

[What's the Future of Amtrak?](#)

National Journal (blog)-Sep 3, 2013

Things really broke down several weeks ago when Rep. John Larson, D-Conn., invited House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster to his state to chat up federal investment in transit and other infrastructure needs.

That is, the Amtrak train they boarded in New Haven for a ride to Hartford stopped after it left the station, the lights went out, and, ultimately, it had to be towed back to New Haven. Larson, Shuster, and state Transportation Commissioner James Redeker had to finish the trip by car.

[Amtrak service disrupted, riders trapped after storm damage](#)

Baltimore Sun-Sep 3, 2013

More than 1,200 passengers on five different Amtrak trains traveling between Wilmington and Perryville were delayed for hours or forced to ..

[2013 Steel Wheels Conference, October 5th](#)



2013 Steel Wheels Conference Joint RailPAC-NARP members meeting

Saturday, October 5, 2013
Port of San Francisco Community Room
Pier 40 • Embarcadero, San Francisco

10:30 am-3:00 pm with a break for lunch (*not provided*)

Doors Open 10:00 am

RailPAC members business meeting 3:00 pm

2013 Conference Program Includes

High Speed Rail – Dan Richard, CHSRA

Northern California Regional Rail – Dan Leavitt, SJVJPA

Caltrain Modernization – Marian Lee, PCJPB

Amtrak and the National Network – Robert Stewart, Chairman, NARP

[Calif. Amtrak train moving again after breakdown](#)

Sacramento Bee Sep 5, 2013

Amtrak sent a backup locomotive and the train was moving again by about 2:30 p.m., on its way to its final destination in Bakersfield.

[Amtrak train stalled for 5 hours near Delano](#)

KERO-TV 23- Sep 7, 2013

DELANO, Calif. - Routes are running smoothly again this morning for Amtrak, but that was not the case for many passengers aboard a train leaving Bakersfield Friday evening.

That makes 2 locomotive breakdowns in one week for the San Joaquins. This equipment is owned by the State but maintained under contract by Amtrak. Looks like the new San Joaquins JPA

has their work cut out for them. NB

[County transportation changes modeled after Capitol Corridor](#)

Stockton Record- Sep 8, 2013

STOCKTON - ACE train administrators are on their way to managing the Amtrak route connecting the length of the San Joaquin Valley to Sacramento and the Bay Area.

[LOSSAN to Arizona?](#)

By Noel T. Braymer

The new LOSSAN Joint Powers Authority has as a member Riverside County. Clearly the Pacific Surfliners which are the primary responsibility of the new LOSSAN doesn't serve Riverside County; at least not directly. What is in Riverside County which is in need of better intercity rail passenger service? Palm Springs and the area around it comes to mind. Palm Springs is the gateway from Southern California to Southern Arizona.

Highlights from the LOSSAN TAC meeting minutes for August 8, 2013

San Diego County plans to go to bid soon for a new siding at San Onofre to Pulgas, a third through track with a 3rd platform at Oceanside, and the Los Peñasquitos Bridges Replacement. San Diego County has committed over \$400 million in LOSSAN rail corridor projects and plans to double track nearly the entire corridor in San Diego County by 2030.

In Los Angeles County bids are planned to go out soon for run-through tracks at Los Angeles Union Station and for a grade separation in the San Fernando Valley at Doran Street.

Rail traffic will be closed between San Juan Capistrano and Oceanside September 21, September 28, and October 5 on Saturdays for work done on the pedestrian crossing and rehabbing of the San Clemente Pier Station.

[SANDAG Gets \\$14 Million to Replace Aging Rail Bridges Near Del Mar](#)

Patch.com - Sep 7, 2013

The project will replace four wooden-trestle bridges in Los Penasquitos Lagoon that date to the 1920s and 1930s.

[Salem man arrested after tampering with Amtrak train](#)

Statesman Journal- Sep 4, 2013

Salem Police arrested a man Tuesday night after he disconnected an airline on an Amtrak train near Mill Street SE.

[NJ Transit: Trains cancellations, delays due to Amtrak signal troubles](#)

NJ.com- Sep 5, 2013

NEW YORK — Signal problems at New York City's Penn Station have caused the cancellation of several outbound NJ Transit trains on the ...

[Sharing memories from the Metrolink crash five years ago](#)

Ventura County Star-Sep 4, 2013

As the anniversary of the the Sept. 12, 2008 Metrolink crash approaches, we are looking back at that evening, the scene and how individual ...

[California kicks of Rail Safety Month](#)

Railway Track & Structures- Sep 4, 2013

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) and Amtrak are celebrating the state's Rail Safety Month by reminding the public to

watch for trains.

[Reducing train deaths is goal of new program](#)

San Gabriel Valley Tribune Sep 3, 2013

The woman, not named, died on impact, one of many train track fatalities in Southern California this year, the same type that Metro and Metrolink are trying to prevent by raising awareness this month, dubbed Rail Safety Month by the state Legislature.

[Video shows people darting across train tracks against warning lights](#)

Los Angeles Times Sep 3, 2013

The candid video was shot at the Burbank Station of Metrolink -- the six-county commuter service -- and the Willowbrook stop for the Blue Line, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's busy light rail between Los Angeles and Long Beach.

[US: Train Safety Move Delayed Decades](#)

Mass Transit Sep 3, 2013

Despite a rash of deadly train crashes, the railroad industry's allies in Congress are trying to push back the deadline for installing technology to prevent the most catastrophic types of collisions until at least 2020, half a century after accident investigators first called for such safety measures.

[Wedge-Shaped Rail Car Good for Trains, Environment](#)

Patch.com- Sep 4, 2013

Union Pacific is adding wedge-shaped rail cars to the trains it runs between Long Beach, Calif., and its intermodal facility in Joliet.

[Jerry Brown backs bill to let transit workers sidestep pension law](#)

Sacramento Bee (blog)- Sep 4, 2013

A billion-dollar stare down with federal officials ended this morning with an announcement that Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed legislation to exempt roughly 20,000 mass transit employees from California's new pension law.

[BART standoff over contract negotiations still dragging on](#)

San Francisco Examiner-Sep 6, 2013

The good news: BART has more money available, now that \$174 million in federal funding is no longer at risk.

The bad news: The cash doesn't solve the transit agency's ongoing labor dispute, which -- with about a month before a possible second strike -- appears to be stalled.

[Streetcar firm on busy track](#)

Portland Tribune Aug 29, 2013

Oregon Iron Works overcame many challenges to create the first American streetcar manufacturing company in six decades. Now United Streetcar has more than 100 people a day working on new vehicles for Portland, Tucson and Washington, D.C., at the company's huge Clackamas-area assembly plant near Interstate 205.

[Rail car maker Kinkisharyo moving headquarters to El Segundo](#)

Daily Breeze-Sep 5, 2013

"We are moving our U.S. headquarters because we believe in Los Angeles and believe that this location will give us great opportunities to grow our business," said Teiji Tani, president of Kinkisharyo International, in an email response to written questions.

Sounds like Kinkisharyo is planning on future sales in California. NB

[“Riding the Rails in the West ...](#)

OB Rag- Sep 4, 2013

Days before we departed, I had mentioned to my doctor I was about to leave on a train trip, from San Diego to Chicago via Oakland. He looked up, surprised, “what, you can do that, take a train from here to Chicago?”

[City Getting Serious About Cap Park Over the 101 Downtown](#)

Curbed LA Sep 3, 2013

The city is making some attempts at improving the pedestrian connections between Union Station and the Civic Center, but nothing would bridge that gap like the proposed Park 101, which would cap portions of the Hollywood Freeway in Downtown with a giant awesome park.

[Check it out: the Harvey House menu from 1943](#)

The Source LA Metro Sep 4, 2013

Curious what folks were eating — or could eat — at Union Station's Harvey House restaurant 70 years ago?

[RailPAC PHOTOS of the Month \(August, 2013\)](#)

Here are 5 photos by RailPAC photographers. Click on each photo to see it full size! Contributions to this page are welcome. Send your jpg rail photos to RailPAC Photo Editor, at info@railpac.org.

[Across U.S., bridges crumble as repair funds fall short](#)

latimes.com Sep 3, 2013

Engineers say thousands are close to collapse. And between the recession, sequestration and congressional gridlock, money to fix them is scarcer than ever.

[Why Traffic Will Only Get Worse Even Though We're Driving Less](#)

jalopnik.com Sep 4, 2013

Hopefully, you didn't spend your Labor Day weekend trapped in bumper-to-bumper traffic, but if you did, a new study indicates that may be something you'll have to get used to. America's traffic is only getting worse, even though we're driving less

[Stanford has avoided \\$100,000,000 in parking structures over the last decade](#)

peninsulatransportation.org - Sep 2, 2013

Since Santa Clara County imposed a “trip cap” in 2000, requiring Stanford to keep vehicle trips constant (or pay for unwanted road construction), Stanford has increased its employee and student population by about 25% over the last decade, but decreased the amount of parking used, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions, and the share of employees driving to work.

[Put the Warriors Arena atop CalTrain](#)

San Francisco Bay Guardian- Sep 4, 2013

Right now CalTrain has an ideally located terminus in the core of the city, but it's unsightly. Why not put the new stadium directly above the CalTrain station? The same solution is being applied right now to the new Time Warner headquarters at Hudson Yards on the west side in New York: several skyscrapers will rise on platforms above an existing rail yard.

[Wait continues for Perris Valley Line grant](#)

pe.com Sep 3, 2013