Chicago – St. Louis High-Speed Rail
Springfield – 3rd Street Corridor
December 10, 2013
Springfield Rail Issues and IDOT Commitment

» 3rd Street Improvements
  o Funded by 2010 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant
  o Part of current program to upgrade corridor to safely operate passenger trains at speeds up to 110 mph

» Springfield Flyover
  o Tier 2 study currently underway

» 10th Street – Rail Consolidation Plan
  o Work will be conducted in phases
  o Carpenter Street – 1st Project
IDOT has actively developed the Chicago to St. Louis corridor since the mid 1980’s.

Previously completed National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) with 2004 Record of Decision (ROD).

Sizeable ridership at intermediate stations.
Chicago - St. Louis Ridership & Reliability

Historic Ridership and Reliability

On-Time Percentage

Ridership (Thousands)

Year


0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%
Who is Involved?

- Elected Officials
- Business Community
- Regional Agencies
- General Public & Interest Groups
- Transportation Providers
- City/County Technical Staff

Project Partners
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
- Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR)
- Amtrak
- Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)
- Others

Support
- Parsons Brinckerhoff - Program Manager
- IDOT Consultants (PTB Advertisements)
- UPRR Contractors/Consultants
High-Speed Rail Program
Activities and Benefits
What are we building?

- Upgrades for passenger speeds up to 110 mph
- Design and construction of 243 miles of main track including concrete ties, welded rail, etc between East St. Louis and Joliet
- Realignment of curves
- New second tracks and sidings
- Grade crossing warning devices
- Construction of grade crossings
- Train control signaling
- Turnouts, culverts, bridges, fencing, etc.
- Purchase of six new high-speed train sets
- Eight (8) new/renovated stations
110 mph Demonstration: Dwight-Pontiac

- 15-mile initial segment, in service since November 2012
- Interim equipment improvements
- On board service enhancements
Benefits

» Reduction in travel time by about an hour
» Enhanced reliability
» New passenger cars and locomotives
» New/rehabilitated stations
» Safety improvements
» Less damage to the environment
Schedule

2010-2012
- Track reconstruction and upgrades
- Operation of trains up to 110 mph between Dwight and Pontiac

2012
- Procurement process for new high-speed rail cars

2013
- Procurement process for new high-speed rail locomotives

2015
- Significant infrastructure improvements in place to support speeds of up to 110 mph on the Joliet-Carlinville portion of the corridor
- Initial reductions in travel time

2015-2017
- Infrastructure improvements complete with increased speeds over entire Joliet-East St. Louis segment
- Travel time reduced by about an hour
- Springfield Third St. improvements
- Delivery of the new cars and new locomotives
Springfield 3rd Street Improvements
Third Street Corridor

**Improvements will include:**

» Upgraded grade crossings and new safety devices;

» Fencing;

» Station amenities;

» Bridge upgrades; and

» Eligibility for Quiet Zone.
Grade Crossings
Fencing
Springfield Station Improvements

» ADA Accessibility Enhancements:
  - Platform
  - Parking Facilities
  - Entrances and Exits
  - Washroom Facilities
Bridge Upgrades

» Improve structural integrity and stability of existing bridges
Crossing Closures

A crossing can be closed for safety reasons, but only with agreement of community officials.

Construction cost savings can be shared with local communities.

The Program has established processes with IDOT and FRA for closing crossings.
The Program’s land acquisition process complies with the Uniform Act.
Third Street Corridor Benefits

» Safety for vehicle traffic, pedestrians, and trains

» Train speeds increase from 25 mph to a maximum speed of 40 mph, reducing the time that trains occupy crossings and minimizing traffic congestion

» Eligibility for quiet zone
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Activities
Program NEPA Activities – Third Street

» Meeting with Federal, State, City leaders
» Public meetings
» Event participation
» Website
» School safety briefings
NEPA - Springfield Flyover

» Study getting started

» Will include public process (e.g., meetings)
Tier 2 NEPA complete: selected as Preferred Alternative in 2012

City of Springfield is leading 10th Street Work

- Design Underway
- Construction funding identified for Carpenter Street Underpass

When fully funded, work will include:

- Consolidation of all rail freight and passenger traffic
- Construction of new grade separations
- New passenger rail station
Safety Information
Public Safety in High Speed Rail Corridors

CHICAGO-ST. LOUIS HSR CORRIDOR
(Springfield and Sangamon County)

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Section
Illinois Commerce Commission
Public Safety Must Be the #1 Priority
Illinois Crossing Statistics (Background)

✓ Illinois has approximately 7,200 miles of railroad track, the 2nd largest rail system of any state in the nation.

✓ Illinois has the 3rd largest highway system with nearly 140,000 miles of highway, streets and roads.

✓ Illinois has over 7,800 highway-rail grade crossings; nearly 7,100 on the local roadway system.
Illinois Commerce Commission  
(Responsibilities)

- Rail Safety Inspection Program
  - Track
  - Crossing Signals & Train Control
  - Haz Mat Shipments by Rail
  - RR Operating Practices

- Public Safety
  - Highway-Rail Grade Crossings
    - Crossing Safety Improvement Program
  - Public Education
    - Operation Lifesaver
Public Safety in High Speed Rail Corridors

- **Train Speeds will Increase**
  - Current Max. Train Speed = 79 mph
  - Proposed Max. Train Speed = 110 mph

- **Crossing Warning Times will Increase**
  - Current warning times = 35 seconds
  - Warning times for max. speed trains: 80 seconds min.

- **Train Volumes Projected To Increase**
  - Passenger
  - Freight

⇒ **More Trains = Greater Exposure**
Longer Warning Times... NOT Longer Delays
Any time is Train Time.....
94% of All Crashes are Driver Error
25% of Crashes Involve Driving into the Side of a Train
75% of Those Crashes Occur During Daylight Hours
Speed of an Approaching Train (Optical Illusion)

Slow moving Freight Train at 10 MPH

Amtrak Train traveling at up to 110 MPH
Flash red lights mean stop
(You may not see an approaching train)
Public Safety in High Speed Rail Corridors

Considerations

- Public Crossings
- Private Crossings
- Field Crossings
- Pedestrian Crossings
- Trespassers
Public Safety in High Speed Rail Corridors

Proposed Safety Improvements

- Four Quadrant Roadway Gates
- Pedestrian Gates
- Right-of-Way Fencing
- Automatic Warning Devices - Private Xings
- User-Activated Devices - Farm Xing
Four Quadrant Gates
Pedestrian Crossings

PEDESTRIAN VIEW
WESTBOUND
EXIT GATE
TRAIN APPROACHING

32" CLEAR
EXIT
6' SIDEWALK

PEDESTRIAN VIEW
WESTBOUND
ENTRANCE GATE
TRAIN APPROACHING

TYPICAL CROSS SECTION
PEDESTRIAN TREATMENTS
MARQUETTE ROAD AT BELT RAIL COMPANY
Pedestrian Crossings
(Safe Access)

Pedestrian Xing with R.O.W. Access

Pedestrian Xing with Restricted R.O.W. Access
Trespassers
(Restrict Access to RR R.O.W.)
Trespassers

It is illegal for any person to walk across or along railroad tracks at any place other than an authorized crossing.
Trespassing is the #1 reason for rail-related fatalities or injuries...
Field Crossings
(Safe Access)

Field Crossing w/o Active Warning Devices

Field Crossing with Active Devices
Farm Equipment
Railroad Safety Outreach & Education
Public Safety Outreach
Public Safety Outreach
QUESTIONS??

Michael E. Stead
Rail Safety Program Administrator
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 E. Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701
(217) 557-1285
mstead@icc.illinois.gov
Next Steps
Third Street Corridor

» Additional environmental analysis and design underway.

» Construction expected to begin in 2015.

» Anticipate construction completion by 2017.
Upcoming Public Meetings

» January 9, 2014 – Springfield Hilton
» Summer 2014 – Date and Location TBD
Business Opportunities

Visit the **Doing Business** section of [www.idothsr.org](http://www.idothsr.org).

- Find details about the bidding process and current business opportunities
- Find related links for detailed procedures
Public Involvement Opportunities

» Visit www.idothsr.org for project specific information, business opportunities, and to comment on the Illinois High-Speed Rail Project

» Visit the Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/illinoishighspeedrail

» Call the Project Hotline: 1-855-IDOT-HSR (436-8477)
Thank you