

Batiquitos Lagoon Double Track Project

Fact Sheet

Status:

Design

Current Budget:

\$14.5 million

Completion:

- » Design Complete 2022
- » Construction Anticipated to be Complete 2025

The Project

The project will add .06 miles of second mainline rail track from Avenida Encinas in Carlsbad to La Costa Avenue in Encinitas across the Batiquitos Lagoon. The project also includes replacing a wooden trestle bridge, built in the 1940s, with a modern, double-track concrete rail bridge. As a result of the bridge replacement, lagoon tidal flow will be improved due to a wider channel underneath the bridge.



The Need

The primary purpose of this project is to replace the wooden trestle bridge, which will improve overall lagoon health, and a mid-corridor location for passenger trains to pass the slower freight trains. This will alleviate passenger train delays that currently occur. Additionally, the double tracking in this segment directly supports the objectives of SANDAG, North County Transit District (NCTD), Amtrak, and BNSF Railway to increase the efficiency and reliability of the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) coastal rail corridor, not only to accommodate existing train volumes, but also to provide for future passenger and freight demand.

The project is also a critical component of the North Coast Corridor (NCC) Program, which includes rail double tracking projects over the Batiquitos and San Elijo lagoons, extending the carpool lanes on Interstate 5, and environmental protection, lagoon restoration, and coastal access improvements.

Corridor Strategy

To date, more than three-quarters of the county's LOSSAN rail corridor has been double tracked to date. More than 99 percent of the corridor is anticipated to be double tracked by 2030. Double tracking allows trains traveling in opposite directions to pass without slowing down or stopping.

This project is a critical part of the 351-mile LOSSAN rail corridor and serves as a vital link for passenger and freight movements in the San Diego region. The LOSSAN corridor is the second busiest intercity passenger rail line in the United States and is the only viable freight rail link between San Diego and the rest of the nation.

Other infrastructure improvements include bridge and track replacements, new platforms, pedestrian crossings, modernization and operational enhancements. The rail enhancements are part of a strategy to improve all modes of

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Batiquitos Lagoon lies between Carlsbad and Encinitas

transportation within the congested I-5 North Coast Corridor. The NCC Program is a balanced set of transportation, environmental, and coastal access projects to improve the quality of life for residents, create a stronger local and regional economy, and enhance the coastal environment.

Project Budget

The project currently has \$14.5M in funding for design. The design funding includes \$5M from the Federal Transit Administration, \$1.25M in State SBI Local Partnership Program (LPP) funds, and \$8.25M in TransNet, the regional half-cent sales tax for transportation administered by SANDAG.

SANDAG is currently seeking Construction funding for the project. The estimated cost for the construction phase is \$90.5 million.

Project Status

The project is currently in the design and permitting phase. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2023 if construction funds are obtained.

For More Information

Visit: [KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BLDT](https://www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com/BLDT)

