

Union Pacific West Line - Third Mainline Project Western Section West Chicago to Geneva



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Union Pacific West Line and Metra Partnership

The Union Pacific West Line (UP-W) is on one of the busiest rail lines in the nation. More than 50 freight trains and 60 Metra trains carrying nearly 30,000 passengers share the rail line each day. In 2008, Union Pacific and Metra entered into a partnership to improve the rail line and enhance safety. A number of projects are complete as part of the overall UP-W Line Improvement Project, including an upgraded rail signal system, new crossovers and a variety of safety enhancements.

Western Section Improvements

The UP-W Third Mainline Project - Western Section consists of constructing a third mainline track from Kress Road in West Chicago to Peck Road in Geneva, IL which would remove a critical bottleneck along the UP-W Line where only two tracks currently exist. Key construction features include:

- Construction of a third mainline track on the south side of the existing tracks, located primarily within UP's existing right-of-way (with the exception of a section between Roosevelt Road and the bridge at Crissey Avenue).
- Improvements to railroad crossings at IL Route 31 (1st Street), 3rd Street, and Western Avenue.
- Reconstruction of three commuter parking lots at the Geneva Station. Parking lot closures will be staggered during construction with advanced communication to the public.
- Addition of new bridge spans on top of the existing bridge substructure over the Fox River.

Project Benefits

The addition of a third mainline track will complete the UP-W Line Improvement Project, providing benefits to Metra passengers, UP freight operations and local residents, including:

- Reduced motorist wait times at grade crossings
- Decreased commuter and freight train delays
- Decreased idling of freight trains
- Reduced commuter and freight rail congestion
- Enhanced safety

Project Schedule and Cost

Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2018 and is estimated to take approximately 19 months to complete. For both the West (West Chicago to Geneva) and East (River Forest to Melrose Park) Sections of the final phase of the project, the total design and construction cost of over \$100 million will be jointly funded by UP and Metra (through grants received from the Illinois Department of Transportation).

Contact Us

For more information, please visit www.metrarail.com/upw-third-main or email: UPWThirdMain@metrarr.com

