

MID-COAST CORRIDOR TRANSIT PROJECT



Welcome to the Winter 2014 Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project eNewsletter. This newsletter will provide you with up-to-date information about this important expansion of San Diego's regional transit system.

STATION AT VA MEDICAL CENTER APPROVED

In late 2013, the SANDAG Board of Directors unanimously approved the option to add a station to the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project at the VA Medical Center. This station, located between the Nobel Drive and Pepper Canyon (UCSD west) stations, was studied in the draft environmental document as an option, and comments received from the public were strongly supportive of adding the station to the project. It will be located on the east side of the VA Medical Center campus with a pedestrian path connecting to the hospital. The station is expected to serve more than 1,600 passengers a day.



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What is the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project?

The Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project will extend Trolley service (light rail) from the Santa Fe Depot in Downtown San Diego north to the University City community, serving major destinations including Old Town, UCSD, and Westfield UTC. The proposed project would be funded in partnership by SANDAG (utilizing *TransNet* funds) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Starts program.

CENTER COLUMN DESIGN OPTION SELECTED FOR GENESEE AVENUE

The SANDAG Board of Directors recently decided on a final design option for the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project aerial guideway that will travel down the center of Genesee Avenue from Regents Road to Westfield UTC. The "center column" design option, which calls for placing a single row of columns in the median, was selected over the "straddle bent" design option, which called for using structures that placed columns on either side of the road and connected them with large beams. Both design options were considered in the draft environmental document. The "center column" design was found to cost less and provide better visibility along Genesee. The elevated guideway will support two aerial stations on Genesee – at Executive Drive and at the terminus station near Westfield UTC.



SANDAG REVIEWING PROPOSALS FOR CM/GC

SANDAG has received and is reviewing proposals for construction manager/general contractor (CM/GC) services for the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project. The CM/GC method will allow SANDAG to bring a construction contractor onboard while the project is still being designed, allowing the builder to provide input and advice during the design process.

Because of significant overlap between the Mid-Coast project and two coastal rail

double-tracking projects that will share railroad right-of-way with the trolley project, the CM/GC contractor also will work with SANDAG on the San Diego River Bridge Double Track Project and the Elvira-Morena Double Track Project.

These are the first projects on which SANDAG will use the CM/GC project delivery method. CM/GC will allow SANDAG to engage a construction manager much sooner than is typical, with that contractor providing input on scheduling, pricing, phasing, and other areas that will help SANDAG design more constructible projects. Once the design is between 60 percent and 90 percent complete, a guaranteed maximum price for construction will be negotiated. Proposals from CM/GC applicants were due January 14, 2014.

MID-COAST MILESTONES IN 2014

The Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project is poised to make significant progress in 2014 ...

- The design process for the project's stations is underway. Public input on station design will be sought in the first half of 2014.
- The final environmental document – called the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/SEIR) – is anticipated to be complete in mid-2014.
- The SANDAG Board of Directors is anticipated to certify the Final SEIS/SEIR in summer 2014.
- The Federal Transit Administration is expected to issue a Record of Decision on the Final SEIS/SEIR in fall 2014.

Achieving these milestones will clear the way for the project to enter engineering and construction in 2015.

