



TCMC SECOND TRAIN RECEIVES \$31.8 MILLION FEDERAL CAPITAL GRANT

On Sept. 23, 2020, the US Secretary of Transportation announced a \$31.8 million grant through the Federal Railroad Administration for Wisconsin and Minnesota to be used for final design and construction of freight rail track and signal improvements in and around Winona MN, La Crescent MN, and La Crosse WI. The improvements will accommodate the Twin Cities-Milwaukee-Chicago (TCMC) Second Train, a daily round trip passenger train between the Twin Cities and Chicago along the existing Amtrak Empire Builder route. This leaves the state of Minnesota as the only uncommitted partner in making the project a reality.

TCMC CAPITAL BUDGET - MN	TCMC CAPITAL BUDGET - WI	TOTAL
\$26.9M Federal (COMMITTED)	\$4.9M Federal (COMMITTED)	\$31.8M Federal
\$10M Minnesota (NOT COMMITTED)	\$6.2M Wisconsin (COMMITTED)	\$16.2M Local
\$3.8M Amtrak (COMMITTED)	\$1.2M Amtrak (COMMITTED)	\$5M Amtrak
\$40.7M Minnesota Project Cost	\$12.3M Wisconsin Project Cost	\$53M Total

Additional support: Federal Railroad Administration awarded \$12.569 million to the project for startup operating costs, Amtrak has committed to capital upgrade of the Winona station platform, Canadian Pacific Railway fully supported the federal grant application for rail infrastructure improvements.

Legislative Bonding Request

\$10 million is requested of the Minnesota Legislature. The state will receive, in return, more than \$40 million in track and signal improvements in Winona and La Crescent, Minnesota that will benefit both freight and passenger rail. This request is urgent as the FRA expects Second Train project managers to secure matching funds and execute the grant agreement by September 30, 2021.

Project Benefits

- Create jobs and generate economic growth
- Provide safe, reliable, relaxing, productive, affordable alternative to driving or flying
- Improve access to tourism, colleges, events, and more!
- Improve freight train speed and efficiency
- Improve safety at roadway crossings

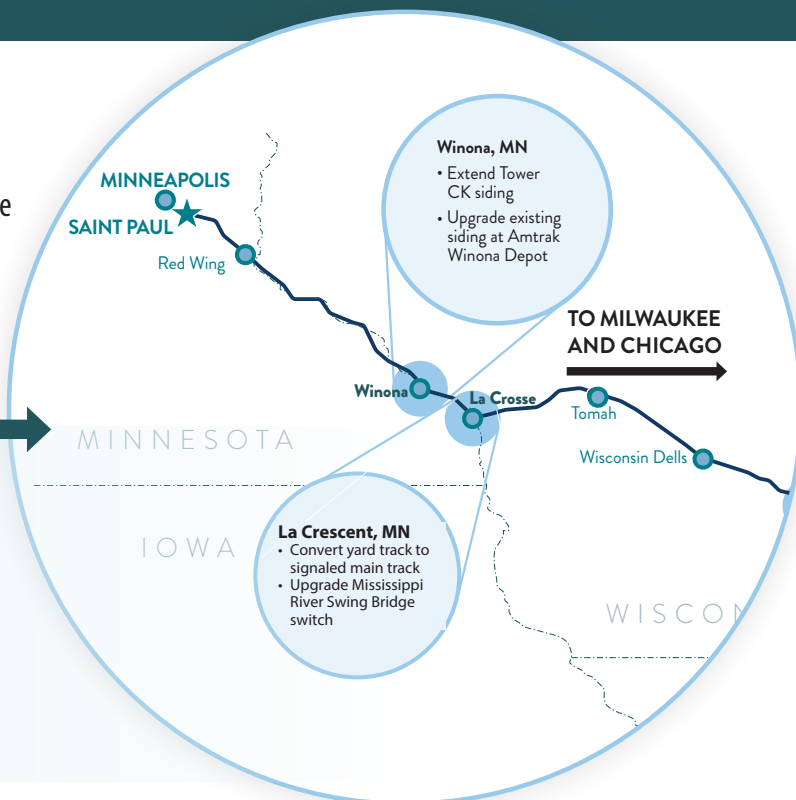
MINNESOTA IMPROVEMENTS

\$19.3 million in siding track and station access improvements in Winona

\$15.8 million for track and switch improvements in River Junction in La Crescent

\$5.0 million for special track work on the Mississippi Swing Bridge near La Crescent

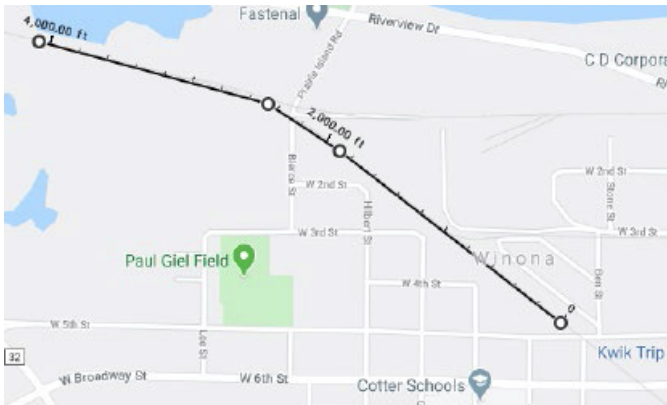
\$0.5 million for improvements to the Midway Facility in St. Paul





TCMC Second Train Improvements in Minnesota Improve Speed, Efficiency and Safety

Project Location: Tower CK in Winona, Minnesota

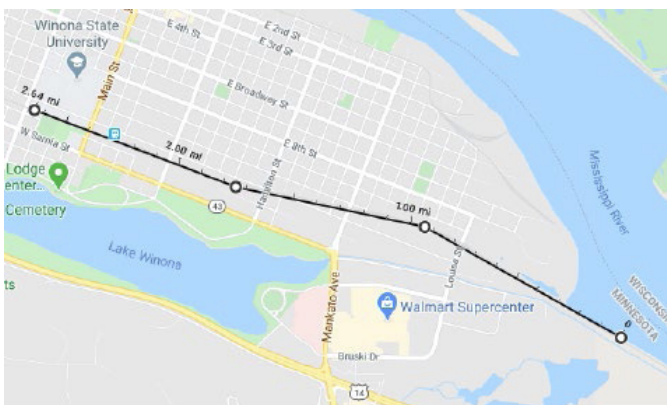


Construct new siding track connecting the main track to the CP Waseca Subdivision over ½ mile east, with power switches and signals, to alleviate congestion west of the Winona Depot.

Construct 3,260 feet of new track, reconstruct at grade crossing with Bierce Street and install four new turnouts, railroad signals and communications.

Estimated cost in 2020 dollars: \$9.1 million

Project Location: Winona Siding in Winona, Minnesota

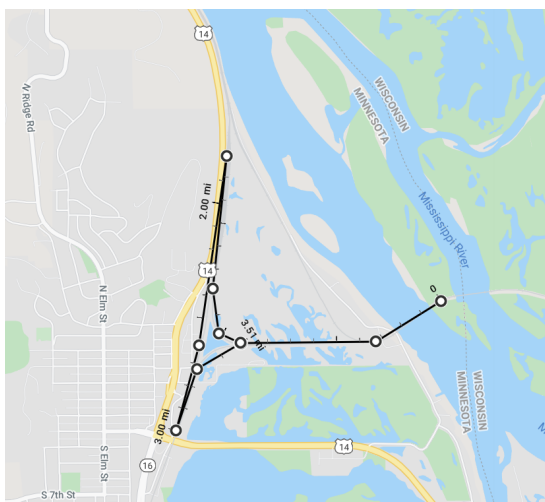


Upgrade an existing siding track with power switches and signals to allow more efficient train meets and the ability to clear the main track more quickly and efficiently; improve safety for passengers who can board the train from the track adjacent to the platform instead of walking across tracks. Note: The Winona Station platform will be improved by Amtrak through a separate project.

Rehabilitate 11,862 feet of existing siding track, install two new turnouts, railroad signals and communications.

Estimated cost in 2020 dollars: \$10.2 million

Project Location: River Junction in La Crescent, Minnesota



Convert an un-signalized yard track to a signalized second main track. Power switches would be installed at the junction with the Marquette Subdivision. The alignment of the Bridge Switch would be modified to allow for increased train speeds through the switch, and the new main track speeds would be increased from 10 mph to 25 mph. Realign track approaches and replace special bridge track work at moveable points to increase freight speed on the Mississippi River Swing Bridge from 10 mph to 15 mph.

Construct 5,612 feet of new mainline track, 2,162 feet of new wye connection track, and upgrade 1,470 feet of yard track and 1,500 feet of special track work. Install 14 new turnouts, railroad signals and communications.

Estimated cost in 2020 dollars: \$20.8 million