweek.org/>).

In addition to public safety and quality-of-life benefits, investment in freight infrastructure provides an economic boost in Southern California, where goods movement and related industries represent one-third of all jobs and economic activity. “As a region, we are reliant on an efficient and safe goods movement network,” Hadjinian said. “The ACE project will play a critical role in the livability and prosperity of our communities and region for generations to come.”

The Alameda Corridor-East transcontinental rail route, recognized by Congress as a trade corridor of national significance, accommodates about one-fifth of the nation’s container traffic, carried on trains to and from the San Pedro Bay ports. The ports are the largest in the western hemisphere, handling more than 40

MORE—MORE—MORE

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.

percent of our nation's containerized imports and nearly 30 percent of exports.

In a newly released report titled "Freight Can't Wait," the Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors in Washington, DC identifies two planned ACE projects, located in the Cities of Pico Rivera and Montebello, as among America's most critical freight infrastructure investments. Applications seeking \$50 million in federal FASTLANE freight grant funding for both ACE projects have been submitted to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The ACE Durfee Avenue Grade Separation in the City of Pico Rivera would reduce an estimated 15.3 vehicle-hours of delay each day at the crossing, heavily used by neighborhood children walking and biking to area schools. Nine collisions have been recorded at the crossing since 1981, resulting in four fatalities. The \$91.1 million project would eliminate delays for emergency responders and crossing collisions, emissions would be reduced and locomotive horn noise eliminated.

The ACE Montebello Corridor Grade Separation project calls for constructing a roadway underpass at the railroad crossing on Montebello Boulevard and installing enhanced safety gates on Maple, Greenwood and Vail Avenues. A pedestrian overcrossing is planned for the Maple Avenue crossing to accommodate significant numbers of pedestrians and cyclists. By 2025, rail traffic through the City of Montebello is expected to nearly double, from 49 to 91 trains per day. The cost of the project is \$160 million.

END—END—END