



L.A.'S LEGENDARY UNION STATION BEGINS HISTORIC TRANSFORMATION INTO CITY'S NEXT GREAT "PUBLIC SPACE"

Iconic Downtown Landmark Reinvented As Vibrant Art, Entertainment and Culture Hub

More than 75 years after a spectacular world-wide attention-grabbing debut marking the arrival of a sleepy western town as a critical crossroad to the world -- L.A.'s historic Union Station is being dramatically reimagined as a dynamic destination for arts, entertainment and culture, forging a vital new connection to community.

City planners now envision the dramatically designed edifice as much more than a bustling transportation hub in the heart of Los Angeles. Their ambitious plan for the renowned downtown landmark is to position it as a vibrant symbol of downtown L.A.'s continuing renaissance.

"Beyond it's critical transportation purpose, we want Union Stations be one of the key connectors to the infinitely varied and wonderful elements of the city," said Ken Pratt, Metro's Director of Union Station Property Management. "We want the station to be a gateway to the best L.A. has to offer."

In the coming year, the station is planning to host a rotating collection of unique events, cutting edge performances, evocative music, unprecedented art exhibitions and thought-provoking cultural programming that will completely redefine the Union Station brand.

Built in 1939 as a portal to the promise of the California dream, this architectural gem features soaring vaulted ceilings, towering brass windows, massive Art Deco chandeliers, hand-painted mission tiles and ornate stone floors. Union Station will evolve into a venue showcasing the diversity of entertainers, artists and innovators throughout Los Angeles.

Additionally new eateries encompassing tastes from around the world are also slated to open in 2016, positioning the station as a dining destination in its own right. They'll compliment the renowned Traxx Restaurant, one of the city's most unique culinary experiences.

Union Station is also scheduled to launch an extensive new retail experience in the Fall, featuring a curated selections of artists and artisans from across the Southland.

In addition to its own emerging calendar of programming, events and activities, Union Station has become a gateway to the rebirth of Downtown's vibrant arts, entertainment and food scene and has emerged as a bridge to important cultural venues including The Broad, Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

The station's transformation comes in the wake of Metro's 2015 announcement of a new Union Station Master Plan. Metro's long range, visionary plan establishes the framework for transforming Los Angeles Union Station into a world-class transportation facility able to handle the growing number transit riders as well as high-speed rail.

The full schedule of events and activities slated at Union Station in 2016 will be announced throughout the year.

About Union Station:

Built in 1939, Union Station is the largest railroad passenger terminal in the Western United States. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, the station's signature Mission Moderne style makes it one of L.A. architectural gems. Today, the station has evolved into a vibrant transportation center serving 75,000 passengers daily. Union Station is currently in the first phase of a Master Plan that will enable it to better

handle the growing number of transit riders, accommodate high-speed rail and serve as one of L.A.'s premier public spaces while protecting the historic core of the station.

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