



San Gabriel Valley Will Extend Legacy of Successful ACE Project



*By the Hon. Victoria Martinez Muela, Chair, Capital Projects and Construction Committee
San Gabriel Valley Council of Government; Councilmember,
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Twenty years ago, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) initiated the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project to build roadway-rail grade separations and make safety improvements at the most congested and hazardous crossings along the twin freight railroad lines in the San Gabriel Valley. We are pleased to report that earlier this year we started

construction on the 17th ACE grade separation project, located at Durfee Avenue in the City of Pico Rivera. With the last two remaining grade separation projects in the ACE program entering the final design stage and federal, state and local funds being sought for their construction, we have much work to do but we are close to completing the ACE Project!

Grade separations, where the road goes over or under the railroad, ease crossing delays, eliminate collisions and train horn noise and reduce emissions from idling cars and trucks waiting for trains to pass. The San Gabriel Valley's freight rail lines accommodate 16

percent of the nation's containerized freight and the ACE projects have helped mitigate the impacts on our local communities of nationally significant goods movement.

We are proud that the ACE program has garnered regional and statewide plaudits. In May, the California Transportation Foundation named as its Project of the Year our largest project, the San Gabriel Trench. Chosen from more than 60 projects nominated statewide, the 2.2-mile railroad trench project has also received Southern California chapter awards from the Construction Management Association of America and the American Public Works Association. With fewer

than two-dozen employees, our SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction team may be small in number but they have delivered mighty projects!

As we forge ahead in completing the model ACE program, other significant capital projects in the San Gabriel Valley, large and small, are being assigned to the Capital Projects and Construction Committee. We are taking on responsibility for the construction and property acquisition phases of the \$420 million State Route 57-60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project, which will start construction in several years. We are completing design of a system to divert dry-weather storm sewer flows that are contaminated with bacteria and other health hazards to a sanitary sewer treatment plant so the water can be cleaned before it ends up in local waterways. We are also working on a regional electrified bike share



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program and a project to build a pedestrian bridge to provide safety passage to the Pomona Fairplex

from the City of La Verne's future Gold Line light rail station.

San Gabriel Valley elected officials had the foresight two decades ago to respond to the community impacts of growing freight rail traffic. This legacy of leadership by the SGVCOG will continue by refocusing our capital projects and construction efforts on San Gabriel Valley infrastructure and transportation initiatives to help our member cities and unincorporated communities meet the challenges of the future.

Victoria Martinez Muela is a Councilmember in the City of El Monte and Chair of the Capital Projects and Construction Committee of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, which is responsible for the Alameda Corridor-East program. For more information about the ACE projects, please visit: www.theaceproject.org or call the ACE Helpline at (888) ACE-1426.



Alameda Corridor-East Project

*San Gabriel Valley
Council of Governments*





The proposed Montebello Corridor Grade Separation Project includes a roadway underpass at the railroad crossing on Montebello Boulevard, used daily by more than 20,000 motorists, three-dozen freight trains and over a dozen commuter trains.

The ACE Project:

- ❖ **Increases Safety**
Construct railway-roadway separations at 19 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




www.theaceproject.org

Current Situation at Crossings




(888) ACE-1426