

Clearing Main Lines

January 2022

SCOPE OF WORK

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

Additional yard improvements will be made to offset the loss of yard capacity due to the new main lines. Yard work will realign switching lead tracks, run-through tracks, tracks leading to the hump used to classify cars and construction of additional departure yard tracks. This work will take place 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 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 the Clearing Yard will also allow for multiple simultaneous train movements.

The additional capacity of this new corridor will better 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. This improved route will allow freight train flows to be maintained in the event of maintenance work or service disruptions along the existing corridors.

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

Daily Trains Affected

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

Communities Benefited

Bedford Park, Bridgeview, IL
Cook County

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

PROJECT STATUS

Phase I NEPA – Preliminary Design	Phase II Final Plans, Specifications and Estimates	Phase III Construction
Complete	Complete	Not Started

PROJECT LOCATION MAP

