

## San Dieguito Project Among 17 Active SANDAG-led Rail Efforts in Region


The San Dieguito Double Track project is one of 17 SANDAG-led projects under development in the region's coastal rail corridor to help improve rail and transit efficiency. These projects will help to double track much of the corridor from Orange County to downtown San Diego, as well as to modernize aging rail bridges, improve pedestrian safety, and enhance boarding opportunities at rail stations. In 2012, Amtrak completed the construction of two miles of new second track in the Carlsbad area. Today, SANDAG is working to design or construct nearly 18 miles of double track in collaboration with NCTD and Caltrans. Projects now in construction include a new double track rail bridge over the Santa Margarita River north of Oceanside; a one mile segment of second track south of the Sorrento Valley Station; a new pedestrian safety crossing in Encinitas; and track improvements in San Diego. Approximately 10 of the projects are included in the North Coast Corridor Program between Oceanside and La Jolla.

## SIGN UP! for project updates

To receive the latest news on the San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project, please sign up for updates by visiting [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com) or scan the QR code below using your smartphone's code reader application.

In addition to [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com), please visit SANDAG Facebook and Twitter pages for up-to-date project information.

 @SANDAG

 SANDAGregion



*Traducción al español disponible a solicitud.*

## Rail Improvements Planned Near Del Mar Fairgrounds

A new rail project near the Del Mar Fairgrounds will begin its early planning and environmental scoping process in January 2013. The San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project will add approximately one mile of second track from Solana Beach to Jimmy Durante Boulevard, replace the aging San Dieguito River wooden trestle bridge and add a special events rail platform at the Fairgrounds for major events. The rail improvement project, which will be led by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in collaboration with the North County Transit District (NCTD), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), will improve a critical part of the 351-mile Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) rail corridor that serves as a vital link for passenger and freight movements in San Diego County. The project is also one part of a package of rail and transit improvements planned for the North Coast Corridor (NCC), which spans 27 miles and includes the six coastal cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Solana Beach, Encinitas, Del Mar, and San Diego.

The project is one of several planned improvements for the corridor's rail system, advancing efforts to double track 97 percent of the rail line between Oceanside and San Diego by the year 2030. Double tracking allows for additional train frequency and benefits the local economy by improving travel times and freight movement. Rail projects such as the San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform are part of a plan by SANDAG to construct approximately \$800 million in rail improvement projects in the San Diego County segment of the LOSSAN corridor.

The project will help achieve the long-term vision of the larger NCC Program, which includes a coordinated package of rail, highway, and transit improvements, as well as significant environmental enhancements, such as habitat acquisitions, lagoon restorations, and a network of bike/pedestrian paths. The project is also consistent with SANDAG's 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, which seeks to improve the transportation system to further enhance quality of life, promote sustainability, and offer more transportation choices for people and goods movement.

The project is being planned in close collaboration with other local and regional stakeholders including the cities of Solana Beach and Del Mar, San Dieguito Riverpark Foundation, 22nd District Agricultural Association, and regional transit organizations. SANDAG will coordinate the design, construction, and funding for the project, and NCTD will continue to own, operate, and maintain the rail line. SANDAG and Caltrans Division of Rail have secured \$9.5 million in funding from local and federal sources to date. A portion of the project is funded through the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA), a FRA program that authorized the appropriation of funds specifically to improve the nation's rail services. Additionally, the project is partially-funded through *TransNet*, the San Diego County voter-approved one-half cent sales tax to fund a variety of transportation projects. The project is funded through the preliminary engineering and environmental phases only. Therefore, a construction start date has yet to be determined.



*The San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project is one of several rail improvement projects planned in the North Coast Corridor.*

## JOIN US!

### PROJECT SCOPING MEETING

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Del Mar Hills Academy

14085 Mango Drive

Del Mar, CA 92014

Please join SANDAG at a public scoping meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at the Del Mar Hills Academy to discuss the environmental review process for the San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project. The meeting will offer members of the public the opportunity to provide input on what should be studied under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Additional public information meetings are planned throughout 2013. Please visit [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](http://KeepSanDiegoMoving.com) for more information about the process.



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North Coast Corridor  
A better environment for the future





# A Closer Look at the San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project



## North Coast Corridor

*A better environment for the future*

### Transportation Improvements Coming for the North Coast Corridor

The San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project is part of a package of improvements planned for the NCC to offer more transportation choices and enhance coastal habitats. Over the next few decades, the NCC Program will invest \$6.5 billion in highway, rail, transit, and environmental protection and coastal access improvements.



*The NCC Program offers a balanced transportation system to provide travelers choices for the future, while enhancing the quality of life for residents.*

Rail projects include station improvements, double tracking, pedestrian undercrosses, grade separation, and replacement of several older rail bridges. Increasing rail efficiency and improving reliability is a key part of creating more transportation choices for commuters, residents and visitors along the heavily-traveled I-5 in the North Coast Corridor.

## Increasing Rail Line Capacity and Reliability

The project will increase passenger and freight rail capacity and improve on-time train performance by adding a 1.1-mile segment of double track south of Solana Beach, resulting in a nearly three-mile-long segment of double track on the coastal rail line. No changes are planned to the rail line along the Del Mar Bluffs, which is planned to be relocated sometime after the year 2040.

The double tracking will eliminate a significant bottleneck section between Solana Beach and Del Mar. Double tracking, or adding a second main track, will allow for additional train frequency and improve on-time reliability of COASTER and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner services by eliminating the need for trains to sit idle as another train uses the single track and helping to reduce the effects of cascading delays. Increasing rail efficiency and reliability is a key step in reducing the reliance on vehicles to travel along the heavily-congested Interstate 5 (I-5) North Coast Corridor.

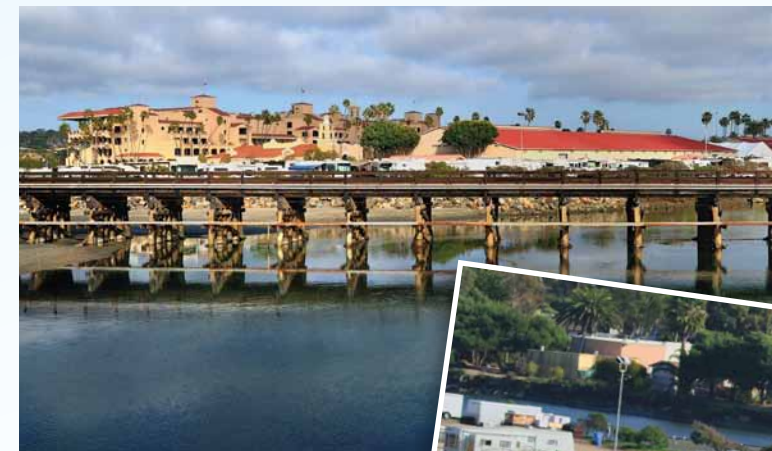
As of late 2012, slightly more than half of San Diego County's rail corridor is double tracked, with an additional 11 miles in design or under construction. More than 97 percent of the corridor will be double tracked by 2030. Other key rail enhancement projects along the corridor include bridge replacements, pedestrian undercrossings, and other safety and operational improvements. Together, these projects represent SANDAG's plan to construct approximately \$800 million in infrastructure along the San Diego County section of the LOSSAN rail corridor in the near term.



*The Project will add 1.1 miles of double track, improving on-time reliability and passenger travel times.*

## Improving Tidal Flow of San Dieguito Lagoon

As part of the San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform project, the rail bridge over the San Dieguito Lagoon will be replaced and lengthened. The modernized concrete bridge will improve tidal flow and water quality due to wider bridge spans. The existing river bridge was built in 1916 and is in need of replacement. The wooden bridge will be replaced to accommodate the new double track and elevated to reduce potential damage to the rail line during severe storms, which can damage tracks and delay service. Improving tidal flow at the river mouth is a key part of enhancing coastal habitats and preserving the corridor's lagoons.



*The 96-year-old wooden bridge will be replaced and lengthened to improve tidal flow and water quality of the San Dieguito Lagoon.*



## Providing Direct Service to the Del Mar Fairgrounds

A new special events platform will provide direct passenger service to the Del Mar Fairgrounds for the San Diego County Fair, horse races and other special events. Currently, visitors wishing to take the train to the Fairgrounds must get off at the Solana Beach station and shuttle to the Fairgrounds. The proposed platform will be located directly at the Fairgrounds adjacent to its west parking lot.

The proposed platform will be active during special events only and will help reduce vehicular traffic in the area during heavily-attended events at the Fairgrounds. The proposed platform will be accessible to trains traveling both north and south. The double track and proposed platform are part of SANDAG's goal to increase transit ridership by improving reliability and providing direct links to San Diego's most desirable coastal destinations.



*The special events platform will provide a direct connection to the Del Mar Fairgrounds for rail passengers.*

The San Dieguito Double Track and Special Events Platform Project will replace the 96-year-old wooden trestle San Dieguito Railway River Bridge, add 1.1 miles of second mainline rail track south of Solana Beach and add a special events platform at the Del Mar Fairgrounds for North County Transit District (NCTD) COASTER and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains. In addition to the key project features, benefits include improving a critical part of the 351-mile LOSSAN rail corridor, increasing capacity, and achieving the long-term vision for the North Coast Corridor Program of improving transit services.

