Media Room

Rail Service Set to Resume Monday, March 25 Through San Clemente

Metrolink and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner will operate regular schedules following emergency construction effort, updates at www.metrolinktrains.com and pacificsurfliner.com/alerts

ORANGE, Calif., March 19, 2024 -- The rail line through San Clemente is set to reopen for regular passenger rail service on Monday, March 25, as emergency work to build a catchment wall to protect the track is wrapping up this week.



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The Orange County Transportation Authority, which owns the track through San Clemente, worked in partnership with Metrolink, which operates regional passenger rail service, to build a 200-foot-long wall at Mariposa Point, to safely re-establish service on the track.

Metrolink and the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency, operator of Pacific Surfliner, are each planning to resume full service as of Monday morning. Passengers are being updated through social media, station messages and direct communication, and:

- Metrolink passengers are asked to look for the latest updates on train schedules at metrolinktrains.com.
- Pacific Surfliner passengers are asked to visit pacificsurfliner.com/alerts for updated train schedules.

Full passenger service is being restored ahead of the initial schedule because of expedited work made possible with strong cooperation between the transportation agencies and the State, including the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).

In the past week, the construction team working at the San Clemente site finished the catchment wall and have continued to work on a more comprehensive drainage system and trenching along the rail right of way. The team also worked in coordination with the City of San Clemente to adjust a sewer access point. This week, additional tie replacement and track resurfacing will take place.

The emergency construction work was necessitated by a Jan. 24 landslide from a privately-owned hillside that littered the rail right of way below with soil and debris halting rail service.

After extensive work, limited Pacific Surfliner passenger service resumed in early March but Monday will mark the first time regular passenger service has resumed through the area since the initial slide. For more background, visit octa.net/railupdates.

For the longer term, OCTA and its rail partners will continue to work with local, state and federal stakeholders on both near-term and long-term solutions for protecting rail movement along this critical corridor.

Work is already under way on the first of two studies. Listening sessions with stakeholders and the public have begun on the OCTA-led Orange County Coastal Rail Resiliency Study, which aims to protect the rail line in place for the next 10 to 30 years. For more information on that study, visit octa.net/CRRS.

About the Amtrak® 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. To learn more and plan a trip, visit pacificsurfliner.com.

About the LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency
The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency is a joint powers authority overseeing the management of the Amtrak Pacific Surfliner service. Comprised of rail owners, operators, and planning agencies along the 351-mile LOSSAN rail corridor, the Agency strives to improve passenger rail ridership, revenue, on- time performance, operational flexibility, and safety along its service area. The Orange County Transportation Authority provides all necessary administrative support for the LOSSAN Agency and its Board. For more information, visit Lossan.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Puja Thomas-Patel, LOSSAN Agency – 714-560-5948, PThomasPatel@octa.net

MEDIA CONTACT:

Farida Waquar, The ACE Agency, farida@theaceagency.com

On behalf of LOSSAN Agency



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