

# BRC and NS Signalization

January 2023

## SCOPE OF WORK

This project upgraded the Belt Railway Company of Chicago (BRC) and Norfolk Southern (NS) signal systems to power switches and signals and connected the two systems. Minor track realignment and grading were also performed.

## BENEFITS

This improvement has allowed train speeds to double, increasing from 10 to 20 miles per hour. The bottleneck at this location is now significantly alleviated as this segment can handle twice the number of trains, increasing from 23 to 46 freight trains per day. Amtrak trains running on the NS Chicago Subdivision are benefited by freight trains leaving the NS Chicago mainline to enter the BRC mainline at higher speeds, reducing the potential for conflict.

### Location

Near the intersection of 95<sup>th</sup> Street and Commercial Street to the Calumet River  
Chicago, IL

### Daily Trains Affected

78 Freight Trains  
14 Amtrak Trains  
(Serving states to the East)

### Communities Benefited

Chicago Community Areas:  
Calumet Heights, East Side,  
South Chicago, and  
South Deering

## PROJECT PHOTOS



Norfolk Southern main tracks looking west



86<sup>th</sup> Street and the Chicago Skyway signal looking east toward the Calumet River double-tracked lift bridge/BRC connection.

PROJECT STATUS

Phase I NEPA – Preliminary Design	Phase II Final Plans, Specifications and Estimates	Phase III Construction
Completed	Completed	Completed in July 2008

PROJECT LOCATION MAP

