



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Alternatives for Chicago to St. Louis High-Speed Rail Tier 1 Study To Be Unveiled**

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal

Railroad Administration will present several alternative routes for accommodating higher speeds and additional daily round trips between Chicago and St. Louis during a series of upcoming public meetings. The alternatives include a full build-out, which is adding a second track, and other improvements. The current Chicago to St. Louis corridor operates on a single track that is shared by both traditional freight and Amtrak passenger rail service.

Criteria for evaluating the various alternatives will also be presented at the meetings for public comment. The criteria, such as residential and commercial impacts, travel time reductions, safety, and environmental impacts, will be used to narrow down the number of alternatives and decide which will move forward for further study.

The public is invited to attend the open house public meetings at any time between 4:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. to learn more and provide feedback. The meetings will be held:

**Springfield, IL – Monday, October 24:** Prairie Capitol Convention Center /  
Room B11 / One Convention Center Plaza / Springfield, IL 62701

**Joliet, IL - Tuesday, October 25:** Jacob Henry Mansion / Victorian Ballroom /  
15 South Richards Street / Joliet, IL 60433

**Bloomington, IL – Thursday, October 27:** Double Tree Hotel / Brickyard 1 & 2 /  
10 Brickyard Drive / Bloomington, IL 61701

**Carlinville, IL – Wednesday, November 2:** Blackburn College / Woodson Center /  
700 College Avenue / Carlinville, IL 62626

**Alton, IL – Thursday, November 3:** Holiday Inn / Ballroom / 3800 Homer  
Adams Parkway / Alton, IL 62002

(more)

The meetings will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Anyone needing special assistance should contact Mandi Voegelé of Vector Communications Corporation at (314) 621-5566. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations should notify TTY/TTD number (800) 526-0844 or 711; TTY users (Spanish) (800) 501-0864 or 711; and for Telebraille dial (877) 526-6670 at least five days prior to the meeting.

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