



Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

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LEGISLATORS VOICE SUPPORT AS ACE REPORTS PROGRESS ON RAIL-ROADWAY SEPARATION PROJECTS AT THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY'S BUSIEST CROSSINGS

(SAN GABRIEL/August 3, 2015) – Legislators voiced support for the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) rail-roadway grade-separation projects during a progress update briefing today for members of the Asian media. The update focused on six projects in construction or final design and located in the Cities of San Gabriel, Industry and Pico Rivera and unincorporated Los Angeles County, including Rowland Heights.

“I am pleased to report strong progress on the ACE program of constructing grade separations at the most congested and hazardous rail crossings in the San Gabriel Valley,” said Jack Hadjinian, Mayor of Montebello and Chair of the ACE Construction Authority Board of Directors. “As construction is underway, we appreciate the patience of our neighbors and motorists and the continuing support of our legislative champions and agency partners.”

The briefing included an update regarding the San Gabriel Trench project under construction in the City of San Gabriel. The 2.2-mile project will be spanned by bridges at Ramona Street, Mission Road, Del Mar Avenue and San Gabriel Boulevard.

“The good news is that the traffic congestion in San Gabriel caused by the lowering of the railroad tracks is expected to ease as new bridges across Ramona Street and Del Mar Avenue are completed this Summer and Fall,” said San Gabriel Mayor Jason Pu. “We appreciate the work that ACE is doing to improve commerce and ultimately improve traffic, air quality and safety when cars will not need to wait for the trains as they pass by.”

“It’s fantastic to see the improvement in traffic and freight management thanks to the ACE railroad grade-separation projects throughout the San Gabriel Valley,” said U.S Representative Judy Chu. “What’s more, it stands as a shining example of all the good on a local, state, and national level that can come about through transportation programs. But we must do more. That is why I’m a cosponsor of federal legislation to ease freight traffic and enact a dedicated trust fund for freight projects. Businesses should be able

MORE—MORE—MORE

About the ACE Project: The ACE Project, sponsored by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, will relieve traffic congestion and improve safety around rail crossings while helping ensure the San Gabriel Valley’s continued economic vitality. The ACE program calls for constructing safety improvements at 39 grade crossings and 20 roadway-railroad grade crossing separation projects. For a copy of the ACE Project DVD, please call (888) ACE-1426 or visit www.theaceproject.org.

to get goods to consumers more efficiently, and residents should live in an area that's safe and accessible."

"The benefits of these projects are threefold: reducing accidents at freight rail crossings, cutting down on emissions by clearing up congestion, and ensuring California's businesses get their goods to market more efficiently. It's a win for all parties involved, and I commend the ACE Construction Authority on this progress," said U.S. Representative Ed Royce.

"Motorists must be assured that the taxes and fees they pay are used to maintain and improve California's roads, highways and bridges, including for significant projects like the ACE grade separations. That is why I have introduced legislation to place before the voters of California a state constitutional amendment prohibiting the siphoning of transportation taxes to other uses," said State Senate Republican Leader Bob Huff, who served as founding Board Chairman of the ACE Construction Authority.

"Easing traffic congestion and improving safety and air quality are key transportation priorities for Southern California," said Assemblyman Ed Chau. "Supporting the ACE projects and other transportation improvements will be a goal for me as the Legislature meets in the current special session to consider enacting possible new transportation revenues for roads, bridges and other infrastructure."

"The ACE grade separation projects eliminate the possibility of potentially deadly collisions between motorists, pedestrians and cyclists and freight trains at crossings in the San Gabriel Valley. We must continue to support these important projects to keep people safe, and enhance quality of life," said Assemblywoman Ling Ling Chang.

"The ACE projects are a priority for the San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles County Metro with \$688 million contributed to ACE from countywide sales tax measures administered by Los Angeles County Metro," said Duarte Councilman John Fasana, the San Gabriel Valley's representative to the Los Angeles County Metro Board of Directors. "As LA Metro prepares for a potential sales tax ballot measure in 2016, we must ensure the additional funds needed are made available to complete the ACE projects."

ACE has completed grade separations, where the road goes over or under the railroad, at eight crossings and seven more are under construction. ACE is seeking local, state and federal funds to design and construct separations at Fullerton Road, Durfee Avenue, Montebello Corridor, and Turnbull Canyon Road as well as a comprehensive pedestrian safety project at four crossings in Pomona. In addition, safety and other improvements have been completed at 39 grade-level crossings.

For updates and inquiries regarding the ACE project, residents and businesses are encouraged to call the ACE Helpline at (888) ACE-1426 or click on the ACE website. Individuals with questions about the San Gabriel Trench project can also visit the ACE field office located on Main Street immediately west of Del Mar Avenue in the City of San Gabriel.