



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91/Perris Valley Line Service: Ready to Roll!

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), Metrolink, project partners and community members celebrated the upcoming start of commuter rail service on the new 91/Perris Valley Line during a Dedication Ceremony on December 11 at the new Downtown Perris Station in Perris.

More than 350 rail enthusiasts commemorated the first new Metrolink extension to open since the Antelope Valley Line in 1994. Members of the project's design and construction teams, the regional transportation industry, city and county officials, the Orange Empire Railway Museum, the California Military Institute, the Moreno Valley Master Chorale, local residents and even a mime gathered to mark the occasion with lunch, speakers and a brief train ride on the new tracks.

The 24-mile extension of Metrolink service built by RCTC is expected to reduce traffic congestion on Interstate 215 and improve transit options for southwestern Riverside County residents, who have some of the longest commutes in southern California. Service was originally planned to start in late 2015, but a decision was made to install Positive Train Control technology in the locomotives, which will push back the opening date until early 2016.

FTA Acting Administrator Therese McMillan participated in the ceremony with State Assemblymember Jose Medina, Riverside County Supervisor Marion Ashley, Perris Mayor Daryl Busch, San Jacinto Mayor Andrew Kotyuk and Metrolink Chief Executive Officer Art Leahy. RCTC Executive Director Anne Mayer led the ceremony.

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“The 91/Perris Valley Line will provide an exciting new transportation alternative for our community and for Riverside County,” Mayor Busch said.

“The Federal Transit Administration is proud to help bring expanded Metrolink service to Perris, making it easier and more convenient for commuters to access employment in Los Angeles and activity centers in western Riverside County,” McMillan said. “This extension will make a big difference in the quality of life for residents who want an alternative to sitting in traffic, and it also lays a strong foundation for economic development along the corridor.”

The 91/Perris Valley Line will serve the communities of Riverside, Moreno Valley, Perris and other southwestern Riverside County areas, improving connections for commuters traveling from this region toward Los Angeles. It includes four new stations along the route: Hunter Park/UC Riverside, Moreno Valley/March Field, Downtown Perris, and South Perris. Metrolink currently serves more than 44,000 riders on weekdays, over three-quarters of whom commuted by car before adopting transit, according to Metrolink.

Please visit metrolinktrains.com/pvl for updates about the start of service, schedules and fares.

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