

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2017

Contact: Jamie Engelhardt
Rick Engineering Company
619-291-0707
jengelhardt@rickengineering.com

Rick Engineering Company's 3D Laser Scanning Brings 116-year-old Railway Back to Life

SAN DIEGO, CA – Los Angeles is a town full of attractions that bring millions of tourists to the City of Angels every year. One particularly old landmark is getting a makeover with the help of Rick Engineering Company's 3D Laser Scanning Technology.

Angel's Flight is known as the "world's shortest railway" and for 116 years, has been a link between Hill and Olive Streets on Bunker Hill. It will open for the public this week with rides costing just one dollar. RICK was commissioned to provide a 3D laser scan and model to support the restoration of LA's historic Angel's Flight.

Brian Laird, RICK's 3D Laser Scanning Division manager, sees this projects as more than just a restoration, but a resurrection of a Los Angeles icon: "We're working on something embedded in LA's history."

The 3D laser scanning starts with a few technicians who set up equipment on the job site and scan the area to accurately three-dimensionally measure the historic structure to 1/8" accuracy. For this project, the site structure and railcars (named Sinai and Olivet) were scanned and turned into a 3D CAD model enabling the steel fabricators, Paramount Metal & Supply Company, to create a design to modernize both elements.

"By using this kind of technology, RICK has provided a great service for the client to save time and money," said Jose Gonzalez, RICK Laser Scanning Technician. "RICK delivered an accurate model of what is out there so the client will be confident with their final design without having to second-guess themselves."

With the 3D measurements as a background, the proposed design can be superimposed into interactive 360° web views allowing the design/construction team, the public and the project stakeholders to visualize the design prior to construction.

One improvement featured in the interactive web page is removable safety stairs which will allow for a safe exit in case of emergency. Why would they need to be removed? Because of course in LA a railway isn't just a railway; it's also a place to film an Academy-Award-Winning musical like La La Land with

Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling. The pair was featured riding in one of the cars after the film studio was granted rare access for a day.

After the movie's huge success, fans are wondering when they can reenact the romantic scene from the movie...or just get uphill a little faster. With a little help from Hollywood and the Angels Flights Friends & Neighbors (FANS) Preservation Campaign, Los Angeles Mayor, Eric Garcetti, announced the railway will reopen to the public by Labor Day.

“Angels Flight is a cultural gem that tells an unforgettable story about the history of Los Angeles,” said Mayor Garcetti in his press conference on March 1st. “Today, we celebrate the rebirth of this iconic attraction — and once the modernization is complete, we will welcome millions of visitors from around the world to experience it with us.”

The railway opened January 1st 1901 in order to bring wealthy residents to and from a local shopping district. It ran until 1969 when the neighborhood it sat in went through redevelopment but was later reopened in 1996. After a few accidents forced the historic landmark to open and close two more times, RICK 3D laser scanning is helping to ensure the railway stays open and safe for years to come.

About Rick Engineering Company

[Rick Engineering Company](#) is a multi-disciplined planning, design, and engineering corporation. For six decades, RICK has planned, designed, and engineered hundreds of commercial, recreational, and residential communities across the Western U.S. As communities have increased in density, the company has developed experience in all types of urban developments such as mixed-use and urban infill settings. The company provides civil engineering, community planning, landscape architecture, urban design, environmental studies, transportation/traffic planning and engineering, redevelopment and urban revitalization, water resources/storm water engineering, construction management, surveying, mapping, photogrammetry, 3D laser scanning, and geographic information systems (GIS).

###