

Deep Expertise Keeps Rail Construction on Track for Success

From new energy requirements to ridership equity goals to alternative delivery models, rail projects are experiencing a revolution in how they are designed, built and operated. These and other factors are driving the need for new tools and technologies to keep evolving transit systems on track for success.

For example, to combat climate change impacts, industry leaders such as the California Air Resources Board will start banning small gas-powered engines on new equipment in 2024—directly impacting contractors this year as they begin transitioning to electric equipment. In early planning phases, rail project and program management teams can help address these new requirements and avoid costly overruns and delays.

Also, as COVID-19 restrictions recede, the transit world is assessing the impacts of remote work, reduced ridership, no-fare transit options and other disruptions. New technologies abound to help turn these disruptions into opportunities to better serve underprivileged communities and to operate with greater cost efficiency, while maintaining safety and security. Partnering with a strong PgM/PM/CM team can help to navigate the post-pandemic “new normal” and achieve desired project outcomes.

“Rail, whether commuter, freight, light or intracity, is quickly recovering to pre-pandemic levels,” says Hill International Vice President, California Rail/Transit Practice Leader Mary Toutouchi. “The challenge is how to best leverage funding to incorporate the many trends on the horizon. Rail owners will always have a vision for their systems. And we will always have ideas to help them realize those visions.”



Hill International is overseeing construction on Metrolink’s Southern California Optimized Rail Expansion (SCORE), a \$10-billion capital program benefitting regional passenger rail.

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