

Serra Siding Extension Project Scoping Meeting



Feb. 24, 2021



METROLINK



OCTA

Why Are We Here?

- Present information about the Serra Siding Extension Project
- Describe the environmental review process for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)
- Respond to questions about the project or the environmental process

If you just joined the meeting, please select your language.
Si acaba de unirse a la reunión, seleccione su idioma.


Interpretation



METROLINK®

Lead agency for environmental, design and construction phases
Maintains and operates the Metrolink system



Agency supporting Metrolink in right of way and public outreach

Owns the railroad right of way in Orange County and is a member the SCRRA Joint Powers Authority*

*Southern California Regional Rail Authority

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Interpretation

- Metrolink's \$10 Billion Capital Improvement Program to improve the regional rail system in time for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and beyond

Benefits

- Safety improvements at stations and grade crossings
- Upgraded crossings = Quiet Zone-ready corridors
- Enables trains to operate at least every 30 minutes
- Access to job centers
- Seamless connections to other transit providers

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Interpretation

Economic Benefits, Orange County

- 2028
 - 24,400 jobs and \$4.9 billion GDP
- 2050
 - 396,300 jobs and \$173 billion GDP

Source: Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation

More Service

- Additional bi-directional service to attract additional riders
- Link US run-through tracks enables one-seat rides between Los Angeles, Ventura and Orange counties

Better First Mile/Last Mile

- Trains at regular headways means improved transfers to other transit providers

Fights Climate Change

- Reduces up to 51.7 million metric tons of greenhouse gases across Southern CA

Source: California Air Resources Board Greenhouse Gas Calculator

Connectivity for Future Growth

- Improves access to Metrolink Orange County Line Stations

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Interpretation

Metrolink removes the equivalent of one lane of freeway traffic during peak travel

METROLINK TAKES CARS OFF THE FREEWAYS

85% OF WEEKDAY METROLINK RIDERS HAVE AN AUTOMOBILE BUT CHOOSE TO TAKE THE TRAIN, creating more space on the region's freeways.



Providing relief on Interstate 5 and Pacific Coast Highway

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Interpretation

SCORE Program Timeline



- The program's projects not exempt from CEQA will undergo a more comprehensive environmental evaluation
- The program's projects will start and finish construction at different times

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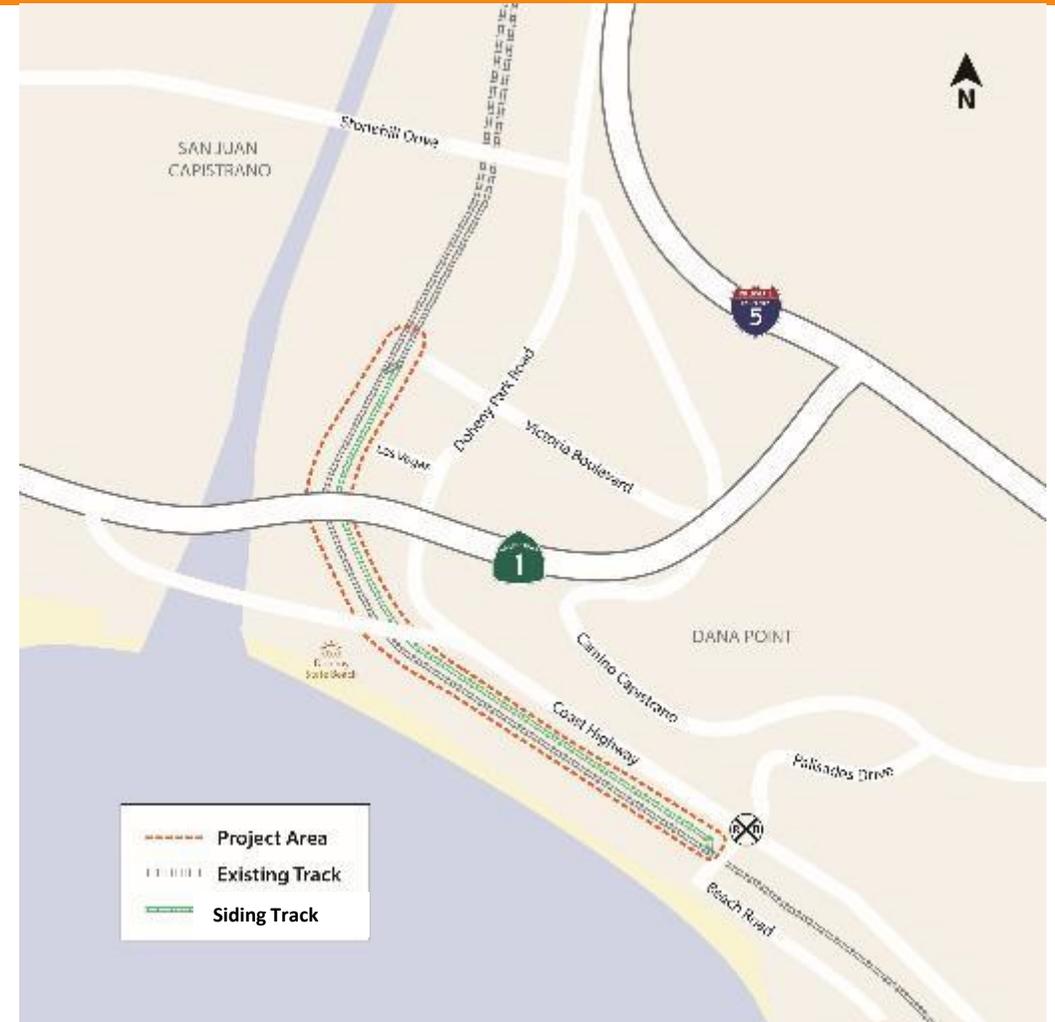
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Interpretation

Serra Siding Project Map

- Project is in the City of Dana Point
- Siding track would be constructed adjacent to the main track from approximately Victoria Boulevard to Beach Road
- Siding track would connect to the main track before the rail crossing at Beach Road



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Project Overview

- Extends 1.2 miles of siding track
- Improves segments of main track
- Replaces existing railroad bridge over Coast Highway with two single-track bridges
- Add fencing along Coast Highway
- Constructs retaining walls
- Relocates or protects existing utilities

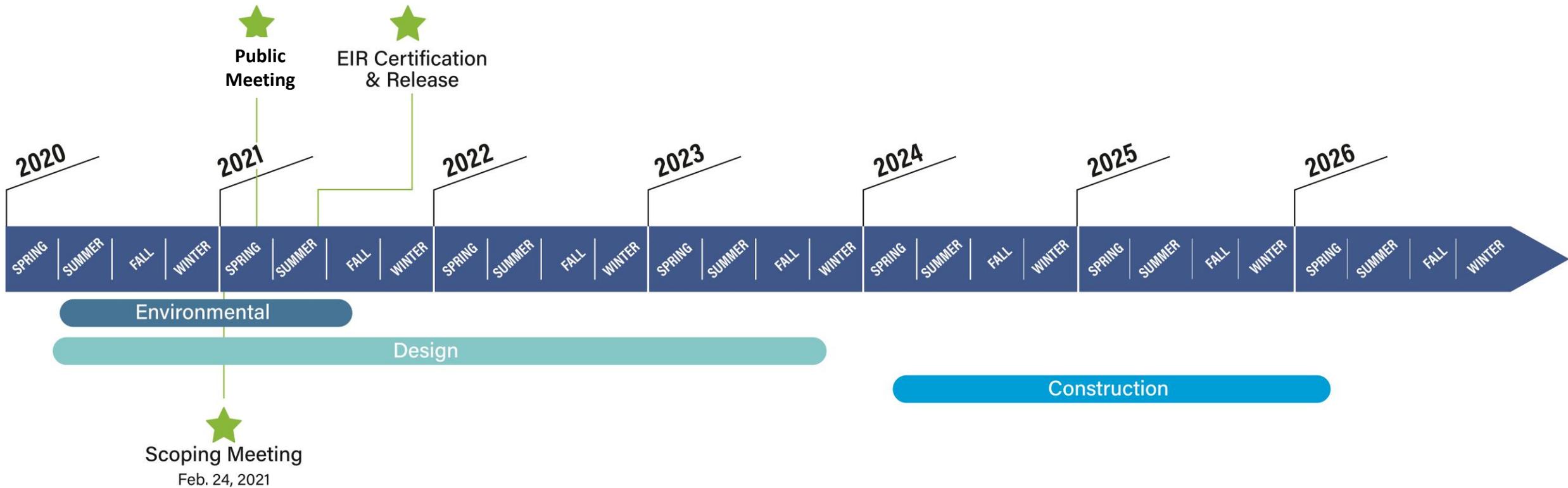


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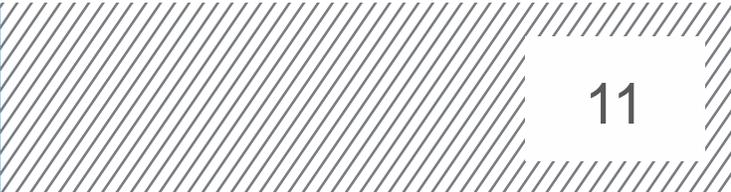
- Provides safer, more reliable and more efficient passenger service
- Enables frequent train service
- Reduces risk of train delays and shutdowns
- Improves on-time performance for Metrolink's Orange County and Inland Empire-Orange County and lines



Project Schedule



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Purpose

- Informs decision-makers and the public of a project's potential impacts on the environment
- Increases public understanding of and participation in the environmental review process
- Identifies ways to avoid or reduce potential impacts through mitigation measures or alternatives

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Interpretation

Notice of Preparation (NOP)

- Informs public agencies and the public of Metrolink's intent to prepare an EIR
- Contains a brief description of the project, its location and where documents related to the project can be found
- Notifies responsible agencies and other interested parties that an EIR will be prepared, and solicits input regarding the scope and content of the EIR

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Interpretation

- Informs the public and public agency decision-makers of significant environmental effects of a proposed project
- Identifies possible ways to minimize environmental effects and describes alternatives to the project that are considered
- Contains information about rare or endangered plants and animals, noise and air quality, and possible community disruptions

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Interpretation

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

Environmental and preliminary design phase



*Notice of Preparation

**Environmental Impact Report

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NOP SCOPING COMMENTS DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

Notice of Preparation available at metrolinktrains.com/score

How to Submit Comments

1. Email: SerraSiding@octa.net

2. Mail: Chris Haskell,
SCORE Deputy Program Manager
900 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90017

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Interpretation

Engagement Strategies

- Key stakeholder briefings
- Project webpage
- Collateral development
- Media advertisement
- Email alerts
- Social media



OVERVIEW

Metrolink, in coordination with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), is proposing to extend 1.2 miles of railroad track in Dana Point. The siding track would be constructed adjacent to the existing main track from near Victoria Boulevard running south and connecting to the main track near the rail crossing at Beach Road.

The project proposes to replace the existing single-track bridge with two single-track bridges to carry the second track. The project also proposes to improve segments of the main track to enhance operational services.

- Providing a safer, more reliable and efficient passenger service
- Enabling frequent train service. When combined with other Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE) projects, passengers can expect train service every 30 minutes in each direction
- Enhancing operational efficiency of passenger services by reducing the risk of train delays and operational shutdowns during routine maintenance and incidents on single track
- Improving on-time performance for the Metrolink Inland Empire-Orange County and Orange County lines

This project is part of the SCORE program for Metrolink's Orange County and Inland Empire-Orange County lines and Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner. The program will be funded by state (SB 1) funds. Metrolink has secured \$875.7 million of the \$10 billion funding goal for the SCORE program through California's Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).



PROJECT STATUS

Metrolink is preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to identify potential environmental impacts of the project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT SCHEDULE

MILESTONE	TIMEFRAME
Public Scoping Meeting	Feb. 24, 2021
Draft Environmental Document Circulated	Spring 2021
Public Hearing	Spring 2021
Final Environmental Document Released	Summer 2021

SERRA SIDING EXTENSION PROJECT VIRTUAL MEETING

You're Invited

Join Metrolink and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) for a virtual meeting about the Serra Siding Extension Project. The project proposes to:

- Extend 1.2 miles of track
- Improve segments of the main track
- Replace the existing bridge with two single track bridges over Coast Highway

The project is in the environmental and preliminary design phase. Metrolink is seeking your input on the scope and environmental impacts of the project.

The Notice of Preparation is available at: metrolinktrains.com/score

Deadline to submit comments: **March 10, 2021**

¡Lo invitamos!

Acompañe a Metrolink y a la Autoridad de Transporte del Condado de Orange (OCTA, por sus siglas en inglés) en la reunión virtual informativa sobre el Proyecto de Extensión del Apartadero de Serra. El proyecto propone lo siguiente:

- Una extensión de las vías de 1.2 millas
- Mejorar segmentos de la vía principal
- Reemplazar el puente existente con dos puentes de vía única sobre Coast Highway

El proyecto se encuentra actualmente en la fase ambiental y de diseño preliminar. A Metrolink le gustaría saber su opinión sobre el alcance y los impactos ambientales del proyecto.

El Aviso de preparación está disponible en: metrolinktrains.com/score

Fecha límite para presentar comentarios: **10 de marzo de 2021**

Learn more about the project and register today at the link below!

¡Obtenga más información sobre el proyecto y regístrese hoy en el enlace a continuación!

Virtual Meeting Registration
Registro para la reunión virtual
bit.ly/3oMaDWp

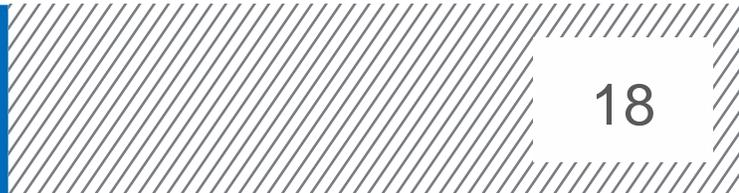
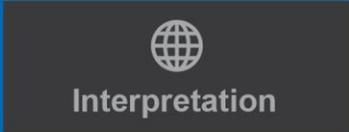
DATE/FECHA:
Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021
Miércoles, 24 de febrero, 2021

TIME/HORA:
5:30-6:30 p.m.



Scan to learn more

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Learn more online
octa.net/SerraSiding



Call the project helpline
800-724-0353



facebook.com/goOCTA
facebook.com/Metrolink

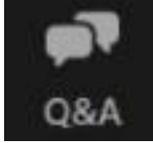


Sign up for project alerts
SerraSiding@octa.net

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Interpretation

- **Online participants:** Click the “Q&A”  button to type your question.
- **Phone participants:** Press *9 to raise your hand. When it is your turn to speak, press *6 to unmute.

OCTA reserves the right to monitor, filter and remove questions or comments that we deem inappropriate. This includes profanity, abuse, racism, obscenity, threats of violence, sexual content, and/or information that violates a person's privacy.

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Interpretation