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Few trains run this weekend

Crews are constructing an additional track between Los Angeles and Laguna Niguel.

By **ELLYN PAK**

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The county's Metrolink and Amtrak services largely will be canceled this weekend so construction can proceed on an additional track between Los Angeles and Laguna Niguel.

There will be no trains on the Orange County and Inland Empire-Orange County lines Saturday and Sunday, except for services between Los Angeles Union Station and Anaheim.

Crews will be working between the 17th Street and La Veta Avenue crossings in Santa Ana, in addition to Palmyra Avenue along Lincoln Avenue in Orange. Residents in those areas should expect noise, bright lights and dust.

"It's important work that has to be done in order for us to move forward with the expansion and increased services," said Joel Zlotnik, Orange County Transportation Authority's spokesman. "We want to minimize impacts, but unfortunately there will be unavoidable ones this weekend."

Service will resume for the Monday morning commute.

The \$28-million project involves building a track parallel to the existing one to eliminate the need for trains to wait for other ones to pass. It's part of the OCTA's \$382.5-million plan to increase Metrolink services.

The agency hopes to provide train rides every half-hour, 18 hours per weekday from Fullerton to Laguna Niguel starting in 2009.

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