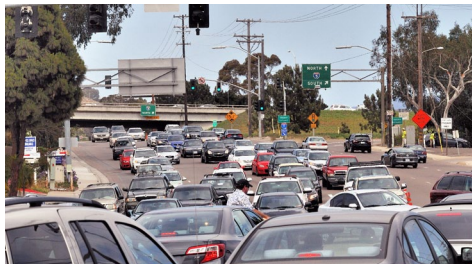


# San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform

E-News Update  
July 2013

## Special Events Platform to Ease Traffic Congestion Around Fairgrounds

As the Del Mar horse racing season kicks off, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is in early engineering for a new special events rail platform that would allow racetrack and fair patrons to take the train directly to the fairgrounds.



Traffic backs up on Via De La Valle on the opening day of the San Diego County Fair.

The San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project will create a new seasonal special events platform on the west side of the fairgrounds to reduce traffic congestion and provide improved transit options for special event attendees.

The project will also construct 1.1 miles of second mainline track from Solana Beach into Del Mar and replace the nearly 100-year-old wooden trestle rail bridge over the San Dieguito River.

More than 1.4 million people attended this year's San Diego County Fair over the course of its 24-day run. Together the fair and the races bring approximately two million people and their cars into the cities of Del Mar and Solana Beach each year, exacerbating traffic congestion on Interstate 5 (I-5), Highway 101, and other local streets.

### Survey Says: Attendees Would Use Fairgrounds Platform

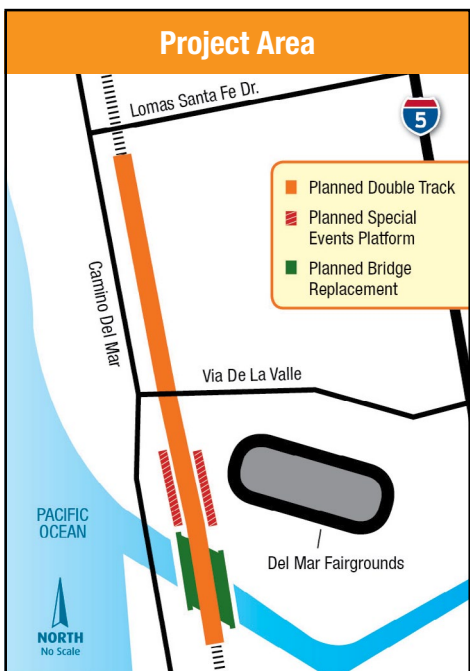


Fair attendees arrive at the Solana Beach Train Station. Currently, attendees using the train need to transfer to a shuttle bus to take them to the Del Mar Fairgrounds entrance.

A 2011 survey conducted at the fair and horse races showed that many travelers would utilize a new platform if in place. Specifically, attendees of these special events were asked, "If a train stop were to be located at the fairgrounds, would you have taken it?" Over 40% of attendees answered, "Yes, definitely" and another 20% said "Yes, probably." Based on the survey, the special events platform could significantly reduce daily traffic congestion by taking thousands of cars off I-5, Highway 101, and local streets each event day.

### Direct Access to the Fairgrounds

The platform will be located within the North County Transit District (NCTD) right-of-way on the west side of the fairgrounds to provide transit riders direct and convenient access to special events.



The platform will be 1,000-feet long to accommodate 10-car NCTD COASTER and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner passenger trains during special events.

Over the years, new and improved transit stations located at local sport and entertainment venues have been an important tool to relieve traffic congestion and provide a safe and reliable transit option for patrons.

For example, up to 18,000 people use the trolley to attend a Chargers football game at Qualcomm Stadium. Up to 5,000 fans use the trolley to attend a Padres game. Nearly 40% of the 2012 Comic-Con guests used the trolley to get to the Convention Center. When provided with a transit option to attend a special event, many in San Diego County will take it.

### Corridor-Wide Improvements

This project is one of many underway that will help advance efforts to double

track 97% of the corridor's rail system between the San Diego/Orange County line and Downtown San Diego by 2050. The project's new, modern bridge will result in a quieter, more reliable ride for passengers and protect rail service from flood impacts of major storms.

The project is funded through preliminary engineering and environmental phases. Although not funded for construction, the SANDAG 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) has construction slated between 2020 and 2030.

The project does not include plans for a future tunnel to relocate the existing single-track rail segment along the Del Mar Bluffs, which is anticipated in the SANDAG 2050 RTP between 2040 and 2050.

As a companion to the I-5 freeway, the San Diego segment of the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) corridor plays a critical role in the movement of people and goods within the region's [North Coast Corridor](#).

Please visit [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SDDT](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/SDDT) for more project information or [email us](#) to receive updates about the project in the future.

### Up Next:

## Fall 2013

Public Information Open House planned on Track, Bridge, and Platform Alternatives

### Platform Fast Facts:

#### San Diego County Fair

**1.5 million**  
attendees in 2012

**88,500**  
people arrived by transit (6%)

**66%**  
of all fair attendees said they were likely to use a new train platform at the fairgrounds\*

#### Del Mar Racing Season

**660,000**  
attendees in 2012

**77,250**  
people arrived by train (12%)

**63%**  
of all race attendees said they were likely to use a new train platform at the fairgrounds\*

\*Based on 2011 SANDAG intercept survey at the fairgrounds main gate.

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