

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will riders be affected

MTS minimizes the impact on riders as much as possible, but with parking lot and track closures necessary to complete construction, riders may have to adjust their trips. The majority of the closures and need for bus bridges will happen on weekends. MTS will supply bus bridges when stations are closed. Riders will be notified through station announcements, station signage, and this website. Information is also available at www.sdmts.com/trolleyrenewal.asp, on the Trolley Renewal Hotline at (619) 557-4533, via Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/sdmts>, and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/sdmts>.

Why do this project now?

The rails and equipment on the Blue Line are nearly 35 years old now and have exceeded their original expected use. SANDAG and MTS are completing the project now in order to avoid delays and breakdowns in the future. Also, the installation of additional rail crossovers between stations will allow MTS to provide service during temporary delays, ensuring smooth riding in the future.

How is this project funded?

The funding sources for this project are the local TransNet half-cent sales tax administered by SANDAG, California Proposition 1B bond money, and the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The funds are designated for capital improvements to the system and cannot be used for day-to-day operations.

Why do we need low-floor Trolley cars?

Low-floor Trolley cars offer a significant advantage over high-floor vehicles. Because the floor of a low-floor car is level with the station platform, boarding and exit times are reduced for all riders. The low floor also provides enhanced accessibility for disabled riders and eliminates the need for wheelchair lifts.

The new low-floor vehicles are 81 feet long, which is nine feet shorter than the 11 S-70 low-floor vehicles that MTS currently uses on the Green Line. The shorter length will enable the new vehicles to be used on C Street in Downtown San Diego without blocking intersections. This will allow the Green Line to extend into downtown, terminating at 12th and Imperial Transit Center and eliminating the need to transfer at the Old Town Transit Center.

When will we see new low-floor Trolley cars?

The vehicles were added on the Green Line in August 2012, the Orange Line in January 2013, and the Blue Line in January 2015.