April 15, 2011

North Coast Transportation Corridor Frequently Asked Questions Series

Welcome to the fourth broadcast in a series about the transportation improvements in the North Coast Corridor. This series provides answers to questions we frequently receive about the multi-modal transportation and environmental improvements in this corridor. This week's focus is on rail improvements that are already under way.



Question #4:

When will rail transit improvements start in this corridor?

Answer:

In addition to the express lanes that will accommodate carpooling and transit on the freeway, many improvements are being made to the coastal rail corridor to enhance commuter and passenger rail services. Projects currently under construction include double tracking, pedestrian crossings, bridge modernization, track bed stabilization, and station improvements.

SANDAG, the regional government agency that plans, builds and finances our region's public transportation system, will invest more than \$430 million over the next five years to facilitate improvements to COASTER commuter train and Amtrak passenger rail services.

The long-term goal for the coastal rail line is to create two parallel train tracks from the Orange County line to downtown San Diego. Double tracking the corridor will allow trains to run in both directions at the same time, improving rail transit times.

Today, about 30 miles is double tracked and current projects will add another nine miles of double track by 2016. In addition, twenty capital projects are in development, ten of which are fully funded through construction with federal, state, and local voter-approved *TransNet* funds.

These transit projects, when combined with the I-5 project, will provide a balanced transportation system for people to travel within and through the North Coast Corridor.

Thank you for your continuing interest while we work to provide you with more reliable travel choices, improve the corridor's community and natural resources, and sustain economic growth.

Allan Kosup, Corridor Director







