

Success Stories in Rail Investment

**Colton Crossing
California**

Colton Crossing was widely known as a bottleneck in the Southern California supply chain before a grade separation and flyover project was completed in August of 2013.

In the City of Colton, south of Interstate 10, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks run in an East-West direction, while BNSF Railroad (BNSF) tracks run in a North-South direction at the crossing. Amtrak's Sunset Limited runs on the UPRR tracks and Southwest Chief runs on BNSF tracks. Metrolink also operates its San Bernardino commuter rail line on BNSF tracks through the crossing. Every day more than 100 trains pass through the crossing, making it one of the busiest rail crossings in the country.

Eliminating rail gridlock at Colton Crossing relieves road and rail congestion, reduces wait time and delays for motorists at area rail crossings, and helps improve air quality in Southern California. It also provides for greater capacity for freight and passenger rail movement throughout the region.

The project was undertaken through a partnership between USDOT, Caltrans, SANBAG, the city of Colton, UP, and BNSF. Originally estimated to cost \$202 million and be completed in 2014, innovative engineering and management completed the project eight months ahead of schedule and at a cost of only \$93 million.

FUNDING

A variety of sources, including USDOT TIGER funds, CA Trade Corridor Improvement funds, CA State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds, and private funds from Union Pacific and BNSF contributed to the \$93m investment in Colton Crossing.



UP and BNSF trains moving through the newly-constructed Colton Crossing flyover.



RESULTS

Passenger & Shipper Benefits

- Reduced delays for passengers
 - 18,600 riders per week ride Metrolink's San Bernardino line
 - 32,000 riders on Amtrak's Southwest Chief
 - 10,400 riders on Amtrak's Sunset Limited
- Travel Time Savings Value of \$241m annually

Jobs & Economic Impact

- \$828m estimated public economic benefit
- 2,701 direct, indirect, and induced jobs across California's economy

Environmental Benefits

- Reduction of 31,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually

PARTNERS

U.S. Department of Transportation, City of Colton, SANBAG, UP, BNSF