



September 2015

www.trolleyville.com

LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Saturday, August 15, 2015, the Foothill Gold Line Duarte/City of Hope Station dedication kicked off a series of dedications to celebrate the upcoming completion of construction for the six-station, 11.5 mile light rail project from Pasadena to Azusa. During the month of August there were two other station dedications held. One in Arcadia on August 22, 2015, and the other in Irwindale on Friday, August 29, 2015. Despite the very warm days, some of which were 3 digits, and the humidity the events were well attended by elected officials at all levels of government, transportation officials as well as hundreds of community members.

The Foothill Gold Line project, broke ground in June 2010, and is on time and on budget to be turned over to Metro for pre-revenue service by the end of September 2015. Metro anticipates starting pre-revenue service this fall, and passenger service to begin sometime in 2016. However, Metro CEO Phil Washington stated he felt confident that within 30 days of the turn over from Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority CEO Habib F. Balian that Metro would be able to be able to set a firm date for the beginning of service.

Once the Foothill Gold Line is in operation, riders will be able to travel to and from work without using the crowded freeways. Light rail is the future of Southern California. With this phase of the Gold Line one will be able to travel from Azusa to Downtown Los Angeles in no time at all.



U.S. Representative Grace Napolitano and Duarte Councilman and member of Foothill Gold Line Board of Directors. John Fasana at Duarte/City of Hope Station dedication.



METRO CEO, Phil Washington



Habib F. Balian, CEO of the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority.

Each Station along the way is very unique in design, architect and art work. The artist's for each station were different, but each has captured the city's history and culture in their designs.

LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (continued)...

Duarte/ City of Hope station artwork titled “Spirit of the San Gabriel River” features four massive Indiana limestone hand carved sculptures sitting high atop specially crafted metal painted pillars in between the canopies for the station. At the base of each pillar are cast bronze pavers patterned after the orange blossoms branches and fruit reminiscent of the citrus labels used to transport and sell the fruit that once was grown in Duarte before the city was developed.



Station and bronze Plaques- Artists Andrea Myklebust and Stanton Gray Sears.

The Duarte/City of Hope Station is located on Duarte Road, just west of Highland Avenue, across the street from the City of Hope National Medical Center. “The Gold Line has provided the city the



Arcadia Station Plaza

LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (continued)...

opportunity to re-envision the area of Duarte with new housing, office space and even the city's first hotel, all within walking distance to light rail and therefore within walking distance to all of Los Angeles County" stated Duarte Mayor Paras Caracci.

The Arcadia station is part of a wonderful plaza in the heart of the city and is surrounded by shops, lofts, flats and features a gazebo and clock tower with walkways that the community can meet and come together for events. The station artwork is titled "Arcadian Zephyr," created by local public artist Michael Davis, and was inspired by natural and designed elements of two of the City of Arcadia's major destinations, the race track at Santa Anita Park and the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Gardens. The station art consists of sandblasted black granite and green painted benches with a Lucky number "7" hidden in the framework, a weather vane with tributes to the Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, and stainless steel panels with galloping horses as a tribute to the Santa Anita Racetrack that has been part of the City's history since 1907 when Elias J. "Lucky" Baldwin opened the first track. Also a glass canopy designed in colors to represent the eye of a peacock feather for which the birds are famous in the City and are still seen today.



Arcadia Station: Located at the intersection of First Avenue and Santa Clara Street.

The Irwindale station is located at Irwindale Avenue and Adelante Street, just south of the I-210 Freeway. It sits next door to the MillerCoors Brewery and will offer excellent public transportation to the industries and business that surround the area. The Metro tracks at this area are parallel to the BNSF tracks that go into the MillerCoors. The city today is an economic engine of stone quarries and the food industry.

Today, the City of Irwindale has approximately 500 residences many of which are descendants of the early founders of the area. The founders had called the city Jardine de la Roca (Garden of the Rock), which was very appropriate for the time, as it was a very dry and rocky river bed and are the elements that the artist, Robin Brailsford, incorporated in her design for the station.

LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (continued)...

The station is comprised of a parking garage with a covered walk way to the ramp of the Station Platform. The hand-railings located on the entry ramps to the platforms include the Surnames found in the city's centennial city directory along with the founders' names, which are framed by the dates 1860 and 1960. The Platforms are set with 200 handmade Litho Mosaic pavers made of glass, mosaic stone and micro-mosaic pieces. Each paver has the same design except for the colors which reflect the blue for water of the San Gabriel River and green for the residence or the "tree of life".



Pavers and Railing



The dedication was held on Friday, August 28, 2015, with close to 300 elected officials' community members and the local community in attendance. California State Senator, Dr. Ed Hernandez of 22nd District stated "This is government at its best. On time and on budget. I've never seen cooperation on this level."

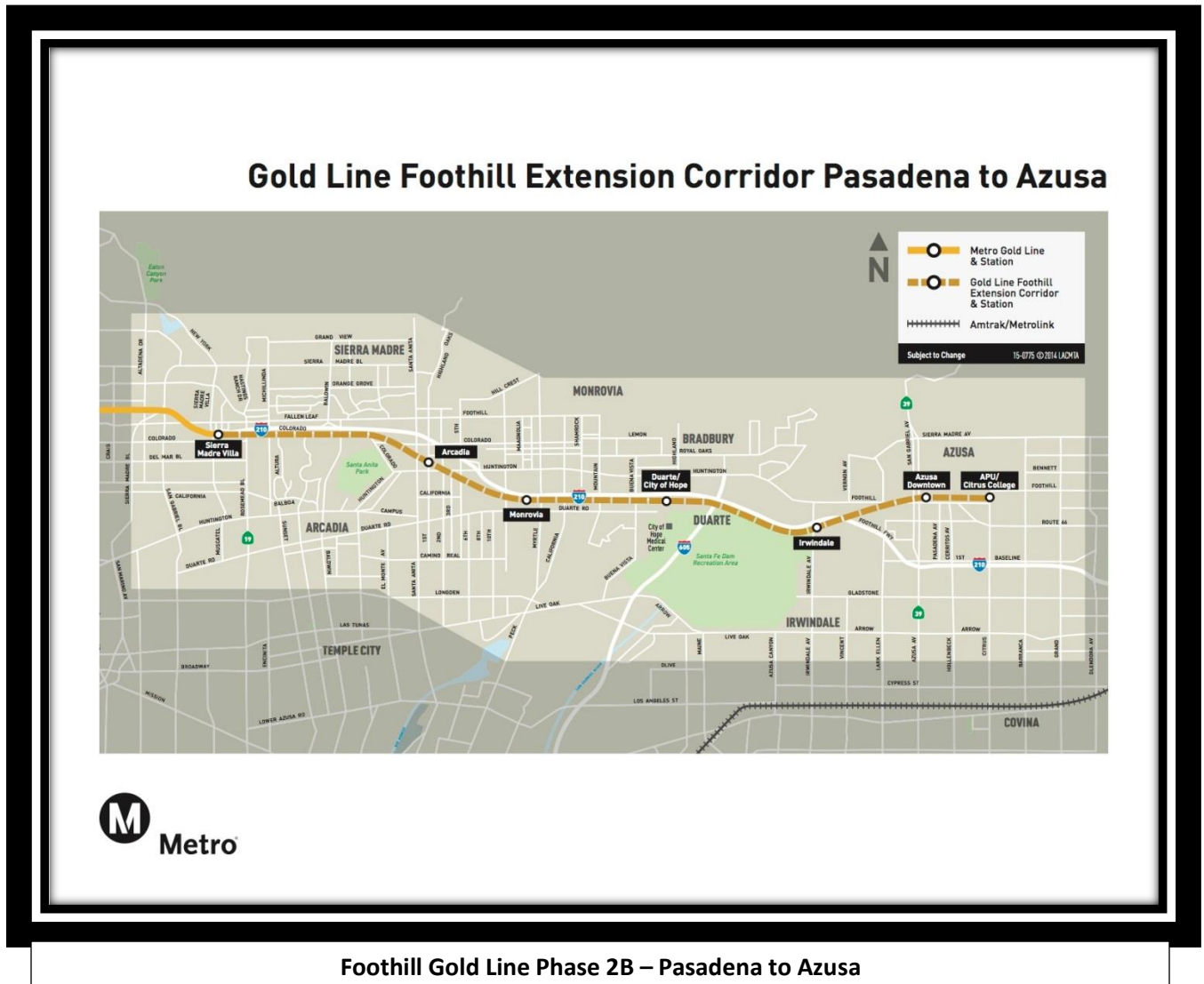
"We fought hard for this station. Today, we celebrate", stated Irwindale's Mayor Mark Breceda.

LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (continued)...

Rick Meade from Metro Los Angeles stated “We are committed to set an opening date within 30 days of accepting the project from Construction Authority.”

And, Mayor Ara Najarian from Glendale stated “Let’s Build it (Foothill Gold Line) east to Ontario Airport and West through Glendale and Burbank to Bob Hope Airport,”...”The foothill Gold Line is going to open up economic opportunities for the region.”

Currently the Gold Line runs from Downtown Los Angeles to Pasadena. The three stations dedicated in the month of August plus the two that are to be dedicated in September will complete Phase 2A: the extension from Pasadena to Azusa. Phase 2B will extend the Foothill Gold Line from Azusa to Montclair. There are a lot of enthusiastic people who are tired of the congestion and traffic on the freeways and can hardly wait for the Gold Line to open for service.



LIGHT RAIL EXTENDING IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (continued)...



The Proposed Phase 2B – Azusa to Montclair

Many Southern California residents know the important role that light rail once played in the history of Los Angeles County in years past. Mayor Kovacic said it best at the Arcadia Station dedication when he said, “Trains (light rail) brought people who settled here and others who came to partake in our Racetrack [and other destinations]. Today, we celebrate the rebirth of [light]rail...”

For more information on Light Rail across the United States, history of light rail and model railroading check the website for *The Trolleyville Times* at www.trolleyville.com

Credits for maps and pictures:

www.pnewswire.com/news-releases/foot-hill-gold-line

www.foothillgoldline.org

www.thesource.metro.net