Project Overview

The Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Montclair is a 12.3-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line light rail system that will add new Gold Line stations in the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. The first nine miles, from Glendora to Pomona, is fully funded and is underway; while the portion from Pomona to Montclair still requires additional funding and may be completed in a separate phase.

The project broke ground in December 2017 and has completed two of four contracts. In October 2019, the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (the agency responsible for overseeing the project) initiated the main design-build contract with Kiewit-Parsons, a Joint Venture (KPJV). The KPJV team spent the first year undergoing final design and project planning. Major construction began mid-July 2020 and is expected to take about five years to complete to Pomona (eight years to Montclair, if additional funding is secured by October 2021).

California Public Utilities Commission Requires San Dimas Gold Line Bridge

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for reviewing and approving all grade crossings in the State of California where a train is proposed to cross a street or pedestrian walkway. As part of the CPUC’s extensive review process for the Foothill Gold Line project, the regulatory agency has required that a new bridge be built over the intersection of Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue in the City of San Dimas for the Gold Line only. The bridge is being required for safety of both the new light rail system and the city streets; as the result of an estimated 200+ Gold Line trains crossing this intersection each day in the future.

As part of the CPUC approval, the existing freight track will be relocated within the existing railroad corridor and remain at street level; and the intersection of Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue will be reconfigured to improve safety and visibility. Monte Vista Avenue will be permanently closed to vehicular traffic, and a pedestrian walkway will be built through the bridge structure. See the back side of this fact sheet for more details.

PROJECT FUNDING

The Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Pomona is being mostly funded by Los Angeles County’s Measure M half-cent sales tax. Additional funding is coming from residual LA County Measure R dollars unspent following the under-budget completion of the Pasadena to Azusa project in 2015. Greenhouse gas reduction grant funds (an SB1 program) are also being provided by the State of California.

PROJECT FAST FACTS

Two Construction Phases:
9.1 miles (Glendora to Pomona); 4 stations
3.2 miles (Pomona to Montclair); 2 stations

Major Construction Began: Mid-July 2020

Anticipated Completion Year:
2025 to Pomona
2028 to Montclair

Future New Daily Train Traffic:
More than 200 Gold Line trains.

Capacity: 200 passengers per light rail car; two- to three-car trains.

Speed: 55 mph (maximum)

Train Power Source: Electricity

Parking: Parking is planned at all six stations (including EV charging stations, bicycle parking and an area for buses and passenger drop-off).

At-Grade (street level) Crossings:
21 to Pomona (26 total to Montclair)

New and Renovated Bridges:
19 to Pomona (24 total to Montclair)

Travel Time: Once the line is in service, a trip from San Dimas to Pasadena will take approximately 27 minutes and further to downtown Los Angeles will take approximately 56 minutes.
The new Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue bridge structure and associated retaining walls will be constructed of decorative concrete, with brick veneer abutments, ornamental lighting to match those on Bonita Avenue, and a recessed area for artwork to be designed and provided by the City of San Dimas.

The retaining walls for the bridge will begin just west of San Dimas Avenue (on the east), and just east of Eucla Avenue (on the west), and rise to a height of about 30 feet as the bridge structure crosses over the intersection of Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue - allowing the required 16 ½ foot clearance below the bridge for cars and trucks.

The existing freight track will remain at street level. It will be relocated as part of the project approximately 10-feet north of its current position (within the railroad corridor) to make room for the light rail bridge. Importantly, the bridge and relocated freight track can fit within the existing and Construction Authority-owned railroad corridor.

The intersection of Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue will be reconfigured to improve visibility and movement of traffic. The new street configuration will include new right turn lanes and two thru traffic lanes in both directions on Bonita Avenue. A new traffic signal will be installed (replacing the current stop signs) that will afford protected left turns in all directions. And, as with all roadway crossings along the project, new raised medians and red curbs will be installed to protect the intersection per CPUC requirements.

Monte Vista Avenue will be permanently closed to vehicular traffic as part of the project; however, an approximately 14-foot wide/9-foot tall pedestrian pathway will be built through the structure to allow pedestrian access north and south on Monte Vista Avenue between Bonita Avenue and the neighborhood to the south.

Landscaping will be planted along Bonita Avenue, and adjacent to the railroad corridor where allowed.

Timeline for Bridge/Intersection Construction

The KPJV team is currently developing the final design for the project, along with the overall schedule for its construction. As of now, the team anticipates that the roadway and bridge construction at Bonita Avenue/Cataract Avenue will take about 15 months to complete and will start in Spring 2021. The timeline and timing of construction is dependent on the final design, however. Therefore, as more details about the timing is known, the team will be communicating with the city and our project neighbors. If you have not already done so, we strongly encourage you to sign up to receive construction alerts at www.foothillgoldline.org.