

News Release



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AMTRAK IS WORKING ON THE RAILROAD IN 2010 \$1 billion construction program funds projects to improve reliability, safety and security

WASHINGTON – As the 2010 construction season gets underway, Amtrak is embarking on \$1 billion construction program to fund capital projects designed to rebuild, upgrade and modernize its tracks, bridges, stations and other critical infrastructure along the busy Northeast Corridor and across the country, including Chicago, Los Angeles, Seattle and the Miami area.

“We are investing in our infrastructure to improve the reliability, safety and security of our operations and support the growing demand to travel by Amtrak,” said President and CEO Joseph Boardman, noting America’s passenger railroad posted record ridership numbers for the first six-months of this fiscal year.

Boardman explained Amtrak intends to spend \$420 million from its FY 2010 annual capital program and \$590 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to fund the infrastructure projects that will be underway this construction season.

Along the Northeast Corridor (Washington – New York – Boston), Amtrak is performing extensive work on a number of railroad bridges, including the start of a major, multiyear project to replace the movable Niantic River Bridge in East Lyme, Conn., which has been in operation since 1907. In addition, a multiyear project in New York along the Hell Gate Line (New York Penn Station - New Rochelle) to replace and modernize the overhead catenary wires and other electrical equipment – some of which date from 1914 – is scheduled to be completed.

Also in the Northeast, a major renovation of the historic Wilmington, Del., station is continuing, approximately 198,000 cross ties are being replaced, and the northbound platform at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport station is being extended to accommodate more than double the current number of passenger rail cars to improve boarding and alighting from the train, among many other projects.

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Elsewhere across the country, Amtrak is making major upgrades to its train equipment inspection and maintenance facilities in Los Angeles, Seattle and Hialeah, Fla., near Miami. At the Chicago and New Orleans terminals, the tracks will be returned to a state of good repair. Also in Chicago, electric heaters will be installed at track switches to ensure the reliability of winter operations. In Sanford, Fla., near Orlando, work is continuing on a multiyear project to significantly expand the southern terminus of Amtrak's popular *Auto Train* service on which passengers can bring their personal vehicles along for the ride.

Currently, 94 percent of Amtrak passengers board at ADA-accessible stations and this year the railroad plans to make additional accessibility improvements at numerous locations across its 529-station network, including the installation of wheelchair lifts and upgrades to platforms and parking lots. In addition, Amtrak is moving forward aggressively to upgrade and expand the use of its Positive Train Control collision prevention safety technology on tracks it owns along the Northeast Corridor and in Michigan and is enhancing security by implementing measures to harden stations, bridges and tunnels, among many other projects.

The attached chart provides additional information on select Amtrak infrastructure projects under construction in 2010.

About Amtrak

As the nation's intercity passenger rail operator, Amtrak connects America in safer, greener and healthier ways. Last fiscal year (FY 2009), the railroad carried 27.2 million passengers, making it the second-best year in the company's history. With 21,000 route miles in 46 states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian provinces, Amtrak operates more than 300 trains each day—at speeds up to 150 mph (241 kph)—to more than 500 destinations. Amtrak also is the partner of choice for state-supported corridor services in 15 states and for several commuter rail agencies. Visit Amtrak.com or call 800-USA-RAIL for schedules, fares and more information.

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SELECT AMTRAK INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN 2010

LOCATION	CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS
California	Structures	Upgrade Amtrak train equipment inspection and maintenance facility in Los Angeles, Calif.
Connecticut	Structures	Replace 1907 movable Niantic River Bridge East Lyme; Rehabilitate East and West Harbor Bridges in Stonington
	Tracks	Replace more than 63,000 cross ties
Delaware	Structures	Continue major renovation of Wilmington station
	Equipment	Restore and rehabilitate 60 out-of-service passenger rail cars at Amtrak shop in Bear, Del.
District of Columbia	Electric Traction	Build new electric substation in Ivy City Yard and install six miles of transmission lines from it to Landover, Md.
Florida	Structures	Upgrade Amtrak train equipment inspection and maintenance facility in Hialeah, Fla., near Miami; Continue expansion of <i>Auto Train</i> station in Sanford, Fla.
Illinois	Track	Chicago terminal: Return the tracks to a state of good repair and install electric heaters to ensure reliability of track switches during winter operations
Indiana	Equipment	Restore and rehabilitate 21 out-of-service passenger cars and 15 locomotives at Amtrak shop in Beech Grove, Ind.
Louisiana	Track	New Orleans terminal: Return the tracks to a state of good repair
Maryland	Electric Traction	Renew 40 miles of overhead catenary lines; Replace five aging electrical transformers at substations in Landover and Severn, Md.
	Track	Replace more than 121,000 cross ties
	Structures	Extend northbound platform at BWI airport station
Massachusetts	Electric Traction	Install two miles overhead catenary wire near Readville
Michigan	Signals	Extend ITCS Positive Train Control System by 32 miles; Install new fiber optic cable for communications / signals
New Jersey	Electric Traction	Upgrade 1920s-era Metuchen Frequency Converter that supplies electricity to Northeast Corridor tracks
	Track and Signals	Continue Dock Interlocking replacement project which will eventually allow remote control from New York
New York	Electric Traction	Hell Gate Line (New York City – New Rochelle): Replace overhead catenary wire and other electrical equipment dating from 1914
	Structures	Install air vent shafts in the East and North River tunnels that connect to New York Penn station; Rehabilitate Pelham Bay Bridge in the Bronx; Demolish vacant Albany-Rensselaer station

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LOCATION	CATEGORY	PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS
Pennsylvania	Electric Traction	Renew 18 miles of overhead catenary wire; Replace 1936-era electrical transmission line between Safe Harbor and Atglen
	Highway-Rail Grade Crossings	Harrisburg Line (Philadelphia – Harrisburg): Construct barriers to close two private grade crossings near Mt. Joy
Rhode Island	Track	Various improvements associated with the RIDOT South County Commuter Service project; Replace nearly 14,000 cross ties
Washington	Structures	Upgrade Amtrak train equipment inspection and maintenance facility in Seattle, Wash.
Multiple States	Structures	Upgrade numerous stations across the country to improve ADA-accessibility and compliance
	Track and Signals	Upgrade and expand ACSES Positive Train Control System installations between Washington and New York
	Security	Enhance security by implementing measures to harden stations, bridges and tunnels across the country