



News Release

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Railroad Museum Enhances Guest Experience with Reopening of Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station *Plus, Old Sacramento Guests are Encouraged to View Newly Repainted Historic Locomotives on Display*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California State Parks and the California State Railroad Museum & Foundation are pleased to announce the public reopening of the Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station located on Front Street in Old Sacramento State Historic Park. Reconstructed 40 years ago as a re-creation of the original building as it appeared in 1876, the historic passenger station has been closed to the public for approximately 10 years. During that time, however, the Passenger Station has remained in active use as a housing area for the Museum’s rolling stock, overnight storage for locomotives and railroad equipment and periodically as the site for special events and educational programs. Effective immediately, an admission ticket to the California State Railroad Museum grants access to both the Museum and the Passenger Station and vice versa (tickets can be purchased at either location).

The public entrance to the Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station is located on Front Street between J and I Streets. Once inside, guests step back in time (circa 1876) to gain an understanding of 19th century train travel complete with separate waiting rooms for men and women. Once on the platform, guests will see historic train equipment (such as a working freight scale for example), passenger cars from the 1870s and more along with voice boxes and interpretive signage. As a highlight inside the Passenger Station, guests can view the crowd-favorite *J.W. Bowker* steam locomotive that was featured in the 1939 film *Union Pacific* and last operated in 1953. Additionally, knowledgeable docents and trained Museum staff will be on-site inside the Passenger Station to help answer questions provide historic interpretation.

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Located just outside the Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station, all visitors to Old Sacramento can view an eye-catching Union Pacific caboose and two impressive Santa Fe steam locomotives 2925 and 5021 from the Museum's prized collection. In fact, these two Santa Fe locomotives were recently repainted – complete with historically accurate silver lettering – thanks to the California State Railroad Museum Foundation's strong financial commitment and hard work by paid staff and volunteers. The Santa Fe locomotives are located in an area with active tracks and ongoing rail activity so guests are urged to be cautious and attentive.

Similar to the California State Railroad Museum, the Passenger Station is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Combined Railroad Museum and Passenger Station admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for youths (ages 6-17), and children ages five and under are free. Note that the Passenger Station may be closed to the public periodically during *THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride* and other educational programs. For more information about the California State Railroad Museum and historic complex, please call 916-323-9280 or visit www.californiarailroad.museum.

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