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**Subject:** LA Union Station: See the 4 Plans for its Renovation

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**From:** Rail Passenger Association of California (noelnoelt@cox.net)

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**To:** ntbraymer@yahoo.com;

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**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2013 9:30 AM

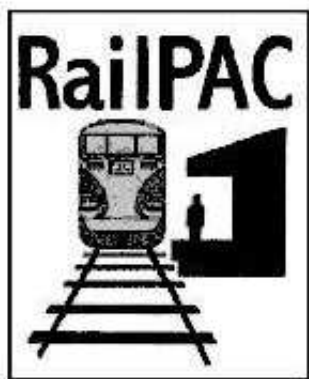
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## **RailPAC Weekly E-Newsletter for May 6, 2013**

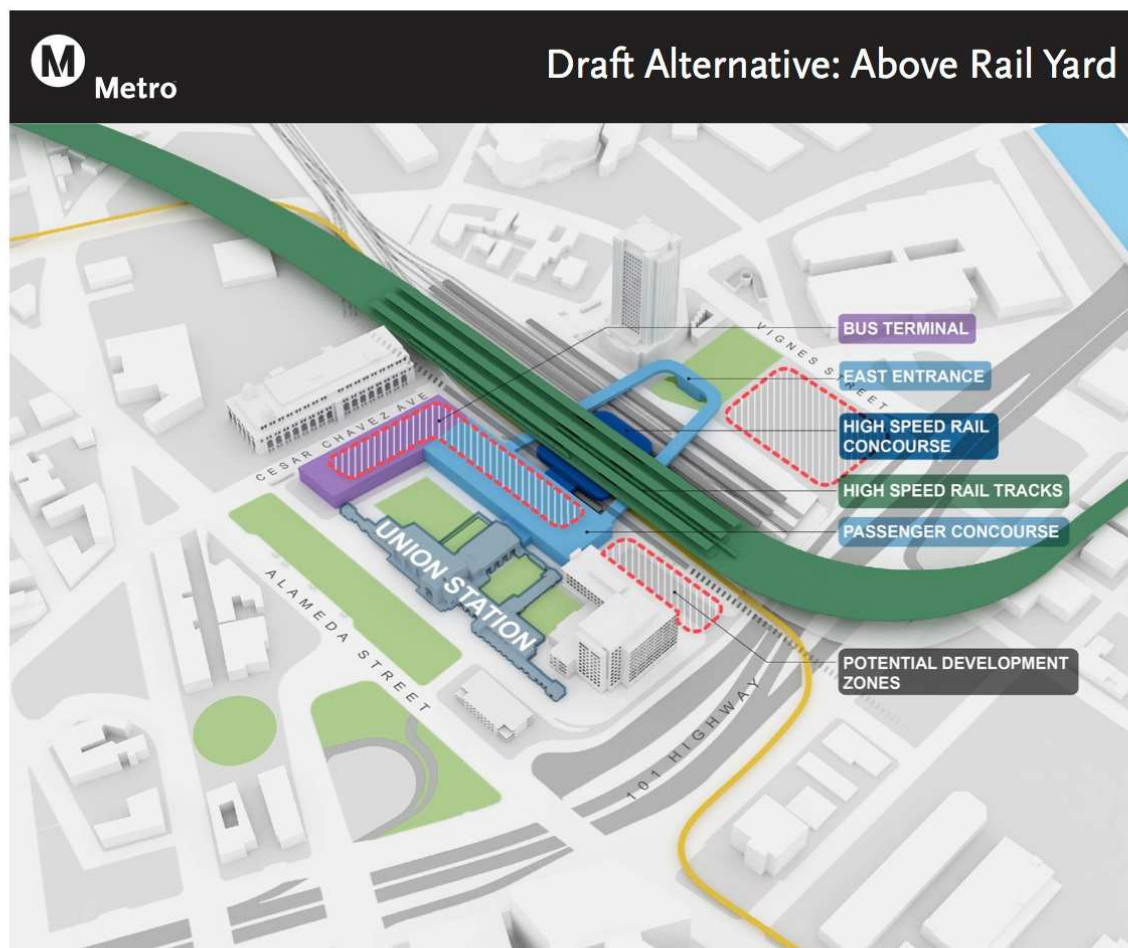
**Edited by Noel T. Braymer**

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#### AERIAL VIEW OF PROPOSED TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENT

##### KEY FEATURES:

- Transport functions are concentrated towards the western side of the site.
- The historic station would be mostly used for transit access.
- An expanded passenger concourse running north-south behind the main historic portion of Union Station connects all transit modes and provides services and amenities for all passengers.
- A new two-story bus terminal next to Cesar Chavez co-locates the various local and regional bus operations that pass by or terminate at Union Station.
- High Speed Rail is stacked above the existing conventional rail. Bridges and a HSR concourse provide access to the two levels of tracks and span across the west and eastern sides of the site.
- A large open space in front of historic Union Station along Alameda serves to strengthen neighborhood linkages as well as pedestrian and bicycle paths through the site.
- Portions of the historic Union Station could be repurposed for retail and transit-related amenities.
- The eastern side of the property is less encumbered by transit and remains available for development.

This is one of four proposals for rebuilding the layout of LAUS. The others look at putting High Speed Tracks under LAUS and or moving them to the east of the tracks of the main station area.

#### [Draft alternatives released for Los Angeles Union Station Master Plan](#)

Posted May 1, 2013 by Steve Hymon

The Los Angeles Union Station Master Plan team is releasing its draft alternatives today for improving the venerable station as a transit center. Among some of the proposals (shown above) are replacing the

parking lots in front of the station with open space, building a new bus terminal to handle most of the considerable bus traffic at the station and possibly replacing the current transit plaza at the rear of the station with other structures and/or green space.

### [Historic Union Station facing renovation plans](#)

Los Angeles Daily News- May 1, 2013

Architects commissioned by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to upgrade the 77-year-old transit hub in downtown Los Angeles showed preliminary plans that put a high-speed rail system atop, beneath or alongside existing subways without compromising the character of the historic landmark.

They also improved passenger concourses by adding shops, restaurants and other amenities; centralized terminals for buses, shuttles, taxis, car rental and even bike sharing; and tried to make the entire 40-acre property more accessible to surrounding neighborhoods in the Civic Center, El Pueblo, Chinatown and Little Tokyo.

### [High-speed rail board will hear construction bids](#)

Fresno Bee- May 1, 2013

SACRAMENTO -- For the first time since contractors' bids were announced for the initial stage of high-speed rail construction in Fresno and Madera, the public and members of the California High-Speed Rail Authority board will have their opportunity to weigh in on the bids and the bidding process.

### [California Bullet Train Groundbreaking Faces New Obstacles](#)

Los Angeles Times Apr 29, 2013

But last week, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co., which operates a freight line that follows some of the 130-mile initial route in the Central Valley, warned in a blunt letter that no deal has been reached to build on or near its existing track. The company also signaled that it may not be willing to accept the project as proposed, in part because the exact route of the line is still unclear.

### [Davis celebrates National Train Day](#)

Daily Democrat- Apr 30, 2013

Local organizers are inviting children, families and those interested in trains to visit the historic Davis Amtrak Station on Saturday, May 11, to celebrate National Train Day. Free activities for kids and transportation information will be available from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Davis station that day.

**Want to have Fun on May 11th during National Train Day? Be a part of it! Represent RailPAC at National Train Day events at Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Emeryville, Van Nuys and particularly at LA Union Station. For more information call RailPAC President Paul Dyson at 818-845-9599 or write at pauljdyson@yahoo.com**



### [Amtrak Turns 42](#)

W\*USA 9- May 1, 2013

WASHINGTON (WUSA9) -- Amtrak marks its 42nd anniversary today. Yes, on May 1, 1971, Amtrak became the nation's intercity passenger rail service provider or "America's Railroad."

According to Amtrak officials, last year Amtrak carried the most passengers in its history -- a record of 31,240,565 passengers -- and ridership was up 49 percent from 2000 to 2012. ...

On Wednesday, President and CEO Joe Boardman issued a statement including a plea for more funding:

### [Congress Indulges In Crazy Talk About De-Funding Transit And Taxing](#)

D.C.STREETSBLOG.ORG Friday, April 26, 2013

The House is a dangerous place these days. You want to have a fruitful conversation about how to solve the transportation funding crisis and you end up ruminating about whether to tax bikes.

### [The Administration Refreshes Its Push For A Major Infusion Of Funds Into The National Rail Program](#)

The Transport Politic Apr 29, 2013

The Obama Administration hopes to invest almost \$40 billion in new and improved passenger rail infrastructure over the next five years. Good luck getting that through Congress.

### [When Amtrak hands you lemons, you make...Bordeaux?](#)

Dr. Vino-Apr 29, 2013

Last Friday, a train from NYC to DC was waylaid with problems, causing a six-hour delay. One of the passengers was Paul Goldschmidt, owner ...

### [Everett man loves his Amtrak Trails & Rails gig](#)

HeraldNet-Apr 28, 2013

Everett's Gene Fosheim rides Amtrak's Empire Builder train last summer as a National Park Service