



## Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

---

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

Contact: Paul Hubler  
ACE Construction Authority  
(626) 962-9292

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 24, 2013

### Board Members

**Norma Macias**  
Chair  
City of El Monte

**Jack Hadjinian**  
Vice Chair  
City of Montebello

**Michael Antonovich**  
Los Angeles County

**Don Knabe**  
Los Angeles County

**Gloria Molina**  
Los Angeles County

**Tim Spohn**  
City of Industry

**Freddie Rodriguez**  
City of Pomona

**Juli Costanzo**  
City of San Gabriel

**Barbara Messina**  
SGVCOG

**Paul Eaton**  
Ex-Officio  
SANBAG

**Mark Christoffels**  
Chief Executive Officer

## **200-YEAR-OLD MASONRY WATERWAY INSTALLED AS ACTIVE EXHIBIT NEAR SAN GABRIEL MISSION** *Relocated millrace once delivered water to gristmill, centerpiece of region's earliest Mission settlement*

(SAN GABRIEL) – Officials and community leaders gathered today to dedicate the restoration and relocation to a city park of the sole remaining section of a masonry millrace built in 1823 for Chapman's Mill, a cornerstone of the thriving agricultural community centered on the San Gabriel Mission.

The 20-foot, 15-ton section of masonry waterway was relocated to Plaza Park and installed as an educational exhibit, featuring running water, for the many visitors to the adjacent Mission. Excavated by archaeologists, the millrace was carefully moved this summer from nearby railroad right-of-way in order to permit mass excavation for an Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE) project to lower the railroad in a 30-foot-deep, concrete-walled trench with bridges spanning the new trench at four crossings in San Gabriel.

"We are proud to have played a role in preserving for future generations this important remnant of Southern California's history," said ACE Board Chair Norma Macias, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of El Monte.

Guests expected at the event include descendants of Joseph Chapman, a shipwright and former pirate who designed and oversaw construction of the mill nearly 200 years ago, as well as the descendants of the Gabrieleno tribe, who constructed the mill and millrace. Speakers include Congresswoman Judy Chu; State Senator Carol Liu; Assemblyman Ed Chau; Father Bruce Wellems, pastor of the San Gabriel Mission; San Gabriel Mayor Juli Costanzo; and Mary Cammarano, President of the San Gabriel Historical Association.

The San Gabriel Trench project will eliminate the possibility of deadly collisions at the four railroad crossings and reduce congestion and emissions from idling trucks and cars waiting for trains to pass. Construction of the \$336.9 million project construction started in 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in 2017.

The ACE Construction Authority is charged with constructing rail-highway grade separation projects at 22 crossings as well as safety improvements at the remaining grade crossings along the freight rail mainlines in the San Gabriel Valley.

**END—END—END**