



Fact Sheet

Closure of 9th Street At-Grade Railroad Crossing



Port of
LONG BEACH
The Green Port

Overview

The Port of Long Beach plans to close 9th Street where it crosses the railroad tracks near Pico Avenue. The planned closure date could begin in late 2018, and the roadway will not reopen except for oversized trucks on special permits with CHP escort at appointed times. The 9th Street at-grade crossing closure is needed to enhance rail operations by allowing the assembly of longer trains to move cargo faster and more efficiently via on-dock rail. The closure is also necessary to improve traffic safety and flow.

The 9th Street closure will:

- Close the 9th Street railroad crossing at Pico Avenue to all vehicular traffic.
- Improve traffic safety and flow at the Pico Avenue on- and off-ramps from the 710 Freeway.

- Allow Port terminals to move cargo faster and more efficiently by assembling longer on-dock rail trains.
- Improve the Port's competitiveness by adding on-dock rail capacity.

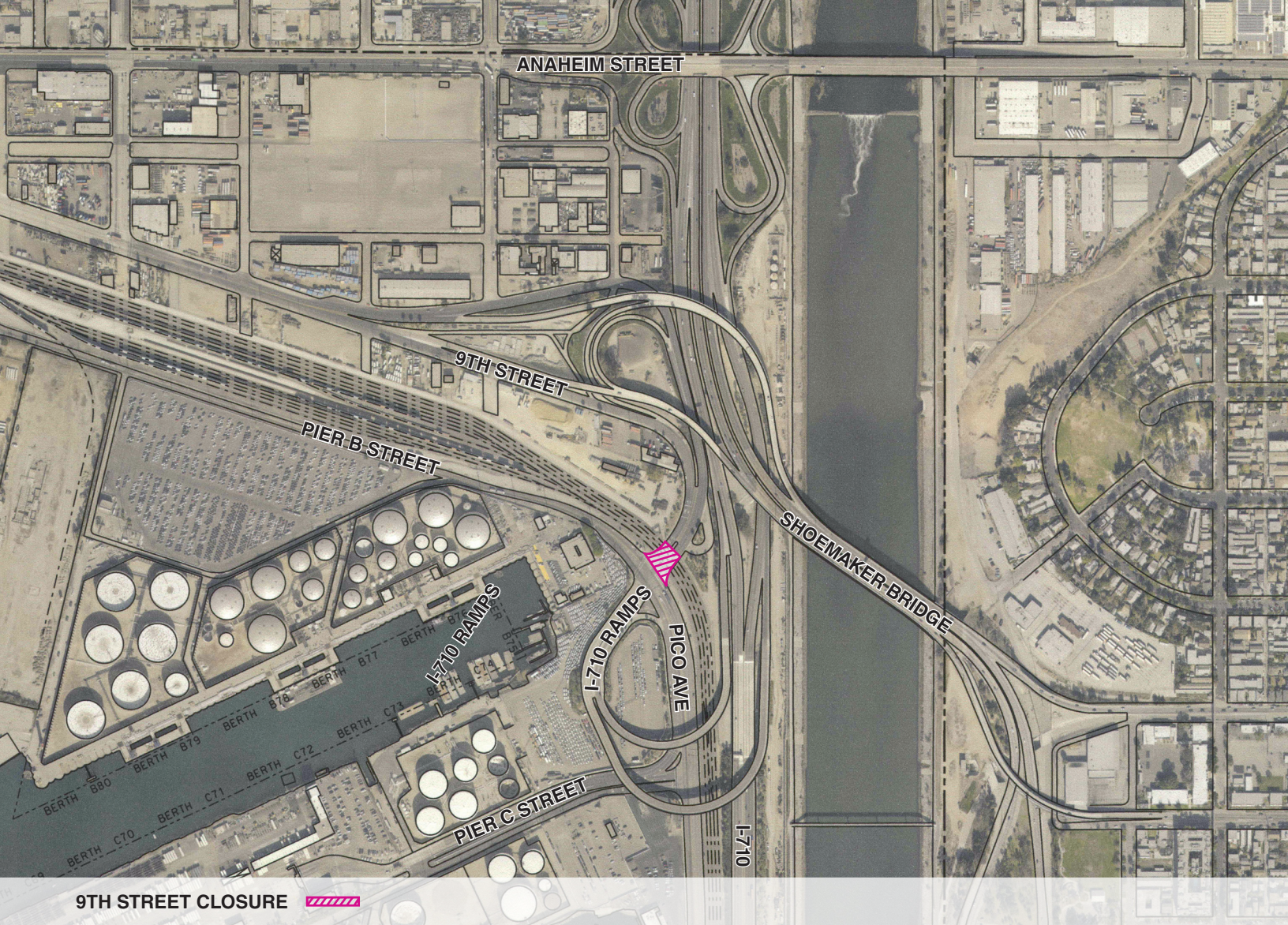
Objective


In the harbor district, 9th Street crosses four parallel railroad tracks near the street's intersection with Pico Avenue. These tracks are vital lines that connect several Port cargo terminals to the region's and nation's railways. The at-grade rail crossing also abuts a major roadway intersection in the Port between Pico Avenue, Pier B Street, the off-ramp from the southbound 710 Freeway and the on-ramp to the northbound 710. Keeping the 9th Street at-grade railroad crossing open to vehicle

traffic hampers railroad operations and traffic movement.

Closing a small section of 9th Street to vehicle traffic would immediately improve the flow of cargo through the Port of Long Beach. Once railroads no longer have to keep the crossing open to vehicles, trains can move far more efficiently to and from terminals south of the crossing, speeding the movement of cargo and increasing the use of on-dock rail. On-dock rail – where cargo containers travel to and from terminals completely by rail – helps to limit truck trips. The closure would help the Port achieve its on-dock rail cargo goal of 35 percent. The on-dock rail goal is part of the San Pedro Bay Port's Clean Air Action Plan.

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9TH STREET CLOSURE 

Traffic safety and operations would also be improved by the closure of the 9th Street at-grade railroad crossing. Cars and trucks would be able to move much more efficiently through the signalized intersection. The closure would eliminate safety hazards posed by the potential for wayward motorists to drive from the crossing directly onto railroad tracks.

The closure would also facilitate a proposed construction project that would add two rail lines to those that run along Pico Avenue, further expanding the use of on-dock rail, the most efficient means of moving cargo on land.

Alternate Routes

The 9th Street at-grade railroad crossing closure would not adversely affect response times or general operations of the Long Beach Police and Fire departments. Alternate routes will be available. Overweight cargo will also be shifted to another route.

Alternate routes include:

1. Anaheim Street to I-710
2. Anaheim Street to Farragut Ave & Anaheim Way
3. Anaheim Street to Henry Ford Ave & SR-47 (overweight permissible)
4. Pacific Coast Highway to SR-103 (overweight permissible)

Additional Information

For more information on the closure please contact:

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