DEL MAR BLUFFS STABILIZATION

PHASE 5 SCHEDULE AND FUNDING

Design Start
Early 2020

Design Completion
Mid 2021

Total Project Cost
$65.2 million

Currently Funded
$19.9 million

Funding Sources
California Natural Resources Agency
Federal Railroad Administration – State of Good Repair
Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program

Benefits
Stabilization of the Del Mar Bluffs will increase safety and service reliability for passengers and freight by minimizing the chances of track damage due to bluff retreat and seismic events. Directing stormwater runoff more effectively across the bluffs will help lower the potential for erosion during large storm events. The installation of support columns will further help to protect the track bed from erosion.

Project Status
Del Mar Bluffs Stabilization 5 is currently in design and SANDAG is actively pursuing funding for construction.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

SANDAG and North County Transit District (NCTD) are leading efforts to stabilize portions of the coastal bluffs in the City of Del Mar. This integral part of the 351-mile Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) rail corridor is a vital link for passenger and freight movements within San Diego County, as well as between San Diego, Los Angeles, and points farther north. Del Mar Bluffs Stabilization is an ongoing, multiphase effort to maintain a stable track bed along the coastal bluffs and protect the railroad from erosion, landslides, and seismic events.

Phase 5 stabilization efforts will install additional columns to support the railroad and reinforce the bluffs and install retaining walls, drainage improvements including outlets to the beach, and other stabilization and erosion control measures on the upper bluffs. This stabilization effort is especially critical in protecting the bluffs in the event of an earthquake or large storm events.

Importance of the LOSSAN Corridor

The LOSSAN rail line is a vital component of the north-south corridor through the San Diego region. The NCTD COASTER commuter rail service, Amtrak’s Pacific Surfliner intercity service, and BNSF Railway freight service all rely upon this segment of track to serve a combined 7.6 million passengers a year\(^1\) and $1 billion in goods and services that are supported by rail line reliability\(^2\). In 2019, these services relied upon 48 passenger trains and six to eight freight trains per day. By 2030 these numbers will have increased to 78 passenger trains and 22 freight trains per day, only further illustrating the need for rail line reliability. SANDAG is currently commissioning an in-depth analysis of the economic impacts of the LOSSAN rail corridor to the San Diego region.

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\(^1\)Number of annual passengers along the LOSSAN rail corridor from San Luis Obispo to San Diego (LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency)

\(^2\)Annual amount of goods transported along the LOSSAN rail corridor from San Luis Obispo to San Diego (BNSF Railway, 2008: $1B, 2050 estimate: $2B)
Del Mar Bluffs Past and Future Stabilization Efforts

LEGEND

- Previous (Phases 1-4) Stabilization Efforts
  (Includes nearly 250 support columns and drainage improvements)

- Future (Phases 5 & 6) Planned Del Mar Bluffs Stabilization
  (Includes the installation of support columns, seismic improvements, general drainage improvements, concrete lagging, and base reinforcement)

- Existing Support Columns
  (Exact number of existing columns not shown)

- Railroad

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP FOR PROJECT UPDATES:
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