



Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority

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ACTA'S PCH GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT TO OPEN IN MARCH

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIF. – A half-mile bridge built to improve harbor-area traffic congestion and air quality by extending Pacific Coast Highway over the Alameda Corridor in Wilmington is on schedule to open to the general public Friday evening.

The Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority's \$107 million PCH Grade Separation Project was unveiled Thursday afternoon at a grand-opening ceremony attended by members of the U.S. Congress, the state Legislature, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the city councils and ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

The nearly three-story bridge spans the area from west of the Terminal Island Freeway to Coil Avenue. It widens PCH from four to six lanes and eliminates the last-remaining public at-grade conflict between street and train traffic on the 20-mile corridor.

"This project will improve the quality of life in Wilmington. Today we will see relief from traffic gridlock and air pollution that has been caused by idling cars and trucks," said ACTA Vice Chair Janice Hahn, a Los Angeles City Council member. This is a great day for Wilmington. Never again will this community have to stop for a train to pass on PCH."

ACTA managed design and construction of the project under an agreement with Caltrans. Of the \$107 million budget, Caltrans funded \$79 million, while ACTA and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority each contributed \$14 million.

"ACTA is now 2 for 2. Again we are on time and on budget," said ACTA Chair Frank Colonna, the Vice Mayor of Long Beach. "We opened the Alameda Corridor just under two years ago and now our second project is on track to help efficiently move goods to and from the ports."

To accommodate construction, PCH has been closed between the Terminal Island Freeway and Coil Avenue since June 1, 2003. Traffic was routed around the construction zone utilizing the Terminal Island Freeway, Sepulveda Boulevard, Alameda Street, Colon Street and Coil Avenue. Construction contractor Yeager Skanska Inc. of Riverside maintained access to all businesses in the construction zone.

Opened in April 2002, the Alameda Corridor consolidated train traffic from four branch rail lines into a high-speed freight rail expressway stretching 20 miles between the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles and the transcontinental rail yards near downtown Los Angeles. The agency's governing board is made up of representatives from the cities and ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and the L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA).

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