

Traffic relief on the way to San Gabriel Valley

The San Gabriel Grade Separation will lower the railroad into a trench through the city of San Gabriel. Bridges will be constructed at Ramona Street, Mission Drive, Del Mar Ave. and San Gabriel Blvd.



The Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project was initiated more than a decade ago in an effort to lessen the impacts of increased train traffic over 70 miles of rail lines in the San Gabriel Valley.

Today, more than half of the projects in this ambitious program of constructing safety improvements and grade separations are completed, underway or are planned for the near future. Together, these projects will reduce traffic congestion in the San Gabriel Valley, make railroad crossings safer and reduce air and noise pollution.

“The ACE grade separation projects will bring an end to crossing delays and deadly collisions at the busiest crossings in the San Gabriel Valley, reduce emissions from idling cars and trucks forced to wait for trains to pass and help sustain the recovery of Southern California’s crucial goods movement sector,” said City of Industry Councilman Tim Spohn, who also serves as the Chairman of the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority Board of Directors.

Even with the recent recession, cargo container volumes at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which already handle more than 40% of the nation’s container trade, are expected to triple by 2035, straining Los Angeles County’s roads, freeways, railroads and ports. More frequent and longer trains are expected to cross the San Gabriel Valley due to this growth in trade, coupled with plans to construct improved rail fa-



Tim Spohn

activities near the docks in an effort to shift the long-range transport of cargo containers from trucks to rail. By 2020, train traffic is expected to increase by as much as 160 percent and vehicle congestion is expected to worsen by up to 300 percent at San Gabriel Valley railroad crossings.

To lessen the impacts of surging rail traffic, the ACE Project consists of multiple construction projects including safety upgrades which have been completed at 39 crossings and grade separations (where the road goes over or under railroad tracks) at 20 of the most congested crossings in the San Gabriel Valley. Construction is complete for the first five grade separation projects and underway or already funded for the next five projects. The remaining 10 grade separation projects will be partially funded from 2006 state transportation bond funds and Los Angeles County Metro Measure R sales tax funds.

“We are very appreciative to the voters for approving the state bonds and the Measure R local sales tax measure, and we are committed to using our funds to maintain our record of delivering projects on time and on budget,” Spohn said.

WORK UNDERWAY

Last year, ACE opened two projects to traffic, a grade separation on Brea Canyon Road in the Cities of Industry and Diamond Bar adjacent to one of the busiest Metrolink stations in the region, as well as a grade separation at Ramona Boulevard in downtown El Monte. Construction will be completed this winter on a project in Pomona which will allow the at-grade crossings at Temple Avenue and Pomona Boulevard near Cal Poly Pomona to be taken out of service after Union Pacific Railroad installs new track along the railroad bed constructed by ACE.

ACE anticipates completing construction in the winter of 2010 on the Sunset Avenue grade separation project in the City of Industry. This project will raise the railroad up on embankments



DMJM HARRIS

BALDWIN AVENUE GRADE SEPARATION
VIEW LOOKING NORTH



with through trains passing over bridges spanning the vehicle traffic below on Sunset and Orange avenues.

Construction contracts are expected to be awarded for two more projects next year, a grade separation project on Nogales Street north of Interstate 60 in the City of Industry and a grade separa-

Alameda Corridor-East

San Gabriel Valley



The busy Brea Canyon Road grade separation project in the Cities of Diamond Bar and Industry is used daily by 21,000 motorists, three-dozen freight trains and over a dozen commuter trains.

The ACE Project:

- ❖ **Increases Safety**
Construct railway-roadway separations at 20 crossings and safety enhancements at 39 crossings
- ❖ **Cuts Congestion**
Eliminate train delays of up to 10 to 24 minutes at the busiest crossings
- ❖ **Improves Air Quality**
Eliminate 221 tons of pollution annually by reducing traffic delays
- ❖ **Fosters Economic Vitality**
Help preserve 192,000 new jobs in the San Gabriel Valley

Grade Separations Under Construction



Current Situation at Crossings



www.theaceproject.org

(888) ACE-1426

tion project on Baldwin Avenue in El Monte. Early construction activities on the San Gabriel Trench grade separation project will also commence in 2010 and ACE anticipates awarding a construction contract for the \$498 million San Gabriel Trench project in 2011.

STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

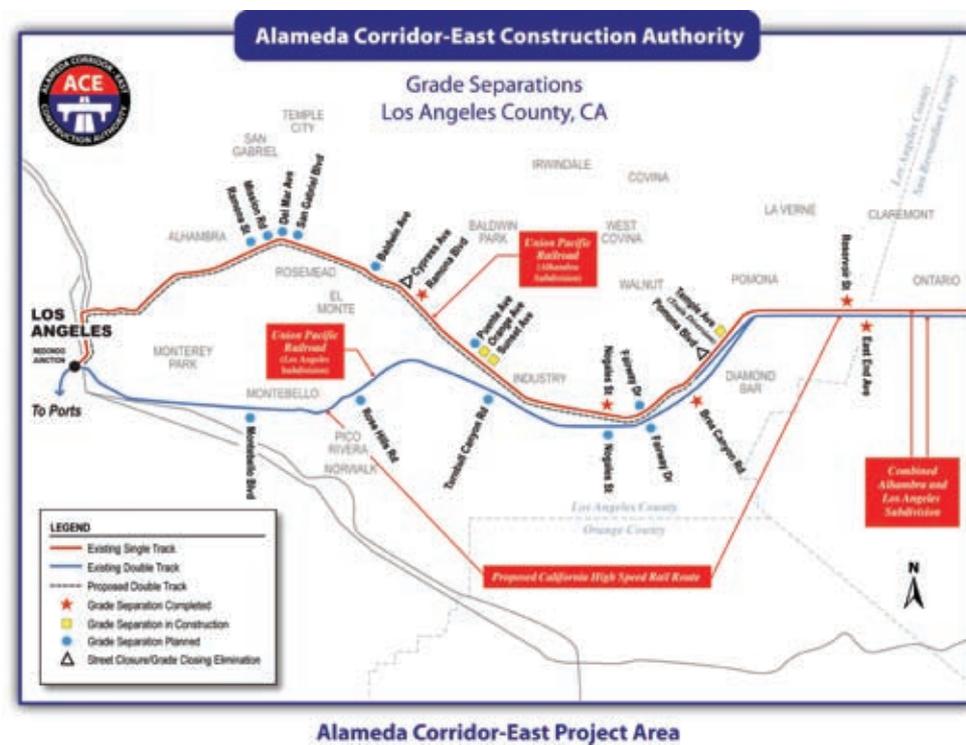
The ACE Construction Authority has enjoyed strong support from local, regional, state and federal representatives and will continue to seek funding to finish its program of grade separation projects. The Los Angeles County MTA Board of Directors approved a Long Range Transportation Plan on October 22 which includes \$400 million in Measure R highway funds proposed to be allocated to the ACE grade separation projects over the next eight years.

With the support of the bipartisan San Gabriel Valley Congressional delegation consisting of Reps.

Judy Chu, David Dreier, Gary Miller, Grace Napolitano and Adam Schiff, and state Assembly Transportation Committee Chairman Mike Eng, ACE has also applied to the U.S. Department of Transportation for a \$33.6 million economic recovery transportation grant for the Baldwin Avenue grade separation project in El Monte. Next year, ACE will approach the California Transportation

Commission to seek the programming of state transportation bond funds, with \$336.6 million already committed to construct the San Gabriel Trench project. "To be awarded the largest goods movement project allocation in the entire state of California was simply an historic achievement for the entire San Gabriel Valley and a remarkable vote of confidence in the ACE Construction Authority," said Spohn.

For more information regarding the ACE project, please visit the ACE website at www.theaceproject.org or call the ACE Helpline at (888) ACE-1426.



Assistant Resident Engineer Mahmoud Sabet, left, and Councilman Tim Spohn visit the Sunset Ave. Grade Separation Project, located in the City of Industry.



Nogales Street rendering

“The ACE grade separation projects will bring an end to crossing delays and deadly collisions at the busiest crossings in the San Gabriel Valley, reduce emissions from idling cars and trucks forced to wait for trains to pass and help sustain the recovery of Southern California’s crucial goods movement sector.”

—Tim Spohn, Industry Councilman & Chairman of ACE