



CREATE

KEEPING THE GO IN CHICAGO

EW1

Clearing Main Lines

Location

Belt Railway of Chicago (BRC) Clearing Yard from IHB/BRC connection at the intersection of 65th and 76th Avenue to the intersection of 75th and St. Louis Avenue in Chicago, Summit, Bedford Park and Bridgeview, IL.

Chicago Community Areas: Ashburn, Chicago Lawn, Clearing, and West Lawn.

Daily Trains Affected

Clearing Yard processes 25 inbound and 30 outbound trains per day.

Scope of Work

Project EW1 will construct two new 4.8-mile main tracks around the south side of Clearing Yard, in Bedford Park and Chicago between Harlem Avenue and St. Louis Avenue in Chicago. The project will install crossovers and turnouts at the CP West Subdivision, CP Central and CP East End. This project will provide three new control points that include the installation of a series of crossovers.

Project EW1 includes yard improvements to offset the loss of yard capacity due to the new main lines. Yard work includes realignment of switching lead tracks, run-through tracks, tracks leading to the hump used to classify cars, and construction of additional departure yard tracks. All of this work will be within the existing railroad right-of-way.

Benefits

Project EW1 will increase speed and efficiency of through trains traversing Clearing Yard. The proposed main lines around Clearing Yard do not currently exist, and when constructed will enable trains to travel on the new route at 25 mph along the south side of the yard. Yard capacity improvements to an interlocking at the east end of Clearing Yard will allow for multiple simultaneous train movements.

The additional capacity of this new corridor will more evenly distribute trains throughout the regional rail network and reduce the burden on the congested existing corridors (Beltway and Western Avenue). In addition, the new corridor provides critical redundancy in the regional rail network by providing a new east-west route through the region. In the event of maintenance work

