
Subject: Zephyr routed through Wyoming till end of September

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

To: ntbraymer@yahoo.com;

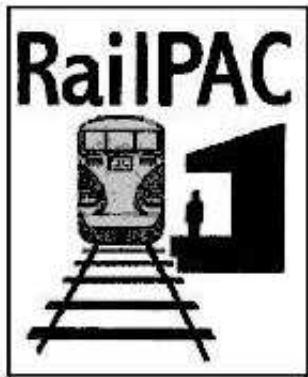
Date: Monday, September 23, 2013 9:30 AM

RailPAC Weekly E-Newsletter for September 23, 2013

Edited by Noel T. Braymer

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Rail Passenger Association of California
www.railpac.org
Traffic? Gas Pains? We need more Trains!



September 20, 2013 Metrolink Trains 604 and 606 arrived together just before 9:00 PM. The 604's locomotive died in Pico Rivera and was rescued by the 606 at 6:25 PM. Photo by Noel T. Braymer

[Colorado floods wash out tracks, delay coal shipments, Amtrak service](#)

Denver Post- Sep 16, 2013

Amtrak is using buses to shuttle several hundred passengers a day between Grand Junction and Denver because of washed-out rail lines, a spokesman said.

[Amtrak, freight trains in flood zones likely out through month](#)

Denver Post - Sep 19, 2013

Freight and passenger trains will be diverted across Colorado at least through the end of the month to avoid submerged and gaping stretches of railroad tracks left by floods. One 20-mile span of eroded tracks in Jefferson County halted Amtrak's signature train ...

[Wyoming train traffic spikes as Colorado flooding reroutes trains](#)

Casper Star-Tribune Online - Sep 19, 2013

Meanwhile, an Amtrak train was diverted to Cheyenne last weekend because of the flooding in Colorado and the loss of the line between Denver and Grand Junction. The Amtrak train doesn't normally go into Cheyenne. It stops at Borie, west of Cheyenne.

[Oct. 1 completion planned for track repairs](#)

Glenwood Springs Post Independent- Sep 20, 2013

GLENWOOD SPRINGS — Union Pacific Railroad (UP) crews already have repaired one railroad track washout on the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies

[City commission discusses Amtrak summit](#)

The Garden City Telegram-Sep 18, 2013

"Keeping the Southwest Chief where it is or moving the passenger train route to Oklahoma are both costly endeavors," she said. "As a result, there's a chance that Amtrak service from Chicago to Los Angeles may end."

[Amtrak route through ABO, N.M. in jeopardy](#)

KASA-Sep 15, 2013

Running daily between Los Angeles and Chicago and carrying about 60,000 passengers out of Albuquerque each year, a former Albuquerque city planner, Jon Messier says the "Southwest Chief" train is a vital piece of transit infrastructure for the metro area and northern New Mexico. "Smaller cities and towns really depend on Amtrak because they have no other means of transportation to and from their towns," said Messier.

[One Colorado Community's Fight to Save Amtrak Service](#)

Skift-Sep 15, 2013

"This is an issue I care deeply about," Sal Pace, Pueblo County commissioner, said. "I dream of returning rail to this country and to Colorado and I believe we can save the Southwest Chief."

Pace outlined a plan to the crowd and some strategy for how to keep the Southwest Chief running through the state....

Pace said he would like to see the Southwest Chief eventually stop in Pueblo at the Union Depot.

[Possible Amtrak route change revives Lubbock passenger rail hopes](#)

LubbockOnline.com Sep 21, 2013

A decade-old idea that could connect Lubbock to passenger rail service is finding new life, thanks to a possible change in a major Amtrak route ...

[Amtrak officials reiterate route's importance to repair hub](#)

Indianapolis Business Journal-Sep 17, 2013

Amtrak officials are continuing to emphasize that the future of a repair facility south of Indianapolis could hinge on whether it begins receiving ...

[20 years later: Memories of the 1993 Amtrak Sunset Limited crash ...](#)

al.com Sep 22, 2013

MOBILE, Alabama -- At 2:48 a.m. on September 22, 1993, Amtrak's Sunset Limited train crossed Bayou Sara while a majority of its 220 ...

[Amtrak and NY negotiating to continue rail service](#)

Albany Times Union (blog)-Sep 19, 2013

As my colleague Eric Anderson reported this morning, state officials are negotiating with Amtrak over a cost-sharing arrangement that's key to keeping rail service in the Empire State.

[California high-speed-rail groundbreaking pushed back another few months](#)

San Jose Mercury News - Sep 18, 2013

The California High-Speed Rail Authority says it has the needed permits and bought enough land to start building on part of the initial 29-mile section in the Central Valley, from Madera to Fresno. But the contractor working on the first \$1 billion package wants to wait until it can proceed full-speed ahead on several miles of the route all at once.

There is another 100 miles of route that also needs to be built, much of which is much easier to get started than Madera to Fresno. NB

[Doubt over high-speed rail clouds Fresno region's economic forecast](#)

Fresno Bee-Sep 19, 2013

"Our forecast for Fresno would be increased somewhat if the high-speed rail construction begins as scheduled," said economist Jeff Michael, director of the Stockton university's Business Forecasting Center. But a ruling in a court challenge of the project's financing plan makes the start of construction "highly uncertain at this point."

[Are Mega-Projects Really As Bad As Everyone Says?](#)

The Atlantic Cities-Sep 18, 2013

But the list of hectored mega-projects goes back years, all around the world: The Chunnel, The Big Dig, bullet trains in Japan and China. The price tag is typically the number one concern, but so is the rationale, the usefulness, the promised economic development returns, and on to many other themes including the design, the execution, and the maintenance.

[Next Stop, Bangalore: Japan May Help South India Build High ...](#)

International Business Times- Sep 20, 2013

The Japanese government has expressed its interest in helping Indian railway officials to finance and build a high-speed "bullet train" from ..

[Life after "Death" for Rail in LA](#)

By Noel T. Braymer

In 1998 Los Angeles County cancelled all plans to extend the Red Line after the last segment to North Hollywood opened in 2000. This included a ban on all future subway construction, including planned Red Line extensions to East Los Angeles, west to Pico and San Vicente as well as a tunnel to extend the Green Line to the Metrolink Station in Norwalk. Budget problems were so bad that Los Angeles County cancelled construction underway to extend the Green Line to LAX. Also stopped was construction for Light Rail from downtown Los Angeles to Pasadena.

[Amtrak Dome Car Is Back To Give Passengers A View Of Fall Foliage](#)

Huffington Post-Sep 16, 2013

ALBANY, N.Y. -- Amtrak is bringing its one-and-only "Dome Car" to upstate New York for the fall leaf-peeping season. The car features an ...

[Amtrak power outage leaves train stuck west of Middletown](#)

Patriot-News-Sep 19, 2013

Power went out along the train line between Harrisburg and Middletown this afternoon, Schultz said. Another train is stuck in the station in Harrisburg.

[Anti-trespassing research to focus on Amtrak route in Maine](#)

Progressive Rail Roding- Sep 18, 2013

The research involves the design, operation and evaluation of a large-scale trespass detection and deterrent system to mitigate trespassing at ...

[When an electronic voucher isn't electronic](#)

The Economist (blog)-Sep 16, 2013

AMTRAK, America's government-backed passenger railway, can ill-afford to irritate its customers. It faces massive competition from entrenched airlines, is loathed by a good chunk of one of the main American political parties, is subsidised by taxpayers, and has never made a profit. It carries fewer passengers than Mozambique's railways. Yet a change in its refund procedures has many of its most loyal