

Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Overview

May 16, 2023

### LOSSAN Rail Corridor History

#### Today:

351-mile rail corridor through six counties

3 passenger rail operators; 2 freight operators

7 Right-of-Way Owners (55% freight owned).

41 stations (29 Pacific Surfliner, 12 commuter only)

Hosts busiest state-supported Amtrak route in United States – Pacific Surfliner

- Origin of track dates back to 1887
- In 1938, Santa Fe Railroad began San Diegan service between Los Angeles and San Diego
- Amtrak took over operations in 1971. By 1976 expanded to six roundtrips with funding from the State of California



San Diegan, Santa Fe Depot - 1963

- Extension of San Diegan service to Santa Barbara occurred in 1988
- Commuter rail service on the LOSSAN Rail Corridor between Los Angeles and Orange County begins in 1990
- 1992 1995 Southern California agencies purchase segments of the LOSSAN Rail Corridor from Southern Pacific and Santa Fe Railroads
- COASTER begins commuter rail service in San Diego County in 1995
- Extension of San Diegan service to San Luis Obispo occurred in 1995; one trip a day
- 2000 San Diegan renamed as Pacific Surfliner to better reflect the coastal route

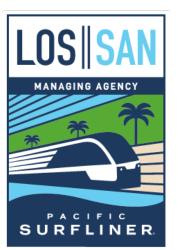


#### The LOSSAN Agency

11-member Board of Directors composed of regional transportation and planning agencies

Managing agency:
Orange County
Transportation Authority

Manages planning and operations of Pacific Surfliner service



- The Los-Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) is a joint powers authority comprised of regional transportation and planning agencies.
- Senate Bill 1225, signed into law in 2012, enabled regional governance of the state-funded Pacific Surfliner service by the LOSSAN Agency
  - Accomplished through an annual operating agreement between the LOSSAN Agency and Amtrak
- The LOSSAN Agency assumed management of the Pacific Surfliner service in July 2015 following execution of an interagency transfer agreement with the State of California
- The LOSSAN Agency coordinates with member agencies and stakeholders to improve overall intercity passenger rail service and improvements along the corridor



Continued



- Benefits of SB 1225 include more efficient and cost-effective resource allocation and decisionmaking on service
- More focused oversight of on-time performance, schedules, customer service
- Coordinated capital improvement priorities
- Coordinated efforts such as fares, ticketing, marketing/advertising, public information
- Unified Southern California voice in Sacramento and Washington
- Coordinated intercity rail service with the State Rail Plan and High-Speed Rail Plan
- Cost reductions for the State in the administration of the intercity rail service



Continued

- Nine Member Agencies
  - San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG)
  - Santa Barbara Association of Governments (SBCAG)
  - Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC)
  - Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA MTA)
  - Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)
  - Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
  - North County Transit District (NCTD)
  - San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (San Diego MTS)
  - San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- Four Ex-Officio Members
  - Amtrak
  - California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
  - California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHRA)
  - Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)



**Continued** 

- The LOSSAN Agency is staffed through the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)
  - Currently 18 full time positions budgeted
- The LOSSAN Agency is fully funded by the State of California
- Funding is provided by the State Public Transportation Account, primarily from sales tax on diesel fuel
- State funds cover Amtrak operating expenses, LOSSAN Agency staff, administrative services and marketing of the Pacific Surfliner

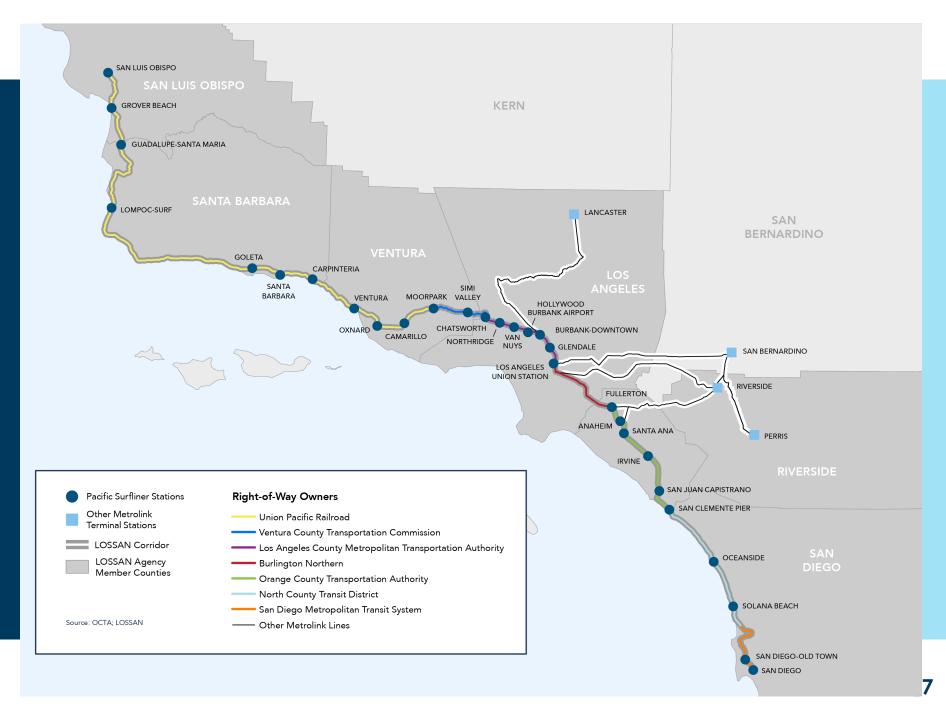


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- Federal fiscal year 2018-19\* more than 8.15 million
  passengers on the LOSSAN Corridor, 5.37 million on COASTER
  & Metrolink combined, 2.78 million on Amtrak Pacific
  Surfliner
- 26 Amtrak Pacific Surfliner trains/day, 137 commuter trains/day, 70+ freight trains/day
- U.S Department of Defense identified corridor part of Strategic Rail Corridor Network (STRACNET) – access to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and Port of San Diego
- Annually, on average\*, passengers taking the Pacific Surfliner instead of driving saved 178,000,000 pounds of CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.
  - Equivalent to over 9.1 million gallons of gas, or
  - Representation of the contraction of the contractio



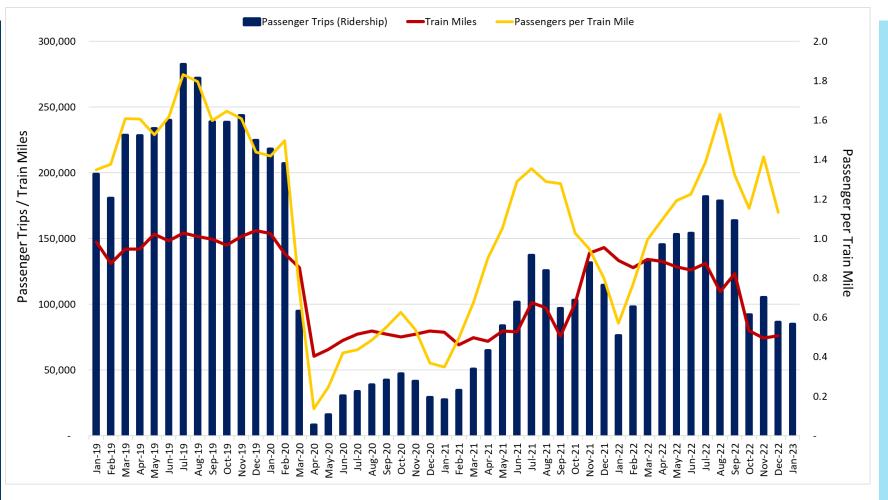
Key to the California economy and beyond



- The LOSSAN Rail Corridor is a vital link for goods movement
- More than 70 daily freight trains carry over \$1 billion in goods and commodities every year



Post COVID service recovery



 Post COVID, Pacific Surfliner passengers per train mile actually met or exceeded pre-pandemic levels during some summer months





### LOSSAN Agency Priorities

- Champion Environmental Sustainability and Resiliency
  - Coordinate on corridor-wide efforts with stakeholders to address impacts of climate change
  - LOSSAN Agency led application submitted for Federal Corridor Identification and Development Program
- Improvements on Northern End of Corridor
  - Agreement with Union Pacific for improvements necessary to increase service north of Los Angeles
  - Construction of additional track capacity, siding extensions, bridge replacements, signal and switch upgrades
- Service Expansion Consistent With State Rail Plan Goals
  - Relocation and expansion of existing layover facilities in San Luis Obispo and Goleta
  - New facility in San Diego
  - Increase overnight storage and servicing capacity
- Optimizing Operations of Pacific Surfliner Service
  - Coordinate with Amtrak, Caltrans and JPA partners to implement costeffective service level increases commensurate with demand

