



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

News

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STATE'S 'MOST HAZARDOUS' RAIL INTERSECTION GETS MAJOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENT

A major safety improvement to a South Los Angeles County railroad crossing at the intersection of Rosecrans and Marquardt Avenues was announced today by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), U.S. Representative Linda Sanchez (D-Whittier), Caltrans, the California High Speed Rail Authority (HSR), BNSF Railway and the city of Santa Fe Springs.

Rep. Sanchez unveiled a \$15-million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant contribution to the \$137.2 million cost of building a vehicle overpass on Rosecrans Avenue. In addition to the federal contribution, funds from state Proposition 1A, Section 190, L.A. County's Measure R, and BNSF will pay for the safety improvement.

"It's high time this most hazardous rail intersection in the state was addressed and I'm proud to work with Metro, Santa Fe Springs, Caltrans, HSR and BNSF to transform it into a safe place for pedestrians, cars and trains," said Sanchez.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) rated the intersection as the "most hazardous" railroad crossing in the state due to past collision history, the volume and speed of vehicular traffic and frequency of trains that use the tracks. From 2013 to 2015, the CPUC recorded 22 incidents involving vehicles and trains resulting in 4 fatalities and 6 injuries.

"This intersection is particularly hazardous because the railroad tracks approach street traffic from an angle, making it harder for motorists to see the oncoming trains," said Metro Board Chair John Fasana. "Elevating vehicles above the tracks will eliminate the danger and the delays caused by passing trains."

An estimated 45,000 vehicles and 130 trains daily use the intersection of Rosecrans and Marquardt. Trains cross about every 10 minutes bringing vehicle traffic to a standstill for a total of 21 hours per week.

"We're making a smart and necessary investment — and showing what's possible when we work across jurisdictions, and with the private sector, to make our communities safer," said L.A. Mayor and Metro Board First Vice Chair Eric Garcetti. "Our partnership came together to solve a problem that has existed for too long. This solution will not only keep people out of harm's way, but also help ease congestion at a busy intersection."

Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2019 with completion expected in January 2021.

"This project is a major engineering and construction effort that will provide a significant improvement to mobility and quality of life for the business and residential communities of Santa Fe Springs," said

Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. “To that end, we’ll maintain traffic on Rosecrans during construction and work to minimize day-to-day disruptions.”

About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation’s transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.4 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County. Through its oversight of one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of one of the country’s largest, most populous counties.

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