State Awards \$188.3 Million to LOSSAN Agency to Enhance Pacific Surfliner Service

Grant provides \$147.9 million for track, signal and station upgrades in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, and \$40.4 million for improvements in San Diego County

ORANGE – The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) was awarded \$188.3 million to fund a package of projects that will expand and improve passenger rail service in southern California, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) announced last week.

The funding is part of the 2018 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), which will provide a total of \$2.6 billion to 28 projects statewide in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by improving rail and transit services. The TIRCP program is funded through Senate Bill (SB) 1 and proceeds from the state's Cap and Trade program.

"Thanks to the support of the California State Transportation Agency and the funding provided through SB 1, we will be able to make much-needed improvements on the secondbusiest intercity passenger rail corridor in the nation," said LOSSAN Agency Chairman Bryan MacDonald. "This investment by the state will result in enhanced and better integrated train service, reduced trip times, improved on-



time performance and safety, and a better overall travel experience for Pacific Surfliner passengers."

The \$188.3 million grant includes \$147.9 million to address current and future constraints on the northern section of the LOSSAN rail corridor in Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties by constructing additional double track and siding extensions, improving stations and train layover facilities, upgrading signals and switches, and providing incentives to host railroads for improved Pacific Surfliner on-time performance.

The remaining \$40.4 million will fund projects in San Diego County that will improve Pacific Surfliner and COASTER rail service by investing in signal improvements, creating a more robust capital maintenance program, and installing new fencing along the railroad right-of-way. Funding is also provided to conduct a feasibility study for a new maintenance and layover facility for Pacific Surfliner trains in downtown San Diego.

Several other rail and transit agencies in southern California were also successful in receiving 2018 TIRCP grants for projects that will enhance connectivity with the Pacific Surfliner service on LOSSAN rail corridor, including:

- Anaheim Transportation Network Purchase 40 zero-emission buses to provide more service to Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center: \$28.6 million
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority New light-rail and bus rapid transit extensions; better integration with Metrolink and Amtrak rail services: \$330.2 million
- San Diego Association of Governments Construction of multi-modal transit islands to enhance access to local transit services: \$5.8 million
- San Diego Metropolitan Transit System Blue Line trolley improvements to increase frequency; addition of bus rapid transit service connecting to Blue Line trolley, including zero-emission buses and station improvements: \$40.1 million
- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments In coordination with Ventura County Transportation Commission, expand Coastal Express bus service between Ventura and Santa Barbara counties to complement Pacific Surfliner service, including purchase of five zero-emission buses: \$9.6 million
- Santa Barbara County Association of Governments Construct improvements at Goleta train station to accommodate improved bus and transit service, including shuttles from Santa Barbara Airport and the University of California, Santa Barbara: \$13.0 million
- Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink): The Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion program will allow enhanced Metrolink and Pacific Surfliner rail service, including new run-through tracks at Los Angeles Union Station, and more frequent Metrolink service, including along the LOSSAN rail corridor in Ventura, Los Angeles and Orange counties: \$763.7 million

CalSTA received 47 applications from rail and transit agencies throughout the state requesting a total of \$10.9 billion in 2018 TIRCP funding. A detailed list of awarded projects published by CalSTA, can be viewed <u>here</u>.

About the Pacific Surfliner

The Pacific Surfliner travels along a 351-mile coastal rail route through San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, serving 29 stations. It is the busiest state-supported intercity passenger rail route in the United States with 24 daily trains and annual ridership of nearly 3 million. To learn more and plan a trip, visit <u>PacificSurfliner.com</u>, like <u>Pacific Surfliner on Facebook</u>, or <u>@pacsurfliners</u> on Twitter.

About the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency

The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency is a joint powers authority composed of rail owners, operators and planning agencies along the entire LOSSAN rail corridor. In addition to working to improve passenger rail ridership, revenue, on-time performance, operational flexibility, and safety, the LOSSAN Agency assumed management responsibility for the Pacific Surfliner service in July 2015, following the execution of an interagency transfer agreement with the state of California. For more information, visit lossan.org.

Media Contact

Tori Elder, The ACE Agency, tori@theaceagency.com

https://news.pacificsurfliner.com/2018-04-30-State-Awards-188-Million-to-LOSSAN-Agency-to-Enhance-Pacific-Surfliner-Service