

Redlands Passenger Rail Project

Governments
SANBAG
Working Together

CEQA/NEPA
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING
ESRI Café
April 24, 2012



Please remember to sign in
Comments must be postmarked or e-mailed by May 12, 2012



SAN BERNARDINO



REDLANDS



Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Project Overview**
- **Scoping and Environmental Review**
 - **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**
 - **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
- **Questions and Comments – Open Forum for the Public, Stakeholders and Public Agencies**



Project History and Public Involvement

- 1989, Voters approved Measure I
- 1993, Purchase Right-of-way from AT&SF (Santa Fe) Railroad
- 2006, Measure I Reauthorization by Voters
- 2009, Measure I 2010–2040 Strategic Plan
- 2009, Long Range Transit Plan, Interim Project Report
- 2010 September , Two Public Meetings for the Redlands Corridor Alternatives Analysis
- 2011 May, Two Public Meetings on Redlands Passenger Rail
- 2012 April, 2012-2035 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Final Program EIR

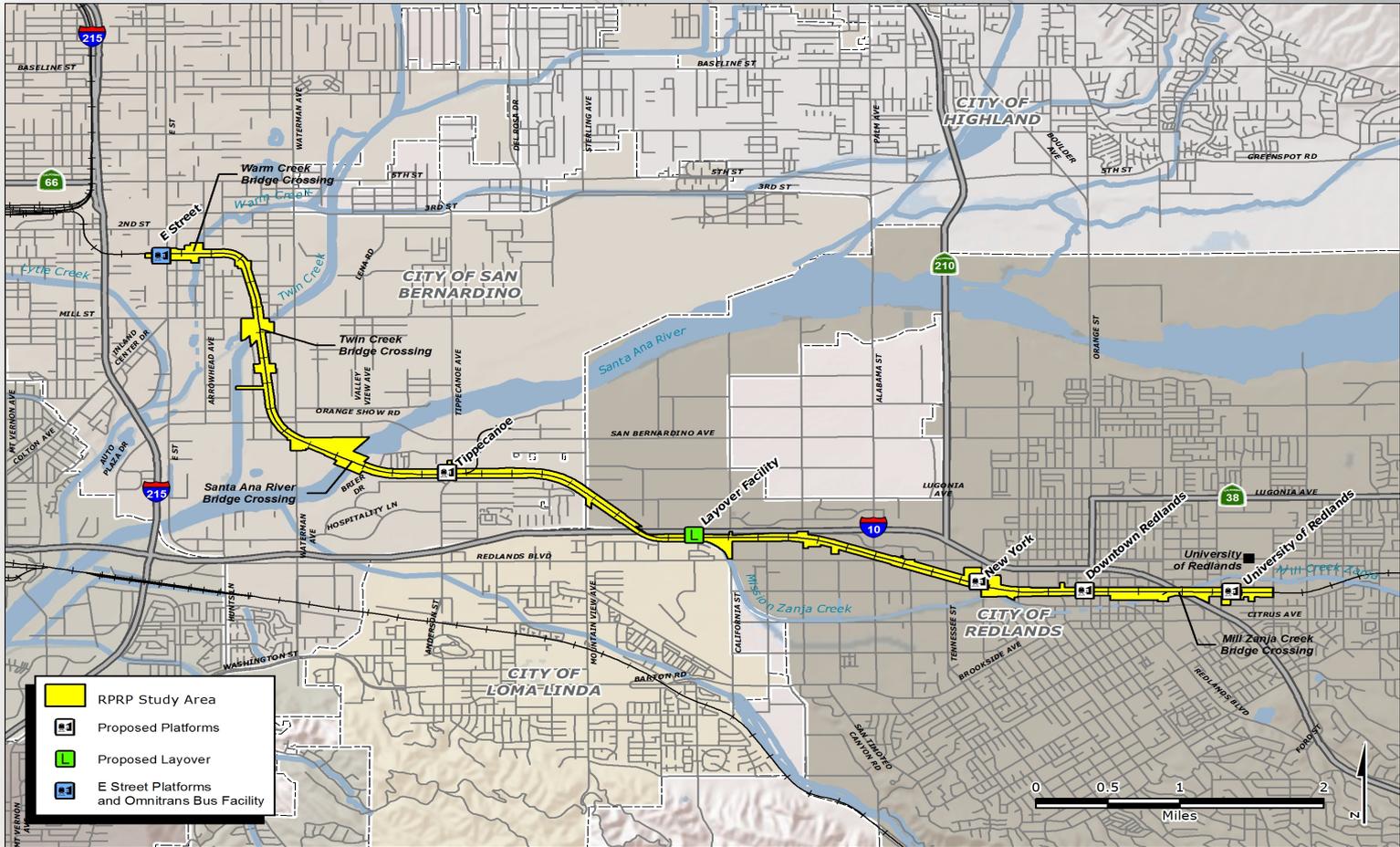


Redlands Passenger Rail Project (RPRP)

- **Project Overview**
 - New passenger rail service
 - Downtown San Bernardino to Redlands
 - Key Project under the Measure I 2010–2040 Strategic Plan and 10-yr Delivery Plan
- **Right-of-Way (ROW)**
 - Purchased in 1993 by SANBAG
 - ROW includes majority of the proposed RPRP Improvements
 - Existing freight service
- **Improvements**
 - New track
 - Rail boarding platforms at four locations
 - Grade Crossing Improvements
 - Train layover facility; Train Procurement
 - Replace and/or retrofit five existing bridges



RPRP Study Area



Project Purpose and Need

- **Purpose:** Provide a cost-effective alternative travel option for communities along the Redlands Corridor, improving mobility, travel times, and corridor safety.
- **Need:** Due to severe regional roadway congestion that results in:
 - reduced quality-of-life due to increased travel times (work/recreation)
 - hours of lost productivity
 - increased fuel consumption and air pollution



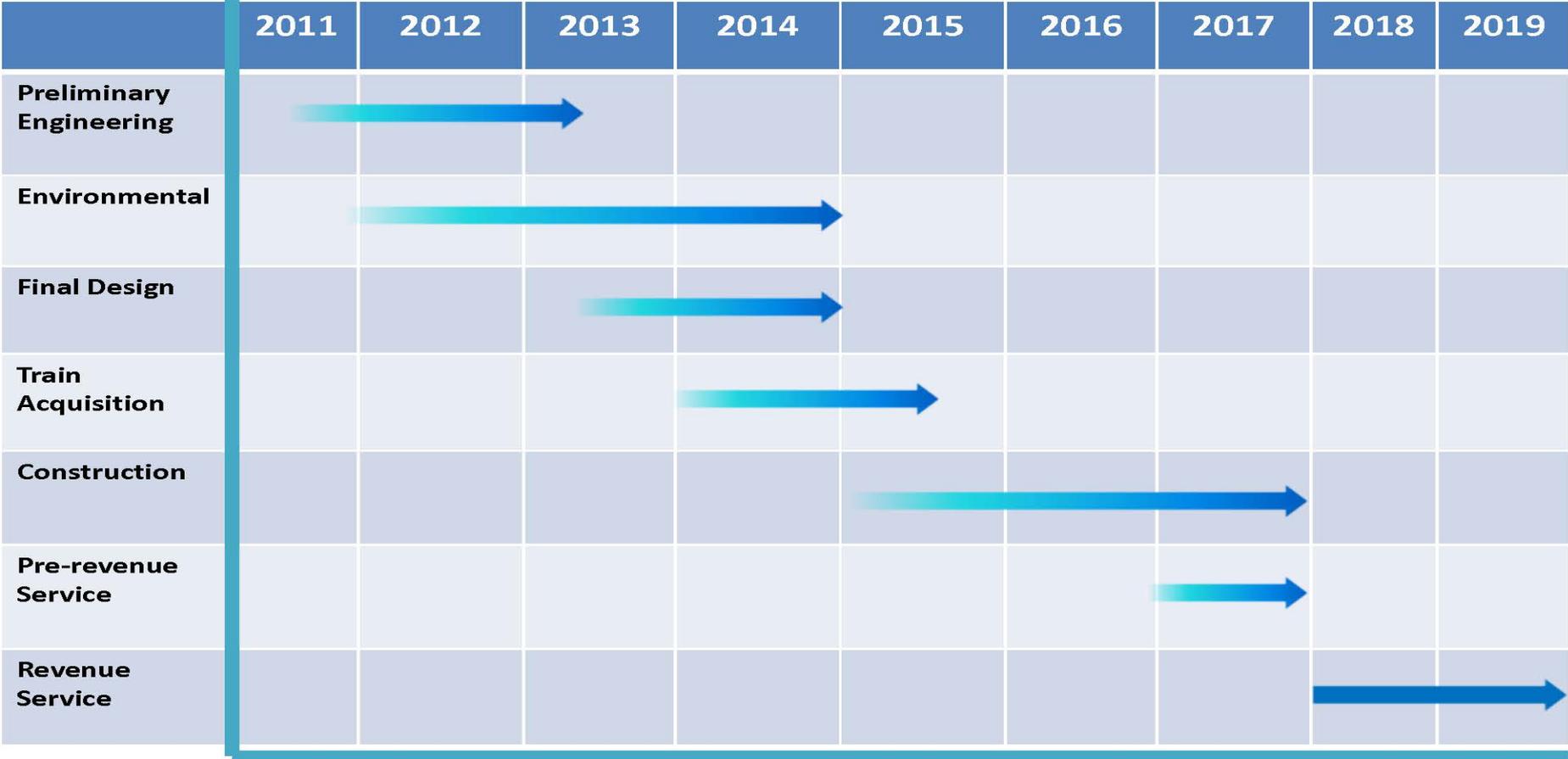
Project Objectives

- **Consistency with Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) – SB 375**
- **Provide necessary rail infrastructure to facilitate passenger service and rehabilitate the existing line**
- **Help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions – AB 32**
- **Improve mobility in the Redlands Corridor**
- **Improve Safety per Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and California Public Utility Commission (CPUC)**



Project
 Initiation

Project Schedule



CEQA/NEPA Public Scoping

- **Objectives of Scoping - Facilitate early and open process with the public, stakeholders, and agencies in order to:**
 - Provide information about the Project;
 - Identify interested parties;
 - Help identify potential project and/or environmental issues;
 - Help identify potential project alternatives; and,
 - Gather input for further environmental review.



Environmental Review

- **Purpose**

Disclosure of potential environmental effects pursuant to:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, Lead Agency: Federal Transit Administration (FTA))
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Lead Agency: SANBAG)

- **Type of Environmental Document**

Joint CEQA Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/NEPA Environmental Assessment (EA)

- Level of NEPA/CEQA review to be confirmed by ongoing technical studies
- Intended to satisfy both state and federal requirements



Environmental Document Process

SANBAG CEQA EIR

FTA NEPA EA

Opportunity for
Public Comment
30-days

Notice of Preparation
and Scoping

Scoping

Technical Studies

Technical Studies

Draft EIR

Prepare EA

Opportunity for
Public Comment
45-days

Public and Agency
Review of Draft EIR

Public and Agency
Review of EA

Final EIR

FTA issues Finding of
No Significant Impact
(FONSI) or Notice of
Intent to prepare
Environmental Impact
Statement (EIS)

Opportunity for
Public Comment
10-day prior to
Certification

SANBAG Board of
Directors – Considers
Certification



Environmental Topics Considered - CEQA

The CEQA EIR will evaluate topics such as:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Paleontological Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Cumulative Impacts
- Growth Inducing Effects



Environmental Topics Considered - NEPA

The NEPA EA will evaluate additional topics such as:

- Community Character and Cohesion
- Acquisitions and Displacements
- System Safety and Security
- Socioeconomics
- Section 4(f)
- Section 106
- Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplains)
- EO 11990 (Wetlands)
- EO 12962 (Fisheries)
- EO 13112 (Invasive Species)
- EO 13186 (Migratory Birds)
- EO 11593 (Cultural Environment)
- EO 13007 (Indian Sacred Sites)
- EO 13287 (Preserve America)



Public Scoping and Comment Period

- **Notice of Preparation (NOP) – Released April 10, 2012**
- **Scoping Meeting/NOP Distribution**
 - Local agencies
 - Newspaper publications: (1) San Bernardino Sun, (2) Inland Empire Community Newspapers and (3) Redlands Daily Facts
 - U.S. certified mail letter to property owners within or adjacent to the RPRP Study Area
- **Comment Period (April 10, 2012 to May 12, 2012)**
 - Comments may be submitted via mail or e-mail (*see following presentation slide, NOP or scoping meeting notice for address*)
 - Comment cards available at this meeting for written comments



Submit Comments

Mailing Address:

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E-mail:

RPRP_Public_Comments@sanbag.ca.gov

Telephone:

Jane Dreher
SANBAG Public Information Officer
(909) 884-8276



Making Comments Today

- **Comment Cards**
- **Court Reporter Available**
- **Spanish bilingual staff on-hand today – *Traducción disponible en español***
- **Additional information is available at SANBAG's website :
<http://www.sanbag.ca.gov/>**
- **Comments by E-mail:
[RPRP Public Comments@sanbag.ca.gov](mailto:RPRP_Public_Comments@sanbag.ca.gov)**

