



EXPERIENCE IT YOURSELF.

# ILLINOIS HIGH-SPEED RAIL

CHICAGO TO ST. LOUIS

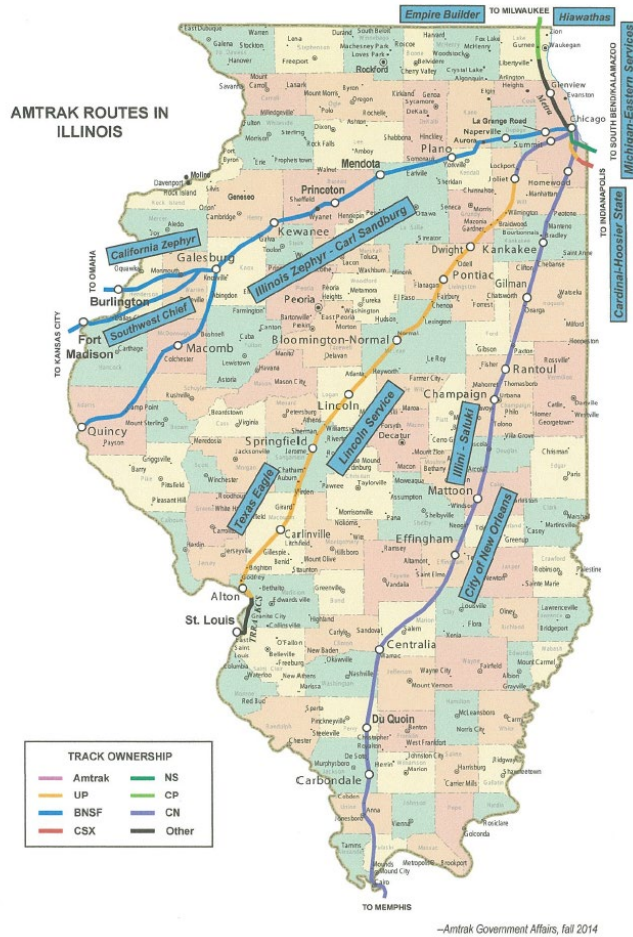
**High Speed Rail Commission**  
**Scott Speegle**  
**Illinois Department of Transportation**



[www.idohtsr.org](http://www.idohtsr.org)  
[www.illinoisrail.org](http://www.illinoisrail.org)

# Passenger Rail in Illinois

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- Amtrak operates 56 daily trains in and through Illinois.
- Amtrak serves nearly 5 million riders at Illinois stations.
- Illinois subsidizes 30 state-sponsored trains that provide service in 4 regional corridors, with 2 million annual riders.

## Chicago - St. Louis *Lincoln Service*

- 4 daily round trips

## Chicago – Quincy *IL Zephyr/Carl Sandburg*

- 2 daily round trips

## Chicago – Carbondale *Illini/Saluki*

- 2 daily round trips

## Chicago – Milwaukee *Hiawatha Service*

(jointly supported with WisDOT)

- 7 daily round trips (6 on Sundays)

**Chicago  
to St. Louis  
Corridor  
with  
9 stops in  
between**



**Current  
Improvements**  
Between Joliet &  
East St. Louis

**13 Counties**  
Cook, DuPage, Will, Grundy, Livingston,  
McLean, Logan, Sangamon, Macoupin, Jersey,  
Madison, St. Clair, and St. Louis

# Budget: \$1.95 Billion

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> Track & Structures	\$637 Million	33%
> Grade Crossings, Fencing, Overhead Bridges	\$194 Million	10%
> Real Estate	\$40 Million	2%
> Stations	\$35 Million	2%
> Rolling Stock/Equipment	\$609 Million	31%
> Signal & Communications	\$205 Million	11%
> Professional Services	\$231 Million	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.951 Billion</b>	<b>100%</b>

*Note: This summary does not include Tier 1 and Tier 2 EIS's, Joliet Multimodal, or other individual projects.*

- Installation of new rail, concrete ties and related components
- Upgrades made to bridges and culverts, drainage and signaling systems
- New sidings and sections of double track
- Major safety upgrades at crossings with four-quadrant gates and loop detectors
- New stations open in Joliet, Dwight, Pontiac, Carlinville, and Alton. Renovated station in Lincoln. Improvements to station in Springfield.

An aerial photograph showing two parallel railway tracks. The track on the right is under rehabilitation, featuring modern grey concrete sleepers. A yellow maintenance vehicle is positioned on this track. The track on the left has older wooden sleepers. The surrounding area is a mix of gravel and green vegetation.

Rehabilitating  
the mainline track

# Before & After





A photograph of a steel truss bridge with concrete piers crossing a river. The bridge has a reddish-brown metal railing. The left bank is a steep embankment covered in grey gravel. The right bank is covered in dry yellow straw. The background is filled with lush green trees under a blue sky with white clouds. The text "Repair and improve bridges" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Repair and improve** bridges

# Drainage improvements



Reduce  
track-related  
accidents



# Fencing



**212**  
crossings  
completed



# Four-quadrant gates



# ADA compliant pedestrian gates



**Dwight**



**Pontiac**



**Carlinville**



**Alton**

**Lincoln**

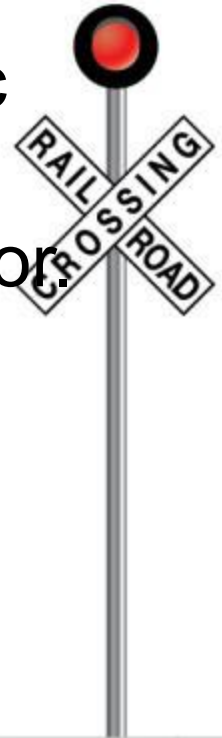




# Chicago to St. Louis High Speed Rail Project

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- 90 mph schedule went into effect December 2021.
- IDOT continues to work with our partners (Federal Railroad Administration, Union Pacific Railroad, Amtrak) on the implementation of 110 mph service on the Chicago to St. Louis corridor.
- We expect 110 mph service will be initiated in Summer 2023.
- Remaining infrastructure improvements near Midewin in environmental process.



# 'Rebuild Illinois' Capital Plan

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- \$45B capital plan for infrastructure, state facilities, education, and environmental projects
- Passed by IL General Assembly and signed into law by Gov. Pritzker in June 2019.
- Rail highlights:
  - Additional \$225M for Chicago-Quad Cities service expansion project
  - \$275M to reinstate Chicago-Rockford service expansion project
  - \$100M for Chicago-Carbondale corridor improvements
  - \$122M for Springfield 10<sup>th</sup> St Improvement project
  - \$400M for the Chicago CREATE program



- » Chicago to Quad Cities Rail Project (IDOT lead)
- » Chicago to Rockford Rail Project (IDOT)
- » Chicago to Carbondale Rail Improvements Project (IDOT)
- » Chicago to Peoria Rail Project (Peoria)
- » Springfield 10<sup>th</sup> Street Improvement Project (Springfield)

# Venture Cars

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- » 88 Siemens Venture cars ordered
  - 54 coach cars – 70 seats
  - 17 business/coach cars – 36 business class seats and 16 coach class seats.
  - 17 café/coach cars – 30 seats
- » 68 cars have been delivered to IDOT
  - 54 coach cars & 14 business/coach cars
  - 44 fully accepted and able to be in revenue service
- » Café/coach cars to begin to be delivered in 2023.



# Venture Cars

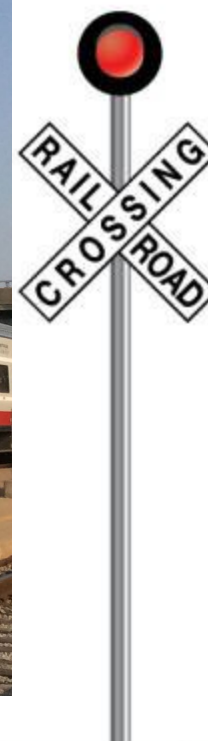
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- » Improved car amenities
  - Triple capacity for bicycle storage
  - Double capacity for business class passengers
  - Bright, modern, fully accessible lavatories
  - ADA wide aisles
  - Free Wi-Fi with antennas in each car



# Venture Car

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# Venture Car



# Venture Car

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# Venture Car

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26.08.2020  
Nikon D3400, 18mm, f/3.5, 1/200s

# Venture Car

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# Venture Car



# Venture Car



# Venture Car



Nikon D3400, 18mm, f/3.5, 1/160s



Nikon D3400, 18mm, f/3.5, 1/125s

# Venture Car



26.08.2020

Nikon D3400, 18mm, f/5.6, 1/30s



26.08.2020

Nikon D3400, 18mm, f/3.5, 1/160s



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# Thank you!