



Photo by Noel T. Braymer

[Big Numbers For Dodger Stadium Shuttle](#)

Los Angeles Downtown News Apr 5, 2013

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - The Dodgers didn't connect with the ball very well during their opening homestand against the San Francisco Giants, but according to Metro, the Dodger Stadium Express shuttle bus than runs between Union Station and Chavez Ravine was a hit with fans.

[Does Classical Music At Train Stations Really Deter Crime?](#)

WQXR Apr 8, 2013

But in cities from Atlanta to Minneapolis and London, there's often a bigger strategy at work: turn on the great composers and turn away the loiterers, vagrants and troublemakers who are drawn to bus stations, malls and parking lots. Last month, the Associated Press reported on a YMCA in Columbus, OH that began piping Vivaldi into its parking lot, and claiming to disperse petty drug dealers as a result.

[Union Station past and present, in photographs](#)

Posted April 12, 2013 by Steve Hymon

Over the last couple of weeks I've been both shooting and collecting photos of Los Angeles Union Station, the best of which I've put in the above slideshow; click on the first image to begin the slideshow.

[Grade separation project under way in California](#)

Progressive Rail Roading- Apr 11, 2013

Governed by the Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority (ACE), the grade separation project calls for building the bridge over Nogales Street north of the Pomona Freeway.

The underpass and bridge will enable state and local officials to close a grade crossing that's used by about 40 Union Pacific Railroad trains, 12 Metrolink trains and 42,680 vehicles daily. The crossing is ranked No. 5 in the state for grade separation priority based on congestion and collision metrics, ACE officials said in a press release.

[Police Crack Down on Railroad Traffic](#)

KSEE- Apr 11, 2013

Last year the government reported 121 rail crossing crashes in California. That's the second worst state in the nation, behind Texas...

In 2012 a total of 38 California drivers were killed while cross railroad tracks.

[Train Hushing Efforts on Track Despite Objection](#)

Patch.com- Apr 11, 2013

BNSF Railway has filed a challenge to the plan with the California Public Utilities Commission, but the Orange County Transportation Authority has charged ...

[L.A. MTA, Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center Join Efforts To Combat Pedestrian Fatalities On Metro Blue Line](#)

Progressive Railroading April 2013

Although train-versus-motor vehicle accidents have steadily declined on the Blue Line in recent years, incidents involving pedestrians remain a problem, with suicides becoming a major concern, L.A. MTA officials say.

[Meet Art Leahy! Chief Executive Officer, LA Metro](#)

APTA Passenger Transport Apr 5, 2013

We're building a seamless network of travel through alliances with our transit partners, including Metrolink (the suburban rail carrier that covers Los Angeles County and four other counties) and 16 municipal operators. In the last 20 years, ridership on Metro and our partners has grown by more than 10 percent to two million-plus boardings daily.

[BART extension to San Jose: Heavy Lifting About To Begin](#)

San Jose Mercury News Apr 11, 2013

For the most part, however, the construction has been barely noticeable. That is about to change in a major way for the \$2.3 billion, 10-mile route from Warm Springs in South Fremont to Berryessa Road in San Jose.

The goal is to beat the projected 2018 opening date by a year.

[Congress, Administration Trade Gimmicky Ideas For Keeping ...](#)

Streetsblog Capitol Hill (blog)- Apr 11, 2013

At today's hearing on Amtrak's budget proposal, the nation's rail leaders met with a different kind of Congressional leadership than in it has in ...

[Obama Wants \\$50B For Roads, \\$40B For Rail, MAP-21 Extension In 2014 Budget](#)

The Hill Apr 10, 2013

The White House's explanation of the budget says that Obama's plan would fully fund the transportation bill passed last year, which included \$50.1 billion for road and transit projects in 2014.

[Rep. Shuster: Obama Budget Missing Transportation Funding Source](#)

The Hill Apr 10, 2013

Transportation advocates have said the funding that was included in the MAP-21 bill was barely enough to stretch the surface of the nation's road and transit needs. The measure was funded in large part with a series of one-time trust fund sweeps and fee increases.

The traditional funding mechanism for transportation projects, the 18.4 cents-per-gallon federal gas tax, only brings in approximately \$35 billion per year.

The gas tax collection is expected to get even smaller as cars become more fuel efficient.

Want to have Fun during National Train Day? Be a part of it! Represent RailPAC at your Local National Train Day event or help out at events at tables planned around California particularly at LA Union Station. For more information call RailPAC President Paul Dyson at 818-845-9599 or write at pauljdyson@yahoo.com

[MOW Spending Report: Large railroads lay out 2013 infrastructure ...](#)

Progressive Rail Rooding- Apr 12, 2013

BNSF Railway Co.

Completion of the new 1,682-foot Plattsmouth Bridge over the Missouri River near Omaha, Neb., which began in March 2012 and is slated for completion in December 2013.

A Downbeat Update on the Construction of the Santa Margarita River Rail Bridge

RailPAC was recently asked about stories that much of the construction of the Santa Margarita River Rail Bridge will have to be demolished and if that included replacing the center pier. Linda Culp of the the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) replied to our questions.

"We've experienced some issues - there was a falsework failure earlier this year and we are in the process of demolishing the new bridge deck and rebuilding. Schedule right now is completion early 2014." Construction began on this bridge in January 2010. **And I thought I had problems with contractors when one installed a new floor in our bathroom and left without installing the toilet. NB**

COASTER Trains Will Not Operate Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21, 2013

Due to scheduled construction work in Sorrento Valley, Miramar and San Diego, there will be no rail service south of Oceanside Transit Center (OTC) on Saturday, April 20, and Sunday, April 21. NCTD will take advantage of the rail closure to complete other rail maintenance work in the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Del Mar, and San Diego.

All rail service will be suspended starting at 12 a.m. on Saturday, April 20 and will resume its regular schedule starting at 5 a.m. Monday, April 22. **This includes Amtrak Surfliner service as well. NB**

We Get Emails

Re: Signs at Oceanside

Enjoyed your recent trip report. At Oceanside, do you know if they have added signage showing people which of the two tracks to go to in order to board the Coaster? When I was there two years ago, there was no signage and it was pretty confusing.

Rupert Essinger, San Diego.