

INTEGRATED PASSENGER AND FREIGHT RAIL FORECAST



SCAG AUTHORS THE ROADMAP FOR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S MOBILITY BY SPEARHEADING PROJECTS THAT MEET REGION'S DIVERSE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS.

OVERVIEW

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) conducted the **Integrated Passenger and Freight Rail Forecast for Southern California in consultation with passenger and freight railroad stakeholders**. This forecast is the first of its kind and looks at future passenger and freight train volumes and identifies the necessary rail infrastructure for traveler mobility and goods movement in the region.

WHAT DID THE FORECAST ACHIEVE?

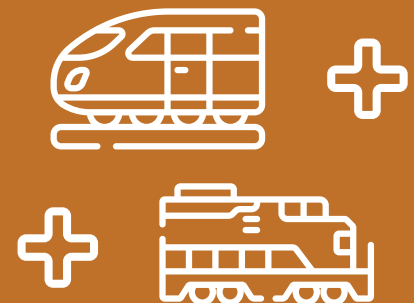
This study forecasted future passenger and freight rail train volumes through 2050; evaluated future passenger and freight train movements and identified track capacity improvements; estimated cost of rail infrastructure improvements; developed funding strategies to accommodate future needs; and provided a mechanism to identify strategic corridors to increase grant funding prospects. The forecast also suggested that to accommodate future service levels and the integration of the California High-Speed Rail project by 2035, there is approximately \$20 billion in investment needs.

WHY DO WE NEED THIS FORECAST?

Since completing On the Move, the Comprehensive Regional Goods Movement Plan and Implementation Strategy in 2013, SCAG recognized the need for a fully integrated regional assessment of future passenger and freight rail needs. Multi-billion dollar investments such as Metrolink's Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE), Brightline West and the California High-Speed Rail project, along with continued growth in freight rail and goods movement through the San Pedro Ports Complex, required the need to take a fresh look at future passenger and freight rail operations, capacity needs and costs to identify opportunities that could mutually benefit public and private rail stakeholders and position the SCAG region for future funding opportunities.

BENEFITS OF PROJECTS IDENTIFIED IN THE FORECAST

- Enhanced economic opportunities through more accessible rail
- Increased equity in regional mobility
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- A more resilient rail network
- Improved connectivity to high-speed rail and under-served passenger rail



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NEXT STEPS

SCAG remains directly engaged with the region's rail stakeholders to advance the forecast's findings into the funding and implementation phase. The first step is to incorporate the forecast findings into Connect SoCal 2024, the region's long-range transportation plan. SCAG will continue to convene the Technical Advisory Committee to further develop the Strategic Corridors Vision and the development of a phased/programmatic investment plan for implementation to inform the Connect SoCal 2024 Update. This will position rail stakeholders in the region, through collaboration with state and federal agencies, to identify funding programs and opportunities to further implementation needs. Collaboration with the California State Transportation Agency, Southern California Regional Rail Authority, LOSSAN Agency, the region's county transportation commissions and Class I freight railroads, among others, will need to be coordinated to fully support the phasing and implementation of these identified improvements.

FUTURE RAIL OPERATIONS



MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information, you can view the [Integrated Passenger and Freight Rail Forecast Study](#).