



## Recapping an Exciting Year of Rail Improvements for the San Diego Region

Some exciting work was completed in 2013 on a variety of rail improvement projects in the Interstate 5 (I-5) North Coast Corridor. SANDAG is working on double tracking, or adding a second main track, to the majority of the 60-mile San Diego coastal rail corridor, with the goal of double tracking 99 percent by 2050. To date, more than half of the corridor is double tracked. Double tracking will improve travel times and give operators the capacity to add more trains to their daily schedules, giving travelers more convenient and reliable options to travel to home, work, the beach, or other coastal destinations.

SANDAG has more than 20 rail improvement projects in various phases of planning, design, and construction that are being completed with assistance from North County Transit District (NCTD), Amtrak, BNSF Railway, Caltrans, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. These projects are in the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor, or LOSSAN, which stretches 351 miles and connects the major metropolitan areas of Southern California and is the second busiest passenger rail corridor in the nation.

### Let's Highlight Some of the Projects

#### Right around the Corner! Completion of Sorrento to Miramar Double Track, Phase 1



Sorrento to Miramar construction crews worked on the new rail bridge foundation in January 2013.

The first phase of the [Sorrento to Miramar Double Track Project](#) will be completed this May. Last year, construction crews were working between Sorrento Valley Station and Miramar Road to build a one-mile stretch of double track. A wooden trestle bridge built in the early 40's was also replaced with a modern concrete rail bridge as part of the project. The project will increase schedule reliability, enhance operational flexibility, increase train capacity, and allow for improved maintenance cycles. Phase 2 of the project, which

will add an additional two miles of double track between Interstate 805 and Miramar Road, is in the design and environmental review stage.

#### Bringing you a New Special Events Platform at the Del Mar Fairgrounds

SANDAG has begun work on preliminary engineering and environmental documents for the [San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project](#). The project proposes the construction of a permanent special events rail platform on the west side of the fairgrounds. When completed, the platform will take thousands of cars



The planned special events platform will accommodate NCTD COASTER and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner passenger trains during special events such as the San Diego County Fair and the horse races.

off I-5, Highway 101, and local streets each event day. The project also will replace the nearly 100-year-old wooden trestle rail bridge over the San Dieguito Lagoon and add a mile of second mainline track from Solana Beach into Del Mar. This project is not yet funded for construction, but is expected to be completed by 2030.

#### Rail Project's Collaboration with San Elijo Lagoon Restoration

The [San Elijo Lagoon Double Track Project](#) has two main elements. It will add 1.5 miles of second main track from Cardiff-by-the-Sea to the southern border of the San Elijo Lagoon and replace the more than



The lagoon's environmental study is being funded through the North Coast Corridor Program and the SANDAG Environmental Mitigation Program.

60-year-old wooden trestle San Elijo Lagoon rail bridge with a modern, double-track, concrete bridge.

As part of the San Elijo Lagoon Double Track Project, SANDAG and Caltrans are collaborating with the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Committee on the project's track alignment and rail bridge alternatives. Once the

environmental study is complete in late 2014, the rail project's design can be finalized. This rail project is fully funded for construction, which will begin in 2015.

#### The I-5 North Coast Corridor Program

Rail enhancements are part of a larger plan to improve the transportation system in North County. SANDAG and Caltrans are collaborating with resource agencies and local cities to implement a \$6.5 billion package of transportation and resource enhancement projects from La Jolla to Oceanside over the next 40 years. Key improvements include adding Express Lanes on I-5, double tracking the coastal rail line, restoring several coastal habitat sites, and enhancing the bike/pedestrian trail network.

For more information on the North Coast Corridor Program, please visit [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/NCC](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/NCC).

#### Latest News

- [Work to begin soon on Sorrento Valley double track rail improvement project near Carmel Valley](#)
- [New road paving technique means quieter I-5](#)
- [Caltrans and SANDAG submit corridor blueprint to the Coastal Commission](#)

#### Program Video

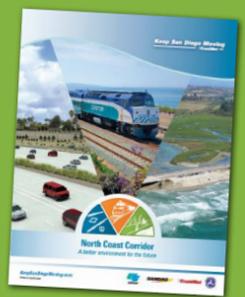


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#### NCC Brochure

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