



## Union Pacific Third Mainline-Proviso Yard Fact Sheet

**Project Number:** B2

**Location:** From near 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Melrose Park west along the Union Pacific (UP) right of way to the west end of Proviso Yard near I-294.

**Scope of Work:** Construct a 3.5-mile third main track on the UP Geneva Subdivision, including construction of a new railroad bridge over Addison Creek, allowing for increased speed on the current connection between the Indiana Harbor Belt (IHB) and UP. The project will construct a new flyover connection from the IHB to the UP, which will cross over the UP main line tracks and connect with the new third main track and Proviso Yard.

Control points will be reconfigured at three locations, along with associated signaling for the new main track. The proposed improvement also will upgrade the connection track between the UP and IHB from 10 mph to 20 mph.

This project will include station improvements to Metra passenger stations on the UP-W line at Berkeley and Bellwood as a result of the addition of the new third main line track. Passenger station improvements will include construction of a pedestrian underpass at each of the stations.

### **Daily Trains Affected:**

Metra – 59 trains

Freight -- 60 trains (CN, CP, IHB, CSX, UP, and NS)

### **Benefits:**

The project increases the number of simultaneous train movements and routing options possible, benefiting both passenger and freight traffic. Freight trains will have an additional track for mobility during Metra rush hour and will avoid standing delays of 3 to 4 hours, which are common during these periods when Metra has priority. The Indiana Harbor Belt connects to the UP main line and into Proviso Yard at the east end of the project. Current schedules require that Metra has access to both main tracks for operation in both directions during these peak periods, and freight trains are held stationary while waiting for route availability. Conversely, when a freight train proceeds but is unable to clear the location in the time allowed, Metra trains often experience delays. Once completed, Metra trains will be able to operate unimpeded on two main tracks, while freight trains utilize the third main line, and be able to operate around

slow-moving freight trains entering or leaving Proviso Yard. Additionally, freight trains will be able to traverse the area more freely. The pedestrian underpasses at the Metra stations will facilitate safe and efficient movement of commuters from the parking lot to the center platform without crossing the tracks at grade.

Communities Benefited

- Elmhurst, Melrose Park, Bellwood and Berkeley

**Project Status:**

Phase I – NEPA – Preliminary Design (30% Design)	Phase II – Final PS&E*	Phase III - Construction
<i>Complete</i>	<i>Underway</i>	

\*Plans, Specifications & Estimates

**Project Location Map**

