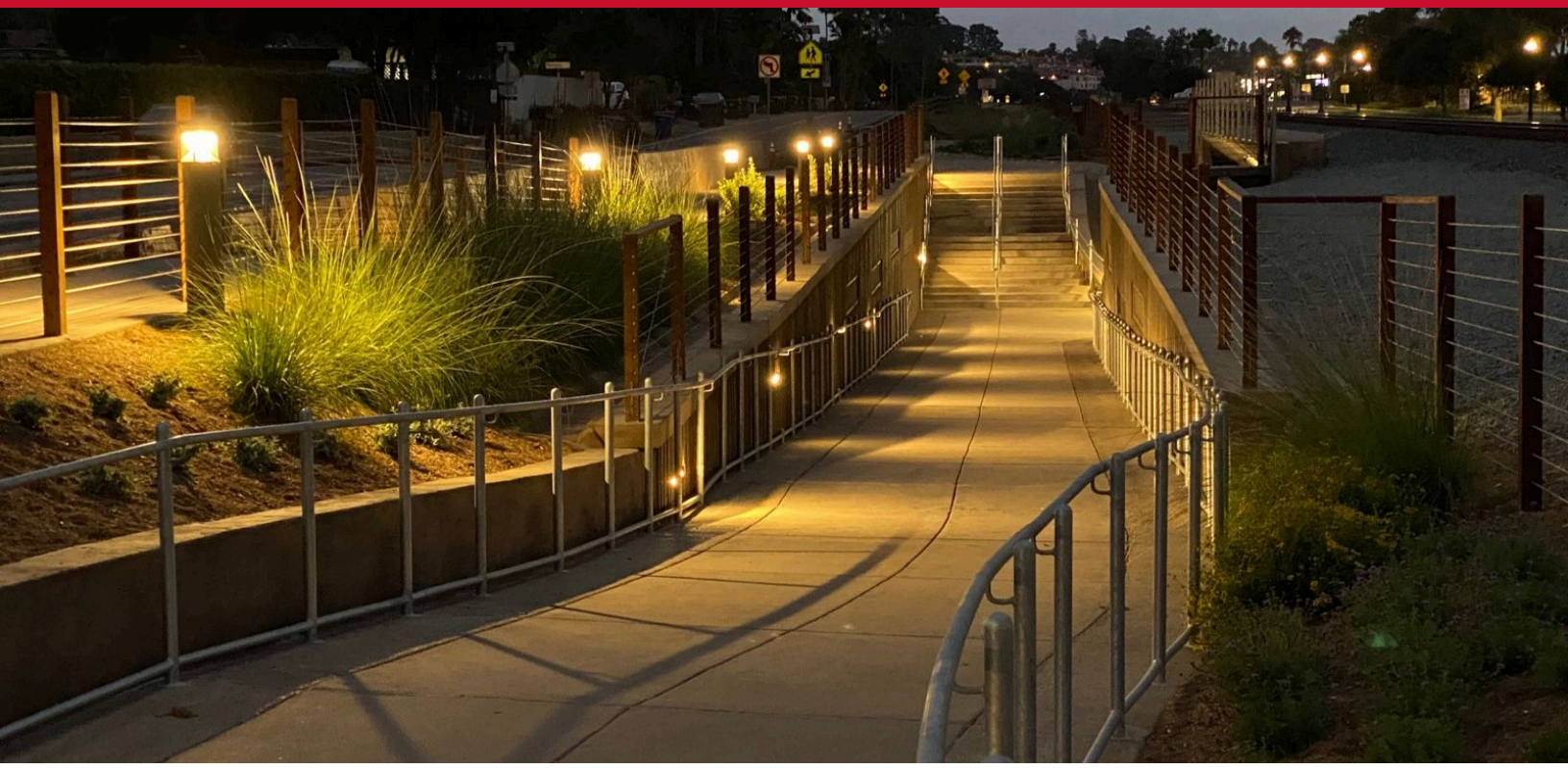
PROJECT CASE STUDY / PUBLIC WORKS · RAIL

El Portal Undercrossing

Encinitas, California · Prime Contractor: Granite Construction



The finished crossing at dusk — In-Line's Ipe hardwood post-and-cable fence along the rail corridor, galvanized handrail down the ramp, and stainless cable infill throughout.

PRIME CONTRACTOR

Granite Construction Company

IN-LINE ROLE

Fence, railing & guardrail subcontractor

AWARDED

October 2020

OPENED

August 14, 2022

DELIVERY

Federal-aid · Prevailing wage · DBE

CHANGE ORDERS

Three — across the entire job

THE PROJECT

Encinitas spent twenty years trying to get this crossing built. When it finally went to construction, the fence and railing package was the part the public would actually touch, lean on, and trust with their children. Granite Construction gave it to In-Line.

For decades the LOSSAN rail corridor split the city in two. Families on the east side — including children walking to Paul Ecke Central School — had no safe way across, and illegal track crossings became a chronic safety problem the city had been chasing since 2002. The El Portal Undercrossing is the answer: a pedestrian and bicycle passage beneath the tracks, tied into the Leucadia Streetscape improvements, on a $13.4 million project with roughly $7 million awarded to Granite for construction.

In-Line delivered the entire fence, railing, and guardrail scope — every barrier between the public and a live railroad.

WHY IT WAS HARD

Liquidated damages were on the table from day one

Granite's letter of intent did not soften it: an aggressive schedule, liquidated damages tied to specific contractual milestones, and submittals needed *before the subcontract was even executed*. Most subs wait for a signed contract. In-Line took the authorization in the LOI and started shop drawings and submittals immediately — so that when the schedule got tight later, approvals were never the reason.

Live track, zero margin

LOSSAN is a heavily used passenger rail corridor. Every foot of fence line and safety railing ran alongside active track under railroad and agency coordination protocols. There is no version of this work where you get to be approximately right about where the right-of-way begins.

Ipe hardwood — not a catalog item

The architects specified **Ipe post-and-cable fence**: a tropical hardwood so dense it sinks in water, chosen for how it weathers in coastal salt air. More than 2,300 linear feet of it, in two heights. You cannot order this from a fence supplier. It has to be sourced, milled, drilled, and detailed to marry hardwood posts to a tensioned stainless cable system — and it has to still look like architecture after ten summers on the coast. In-Line built it.

The design kept refining underneath them

Cable end-post bracing, WB-31 guardrail transition details, architectural changes at the retaining wall — all resolved through RFIs and priced mid-construction. None of it moved the milestone dates.



The same fence line during installation — Ipe posts set and cable runs going in along the corridor approach.

WHAT IN-LINE DELIVERED

- **Ipe post and cable fence** — 1,560 LF at 48" and 788 LF at 42", sourced, fabricated, and installed to architectural specification.
- **Galvanized handrail** — 1,139 LF carrying the public down the ramps and through the undercrossing.
- **Midwest guardrail and terminals** — 104 LF of MGS with two alternative in-line terminal end treatments, plus WB-31 transition railing engineered and installed once an RFI resolved the end-system detail.
- **Temporary fencing for the full duration** — 2,200 LF installed at the start and removed at the end, holding the line between the public and an active work zone beside live track for the life of the project.
- **Demolition** — 710 LF of failed wood lodge pole fence removed, plus lodge pole bollard installation.
- **Federal compliance, complete and on time** — certified payroll, federal wage decision, DBE participation, DAS 140/142 apprenticeship dispatch, and skilled workforce documentation — submitted complete, on the prime's schedule.

SCOPE AT A GLANCE

- Ipe post & cable fence
- Galvanized handrail
- Midwest guardrail (MGS)
- Alternative in-line terminals
- WB-31 transition railing
- Lodge pole bollards
- Temporary construction fencing
- Fence demolition

THE RESULT

3
Change orders, entire job

2,348 LF
Ipe hardwood fence delivered

Aug 2022
Open to the public

The El Portal Undercrossing opened on **August 14, 2022**. It is now the safe route to school, to the beach, and to the farmers market for the neighborhoods the tracks used to cut off — and the fence and railing the public puts their hands on every day is In-Line's.

Three change orders. On a two-year, federal-aid job, beside a live rail corridor, under liquidated damages, with an architectural hardwood specification no catalog supplier could fill. Every one of those three was an upstream design refinement — not a single one was In-Line fixing In-Line.

Anyone can install fence. Very few can carry an architectural specification through a federal-aid schedule beside live track and hand it back clean. That is the difference you are buying.

WHY PRIMES KEEP CALLING IN-LINE

Since 1990, In-Line has been the fence and railing subcontractor Southern California's largest primes hand their most exposed scope to. Not because we are the cheapest number on bid day — because we are the one line item they never have to think about again.

- **We start before the contract does.** Submittals and shop drawings move the day the LOI lands. Approvals never become your critical path.
- **We build what the architect drew.** Ipe, stainless cable, powder coat, custom fabrication — if it is on the plans, we are not going to ask you to value-engineer it into something easier for us.

- **We price changes straight.** Backed up, documented, defensible to the owner and to the auditor. When we owe a credit back, we write the credit.
- **Federal-aid work is our home ground.** Certified payroll, wage decisions, DBE, apprentice dispatch, Buy America sourcing, skilled workforce — the paperwork that sinks other subs is routine here.
- **We are certified, bonded, signatory, and safe.** DBE · SBE · SLBE · SB · HUBZone · SBA 8(a). Union affiliated, Local 89 & Local 12. CSLB C-13, C-51, C-32. Bonded through Old Republic Surety, rated A+ XV. **EMR 0.68.**

Thirty-five years. Public works, utilities, school districts, and government agencies across Southern California. One standard.

HAVE A PROJECT LIKE THIS?

In-Line Fence & Railing has built fence, railing, and guardrail for Southern California public works, utilities, school districts, and government agencies since 1990.

Call (760) 789-0282 | **Request an Estimate**

In-Line Fence & Railing Co., Inc. · Ramona, California
CSLB #769516 (C-13, C-51, C-32) · DBE #14089 · SBE #313379 · SLBE #10IN003 · HUBZone #59995 · DIR #1000002605
Union affiliated — Local 89 & Local 12 · Member, San Diego AGC