

Placentia to Open Melrose Underpass To Help Silence Train Whistles Providing Traffic Congestion Relief

The City of Placential is dedicated the melrose Street Underpass that will improve traffic circulation and symbolizes its dedication to silencing Train whistles.

Placentia, CA (<u>PRWEB</u>) January 18, 2005 -- The City of Placentia plans to celebrate the grand opening of the Melrose Street Grade Separation/Underpass project at a ribbon cutting event at the site on January 18, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. (at Melrose Street Underpass between Crowther and Santa Fe Avenues).

 $\hat{A} \square$ The Melrose Project is a significant achievement for the City and is the first of 11 rail crossings being planned for future grade separation, $\hat{A} \square$ said Placentia Mayor Scott Brady. $\hat{A} \square$ The project is the gateway to the Old Town area and provides immediate traffic congestion and train whistle noise relief along with enhanced safety for drivers and pedestrians, $\hat{A} \square$ Brady said. Brady also noted that the project is important to the Transit Oriented Development project now in its planning stages.

The next project work will be the permanent closure of Bradford Avenue at the railroad crossing. Bradford Avenue is located only six hundred feet from the Melrose underpass and is on a curved section of the rail line, factors that contributed to the decision to close the crossing, Brady said.

The Placentia railroad crossings are part of the Alameda Corridor East funding and implementation program. Fifty percent of eastbound freight traffic travels via the Los Angeles/Long Beach ports through Northern Orange County to serve the rest of the United States. The program is seeking funds to construct a series of street/rail grade separations to eliminate traffic congestion at the 11 rail crossings. Approximately 75 daily freight and passenger trains use this transcontinental rail line, projected to be more than 150 per day by 2020.

[Editors: For more information, please call 714-993-8245 or visit <u>www.ontrac-jpa.org</u>. For media interviews and digital photos please call George McQuade 818.340.5300 or 818.618.9229.

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