



## ALAMEDA CORRIDOR PRODUCES SIGNIFICANT AIR QUALITY, CONGESTION RELIEF BENEFITS AFTER FIVE YEARS OF OPERATION

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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY** – The Alameda Corridor has produced significant air quality benefits for Southern California while accommodating major increases in trade volumes since its opening in 2002, according to new data released by the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA). ACTA released the findings as the Alameda Corridor approaches the fifth anniversary of its opening on April 15, 2007.

Designed to improve the efficiency of transporting cargo from the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports to the rest of the nation, the Alameda Corridor's operation has also resulted in significant air emission reductions. According to ACTA, more than 6,600 tons of total emission reductions have resulted from the consolidation of freight rail operations and the alleviation of traffic congestion at the more than 200 rail crossings in the Southland. The air quality benefits resulting from the Alameda Corridor's operation will continue to increase as usage of the Corridor grows, because trains generate significantly less pollution than the number of trucks (250-280) needed to move an equivalent volume of cargo.

"The Alameda Corridor is not only allowing us to move goods more efficiently, it has also improved the quality of life for people living in the Harbor Area and throughout the region," said Los Angeles City Councilwoman and ACTA Chair Janice Hahn. "Our air quality should continue to be our priority, and I am counting on ACTA to continue to lead the charge."

ACTA also reported the performance of the Corridor has steadily improved over its first five years of operation. More than 83,000 trains have used the Corridor since its opening, increasing from just over 14,000 trains in the first full year of operation (2003) to nearly 20,000 trains in 2006.

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More than 9.8 million containers – or 17.6 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) – have been transported via the Corridor during its first five years. Nearly 14,000 TEU's are now transported on the Alameda Corridor each day, almost one-third of the ports' average daily volume.

“As the Alameda Corridor celebrates its fifth anniversary, ACTA will continue to be instrumental in strengthening our economy, contributing to our basin's air quality, relieving congestion and developing a balanced approach to goods movement in Southern California,” said Long Beach City Vice Mayor and ACTA Vice Chair Bonnie Lowenthal.

These latest figures come shortly following the release of a comprehensive study jointly conducted by ACTA and the two ports to help quantify the impact that Southern California trade activity has on the regional, state and national economies. This study found that in 2005, more than \$256 billion of trade value and 3.3 million jobs across the country were directly associated with the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. With more than 60 percent of the imported cargo arriving at the San Pedro Bay Ports ultimately destined for markets outside of Southern California, the Alameda Corridor has seen 106 percent growth in cargo movement over the last four years, more than double the ports' growth rate during the same time period.

**(Editor's Note: For more information about the Alameda Corridor, or to receive a copy of the ACTA/Port Economic Study, please contact Jeff Lustgarten of Cerrell Associates at 323-466-3445, or visit the ACTA Web site at [www.acta.org](http://www.acta.org).)**