

FULL STEAM AHEAD *For Sacramento*

Railroad Tracks Groundbreaking | April 28, 10 a.m.

MEDIA FACT SHEET

About the project

- Replacing half-mile of the current railroad track, straightening track alignment and moving the track about 500 feet north of the current track.
- Building passenger platforms, three pedestrian tunnels under and two bridges over the new railroad tracks. Those two bridges, out on the site, are already finished.
- Tracks will be operational by next summer, and the project finished by the end of 2012.
- 5th and 6th street roadways to connect either side of the bridges to downtown are anticipated to get underway late this year and be done spring 2013.

Future of the Railyards

- The vision is for a cultural and entertainment district, attracting some 100,000 visitors and employees.
- A residential plan calls for apartments, condos and work-live type lofts, on top of neighborhood serving retail establishments.
- Ambitious plans call for 10,000 housing units and more than 3 million square feet of retail office space. That's about three times the retail space of the Arden Fair Mall.

Project Funds

- \$221 million in public funds, \$4 million in developer funds = \$225 million total for track relocation, two tunnels and a third pedestrian tunnel at 2nd street, 5th street roadway and Railyards Boulevard, 5th and 6th street bridges, Bercut Drive/Jibboom Street, Central Shops hazardous materials abatement, Camille Lane, Bercut Drive and Market Plaza, Stanford Street, 5th Street steps and purchase by City of property from Thomas Enterprises, Inc. for track relocation and Intermodal facility.
- \$41 million is the current construction contract for the track relocation project, two of the three pedestrian tunnels, new water transmission line and new passenger platforms.
- Funds originate primarily from federal stimulus programs, state Proposition 1C – the affordable housing bond and state Proposition 1 B – the transportation bond and from the City's Measure A ½ cent sales tax fund.

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Project background

- In 1868 Railyards was the site of the western terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad.
- Sacramento gained prominence as the largest industrial center west of the Mississippi.
- At its height in the 1940s, 7,000 worked within the Central Shops remaining one of the largest employers in Sacramento until the 1980s.
- Idle since 1999, the property was purchased from Union Pacific in December of 2006.
- An aggressive schedule was put in place, under the guidance of Cal EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control – the lead agency.
- The equivalent of two football fields full of hazardous waste needed to be trucked away to get the site shovel-ready.
- Clean up was finished at the end of 2008 marking 20 years invested by the various property owners for site cleanup.

More Info

- cityofsacramento.org/transportation/director/sitf/index.html
- cityofsacramento.org/dsd/projects/railyards/
- sacramentorailyards.com/home/home.htm