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Unlocking Northern California's Freight and Passenger Rail Potential

Contact: David Lipari San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority david@sjjpa.com 209-851-1626

# San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission Launches **New English & Spanish Videos for Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project**

Stockton, CA - The San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (SJRRC) and its project partners are proud to launch the first video series in both English and Spanish for the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation project.

## WATCH NOW!

- stocktondiamond.com/video/English
- stocktondiamond.com/video/Spanish

The videos allow SJRRC to communicate about the project in an engaging and meaningful way that resonates with the very diverse target audiences within the project area. "These first videos are a valuable tool for us to continue to educate as well as build awareness and recognition by all audiences about this important proposed rail improvement project," said Kevin Sheridan, SJRRC Director of Capital Projects. We encourage everyone to check it out and share with friends, neighbors and family members to learn more about all the benefits the Stockton Diamond Grade Separation Project will bring to the region," added Sheridan.

# WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO AND WHAT'S NEXT?

Over the past few months, SJRRC has been focused on environmental analysis of a variety of resource areas to identify potential effects as a result of the proposed project. Preliminary engineering is also underway with close coordination with the City of Stockton and the private railroads, BNSF Railway (BNSF) and Union Pacific Railroad (UP). SJRRC has documented, reviewed and considered input received to date, and will continue throughout this phase of work to proactively share information and solicit feedback. Following the environmental analysis, SJRRC has been developing the Draft Environmental Documents that will be released for public review and comment this spring.

### **PROJECT BACKGROUND:**

The Stockton Diamond Grade Separation project is a collaboration between SJRRC and the private entities BNSF and UP as well as regional partner agencies. This rail intersection – located just south of Downtown Stockton near Aurora Street South and East Scotts Avenue – is the busiest. most congested rail bottleneck in California resulting in significant congestion and delays for both freight and passenger rail.



By reducing train conflicts at the crossing and resulting congestion, rail service reliability and operational efficiency will improve. The proposed project will also enhance safety, and improve access and mobility across the tracks for Stockton residents, businesses and visitors. The grade separation will improve efficiency, reduce delays and emissions caused by automobile traffic congestion, and freight and passenger train idling at several track crossings near the Stockton Diamond. This will result in improved air quality, decreased fuel consumption, increased goods movement throughput and train velocity, creating cost savings for transportation.

The proposed project is also a critical element in SJRRC's vision to expand intercity and commuter rail service between the San Joaquin Valley, Sacramento and the Bay Area. Allowing trains to move unrestricted through the proposed flyover bridge will create the opportunity for future passenger service expansion for ACE and San Joaquins. The improvements support on-time performance and travel options to connect affordable housing, jobs, school, recreation and families.

#### **ABOUT SJRRC:**

Governed by a Board of Directors consisting of six full-voting members from San Joaquin County and two special-voting members from Alameda County, SJRRC owns, operates and is the policy-making body for the Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) service, which has been transporting passengers between the Central Valley and Bay Area since 1999. It is also the managing agency of the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority which manages the Amtrak San Joaquins service. For more information about SJRRC and ACE, visit <u>acerail.com</u> or connect through Facebook (<u>@AltamontCorridorExpress</u>) and Twitter (<u>@ACE\_train</u>).

#### **LEARN MORE:**

Community engagement is vital to the Stockton Diamond project. For more information, visit stocktondiamond.com, email info@stocktondiamond.com or call (209) 235-0133.

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