

Huffington Post- Mar 30, 2013

12) Amtrak serves full, cooked-to-order meals served on real dishes aboard all long-haul routes. These always include a vegetarian selection ...

[Sloooooow train to Tucson](#)

OCRegister- Mar 29, 2013

Though I was very late on my slow night train to Tucson, there was a side of me that would have been happy to have stayed aboard...

[Railroad romance: taking the train from Vancouver to San Francisco](#)

The Guardian- Mar 30, 2013

A train journey from Vancouver to San Francisco gives you the chance to witness the epic scenery and vibrant cities of the Pacific Northwest at a more relaxed pace and rhythm

[Coast Starlight: Rail's best of the West](#)

OCRegister- Mar 30, 2013

Every time I find myself at Union Station in Los Angeles, I get this feeling I'm an extra in a classic 1930s Hollywood black-and-white suspense thriller.

[Texas-Oklahoma passenger rail options discussed](#)

San Francisco Chronicle- Mar 31, 2013

DALLAS (AP) — Transportation officials are studying the feasibility of adding high speed passenger rail service to alleviate road congestion along an 850-mile corridor extending from Oklahoma City into South Texas.

[Capitol Corridor Monthly Report \(February, 2013\)](#)

By David B. Kutrosky, Managing Director, CCJPA

For February 2013, once again we find Capitol Corridor's monthly performance report to be a mixed bag of results. Ridership in the month of February was 8.2% below February 2011 and revenue was down 2.7%. On a positive note, on-time performance (OTP) was 97%, the best in the Amtrak system for February, and the system operating ratio for the fiscal year is 52%.

[Report of the First Ever San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority](#)

Report by Mike Barnbaum

The New San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, created by legislation from Cathleen Galgiani (AB 1779) and signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Jerry Brown on September 29, 2012, held its first meeting on March 22, 2013 in the City Council Chambers of the City of Merced.

[LOSSAN Rail Corridor: 2012 Project Video](#)

Published on Mar 14, 2013 on Youtube

Information and some great scenic shots of local rail service.



On some of the older cars (up to 20 years old) there are signs of wear and tear on Metrolink on the seats and carpets. Photo by Noel T. Braymer

[March Trip report with video to Riverside, Los Angeles and Santa Monica](#)

Report by Noel T. Braymer

What a way to celebrate my 61st birthday, but I'm still too young for a Metrolink senior discount.

[Boxcar Energy](#)

Slate Magazine- Mar 28, 2013

Brilliant new strategies for storing power. No. 4: First you roll a train uphill ...

Well California has lots of rocks and mountains to make this work. This plan would build new railroads to be just like roller coasters and send heavy automated trains downhill using dynamic braking to send power to the grid! NB

[PERRIS: Judge gives green light to Metrolink line](#)

Press-Enterprise- Mar 28, 2013

A judge's ruling could be the last hurdle for Riverside County officials to extend a Metrolink line from Riverside to Perris, according to court documents.

[NCTD alerts customers on PTC installation](#)

RailwayAge Magazine (blog)- Mar 27, 2013

Southern California's North County Transit District, which oversees operations ... "Under federal rail regulations, train engineers are required to ...

[Metro Takes A Stand On Cap and Trade Funds: Spend Them On Sustainable](#)

[Transportation](#)

StreetsBlog LA Mar 28, 2013

As part of today's Metro Board meeting, the Board of Directors passed a motion calling on the state's Air Resources Board to spend funds collected through the state's cap and trade program on sustainable transportation funding.

[Coachella Valley 2035: Our Region Is Becoming...](#)

Coachella Valley Independent- Mar 29, 2013

However, the valley may not need as many jobs, per se, if there were greater rail connectivity to the rest of Southern California. Housing is cheaper in the Coachella Valley than it is in much of Los Angeles and Orange counties, so more people who have jobs in those metropolitan areas could decide to make the commute if the commute were cheaper and easier than it is now.

Both Pettis and Kirk talked up the importance of twice-a-day, seven-day-a-week rail service to Riverside, Orange County and Los Angeles; currently, Amtrak offers only three days of service between Palm Springs and Los Angeles—and the train arrives in North Palm Springs at the ungodly time of 12:36 a.m.

[Railroad Museum Grand Opening](#)

Santa Barbara Edhat- Mar 29, 2013

San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum Announces Grand Opening for October 12, 2013 Long Anticipated Opening to Take Place at the Museum's New Home in the Historic SLO Freight House

[DispL.A. Case #56: Angels Flight](#)

LA Magazine- Mar 29, 2013

As the slow, sad end turned the apartments, the houses, and the streets back into dust, Olivet (shown here) and Sinai, the twin rail cars of Angels Flight, remained the one bright spot in that orgy of destruction.

[Downtowns: What's Behind America's Most Surprising Real Estate Boom](#)

Forbes Mar 25, 2013

“The American population, contrary to popular opinion, is not very mobile, but there is one very significant exception, what we call ‘the young and the restless,’” explains Lee Fisher, president of CEOs for Cities, a national not-for-profit organization that helps U.S. cities map out economic growth. And there's one place this desired demographic, college-educated professionals between the ages of 25 and 34, tends to want to live: tight-knit urban neighborhoods that are close to work and have lots of entertainment and shopping options within an easy walk. In fact this demographic's population grew 26% from 2000 to 2010 in major cities' downtowns, or twice as fast as it did in the those cities' overall metro areas, according to a CEOs for Cities report based on U.S. Census data.

[Real Estate Tip: Buy Near Transit](#)

Transportation Nation Mar 25, 2013

Homes close to good transit options made for better real estate investments during the recession, according to a new study from the American Public Transportation Association.



This is the Megabus Stop at the Riverside Transportation Center. Megabus depends on low overhead to make money and this sign is the only infrastructure it seemingly has at this or other stops. As an added "bonus" the Megabus riders get to wait in the smoking section of the bus stop area at the Riverside Transportation Center. Photo by Noel T. Braymer

Re: Long Delayed new rail bridge over the Santa Margarita River.

I was wondering what the status of the new rail bridge over the Santa Margarita River north of Oceanside might be. I regularly drive between San Diego and Los Angeles, and I have been watching this project for what seems to be a long, long time. The LOSSAN web site says that construction of the bridge began in 2012, but that does not match my observation. It seems to me that construction actually began in early 2010. I found a SANDAG web site that says the project will be completed by mid-2012. But it is far from completion.

This "appears" to be a project that has no priority – typically, there is nobody at work on the site. With no one working, it will not get done. And this is a key piece of double-tracking the LOSSAN corridor, so it would be good to get the project done. Is it ever going to be completed? Is there a schedule?

Jim Geier

The current schedule calls for completion of the bridge by the middle of this year according to this from

<http://www.keepsandiegomoving.com/Lossan/santa-margarita-schedule.aspx> (click to go to site)

I know this project is a year behind schedule and I have been checking it on almost every rail trip north I taken since 2010. There was major flooding just before Christmas 2010 in San Diego County which did a great deal of damage. I haven't found anything official but I know of reports that much of the work of the first year of construction was washed away by this flooding. I've also read unofficially that the project was largely redesigned because of the flood damage. Large parts of Camp Pendleton are a nature reserve and I know there are restrictions on use of the base during mating season of an endangered bird species. I don't know if this affected this project but it did for the nearby San Mateos Creek Bridge during the fall and winter months. NB