



# CREATE Program Update

**T. H. E. Conference**  
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Beth McCluskey, Director  
Office of Intermodal Project Implementation  
Illinois Department of Transportation

Michael Kowalczyk, CREATE Program Manager  
Federal Highway Administration  
Illinois Division-Chicago Office

# CREATE Partners



Illinois Department of Transportation



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# What is CREATE?

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A \$4.4 billion Public-Private Partnership (PPP) designed to improve transportation flow through Chicago focusing on:

- Increased capacity, speed, reliability for freight train traffic
- Separation of freight & commuter trains at 6 key junctions
- Elimination of 25 road/rail grade crossings (grade separations)

CREATE is a cooperative project involving:

- US Department of Transportation (FHWA & FRA)
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
- Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- 6 major North American freight rail carriers and 2 switching railroads
- 2 passenger carriers (Amtrak and Metra)
- Cook County (75<sup>th</sup> CIP)

# CREATE Program – 70 Projects on 4 Corridors

- 25 road/rail grade separations
- 6 passenger/freight rail grade separations
- Railroad projects to improve rail infrastructure and upgrade technologies
- Viaduct improvement program
- Grade crossing safety enhancements
- Rail operations and visibility improvements



Passenger Corridors  
East-West Corridor  
Beltway Corridor  
Western Ave. Corridor

# Why CREATE? U.S. Rail depends on Chicago

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Freight rail trade (by value) with Chicago will more than double from 2012 to 2045\*

The region must improve freight movement and mitigate negative impacts

25% of all U.S. rail traffic touches Chicago

44% of all intermodal units in the U.S. touch Chicago

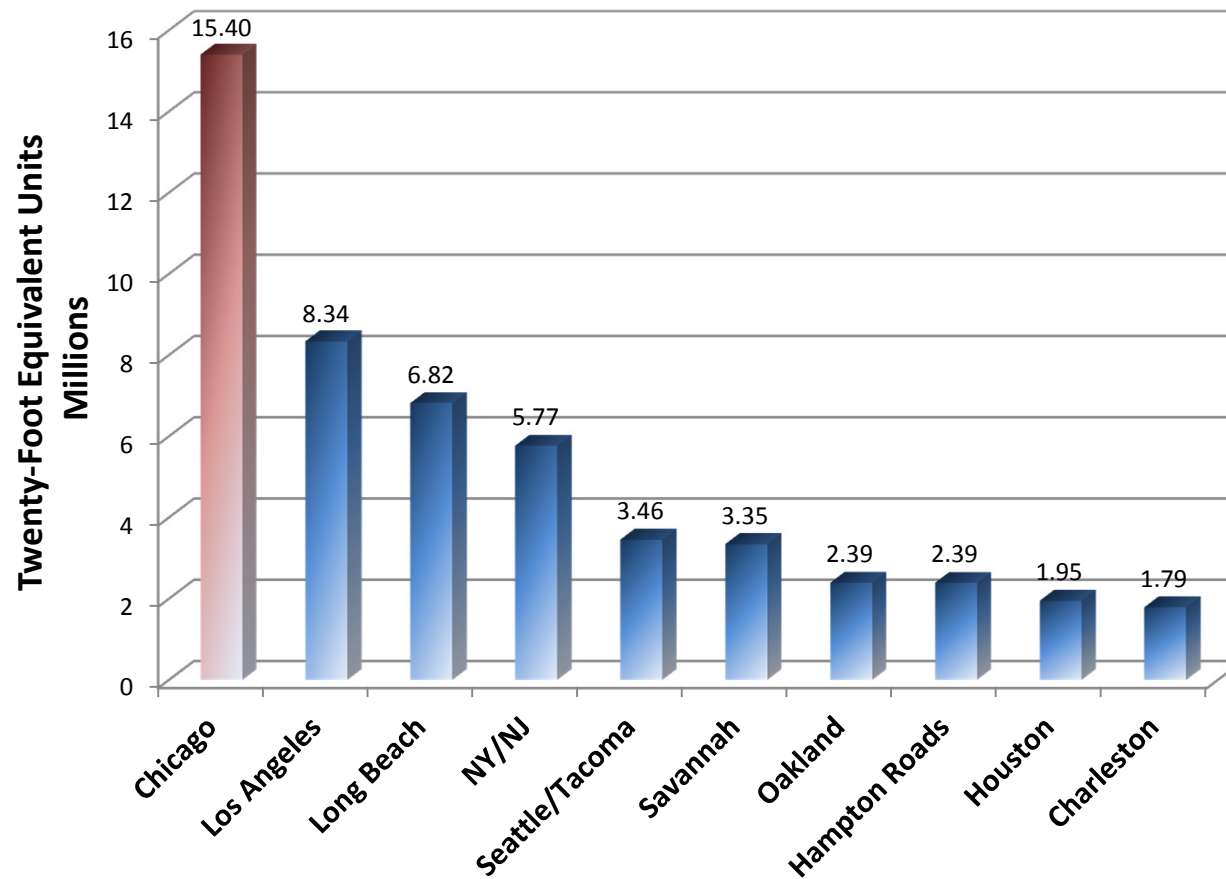
68% of intermodal units to/from the ports of Seattle/Tacoma touch Chicago

45% of intermodal units to/from Los Angeles/Long Beach touch Chicago

*"Global trade follows the path of least resistance. It will go where there are the fewest impediments." -UPS*

\*U.S. DOT Freight Analysis Framework 4.0

# Top U.S. Container Ports, 2014



Source: Chicago – Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Freight Snapshot; American Association of Port Authorities, 2014

# 70 CREATE Projects → 30-Year Benefits of **\$31.5 Billion**

## Rail Benefits

### Economic Growth

Chicago can accommodate growth in passenger and freight trains

### Fewer Delays

Reduced delay to passenger and freight trains

### Cost Savings

Reduced shipping costs may be passed on to consumers

### Increased Safety

Elimination of rail – roadway conflicts at 25 grade crossing sites

## Roadway Benefits

### Fewer Delays

Reduced delay to vehicles from eliminating 25 grade crossings

### Sustainability

Reduced fuel consumption and emissions

### Reduced Congestion

Fewer trucks on the roadways

# CREATE Economic Benefits

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- Passenger train delay reduced by over 1.3 million passenger hours annually
- 92,000 hours of truck delay and 230,000 hours of motorist and bus passenger delay will be saved
- 200 vehicle crashes with trains will be avoided
- 2,800 metric tons/year avoided emissions from idling vehicles
- Enable extra 50,000 freight trains to travel through the greater Chicago rail network annually
- 122 million tons of freight per year would travel by rail, avoiding 18,500 truck trips per day on highways

Source: CREATE economic benefits study conducted by Cambridge Systematics, 2015

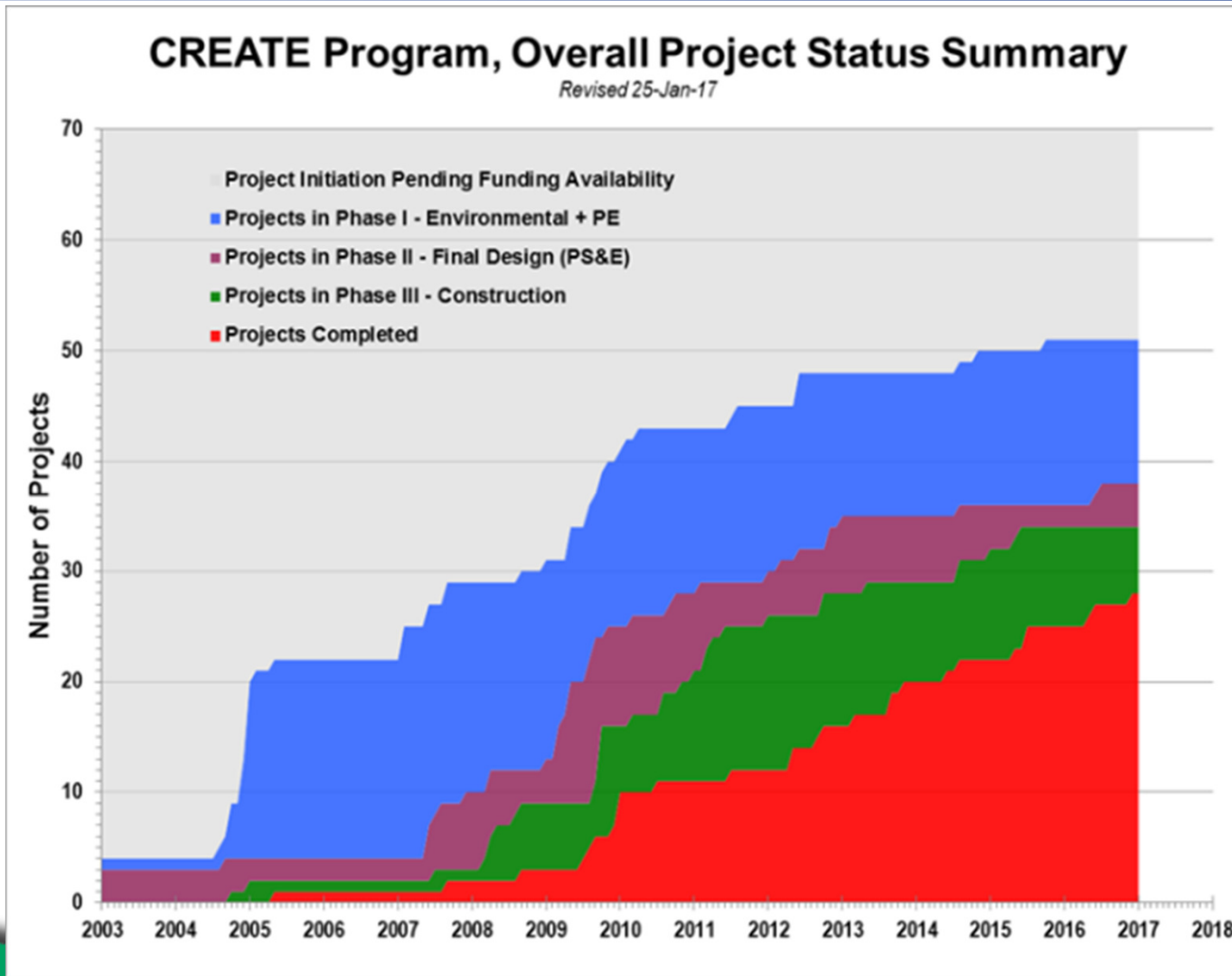


# Program of Projects Status

Completed Projects	28
Under Construction	6
Final Design	4
Environmental Review	13
Remaining Projects	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70</b>

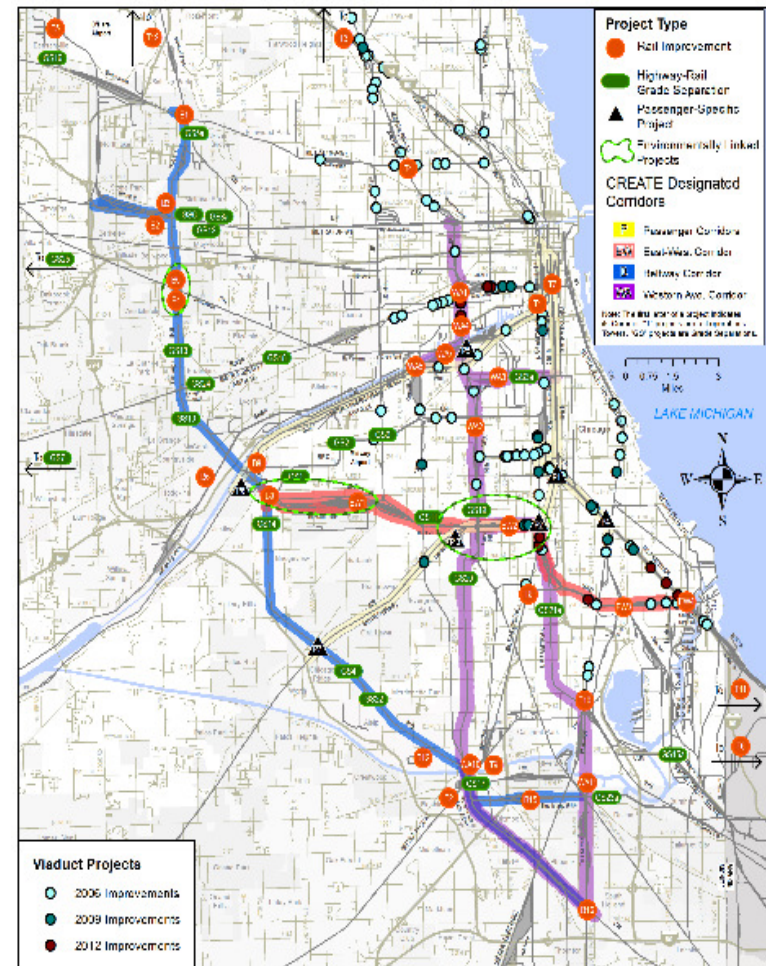


# Project Status Summary



# Viaduct Program

- Locations in the City of Chicago
- Improved roadways, sidewalks and drainage under railroad viaducts
- Enhanced safety and security for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists
- 37 locations completed in 2006
- 14 locations completed in 2012 (USDOT TIGER funding, \$5 million)
- 11 completed in 2015/2016 (State of Illinois funding)



# CREATE Commitments Received To Date

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## Federal - \$435 Million

- TIGER I & TIGER IV Grants
- SAFETEA-LU PNRS Grant
- ARRA High Speed Rail Grant
- Railroad Relocation Grant
- FRA STEP

## State - \$480 Million

- Illinois DOT (Illinois Jobs Now!, ICC, PNRS/TIGER match, grade separations)

## Railroad - \$365 Million

- Railroad partners (railroad infrastructure, grade separations)

## Local Governments - \$136 million

- Chicago DOT, Cook County & other local governments (viaduct improvements, grade separations, land acquisition)

# CREATE Next Steps

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- Continue to leverage all funding opportunities
- Promote and advocate for 75<sup>th</sup> Street CIP
- Complete:
  - Remaining Rail Corridor Projects
  - Remaining Passenger-Freight Rail Flyover Projects
  - Remaining Grade Separation Projects

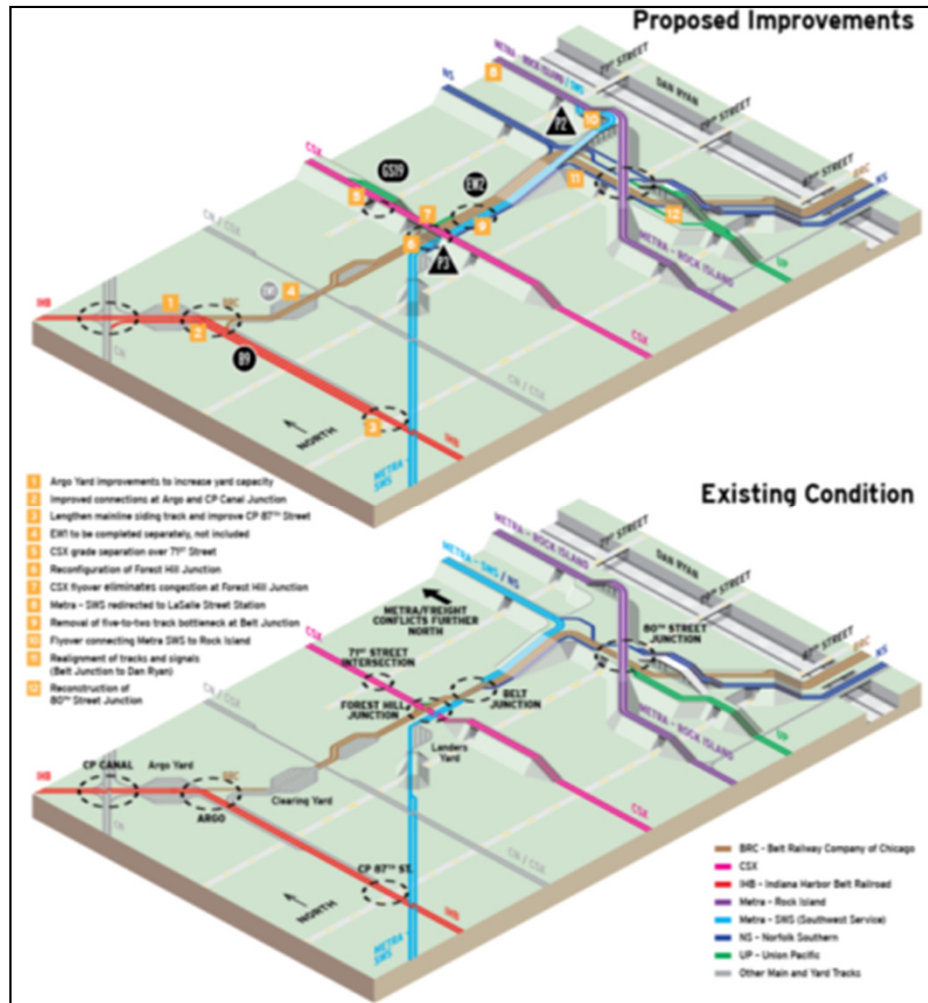
# 75th St. Corridor Improvement Project (75<sup>th</sup> St. CIP)

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- FASTLANE application seeks \$160 million federal to leverage public and private funding for total of \$475 million
- Goal: to fix the most complex and congested segment of North American railroad, the 75th Street CIP and the Argo Connections project (referred to as B9)



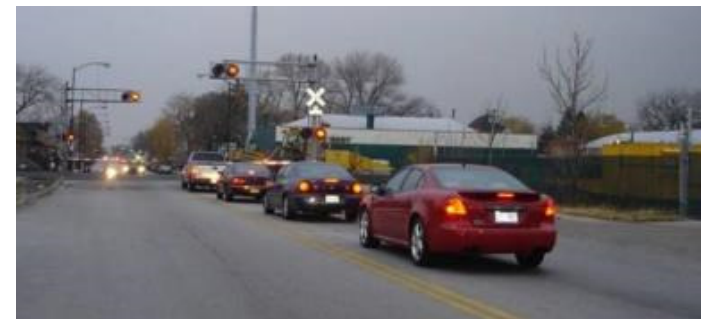
# 75th St. CIP Conditions



# 75th St. CIP Benefits

Five inter-related project elements central to streamline and expand the throughput capacity of the Chicago Terminal

The Chicago terminal: Six Class I railroads converge and share track with 10 Metra commuter lines and 12 Amtrak routes





# FAST Act Impacts: 2017 Continuing Resolution

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Continuing Resolution (CR) enacted when regular appropriations are not prior to the start of any FFY (10/1) and may be used to provide stop-gap funding until the annual appropriation process can be concluded.

A CR provides funding at rate of the previous FFY.

Status: Congress enacted a second CR to provide funding through 4/28/2017.

*FASTLANE projects for FFY 2017 will be awarded but the timeline remains unclear. The national award amount likely restricted to \$800 million.*

## Rail Program Impacts:

Competitive rail grant programs authorized by the FAST Act not funded in FFY 2016:

- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)
- State of Good Repair
- Restoration and Enhancement Grants
- Positive Train Control

# CREATE Future funding

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## Uncertainty of federal discretionary grants

- Timing
- Amount Available

## Federal freight formula funding

## Illinois' Transportation Lockbox potential

# Doing Business with CREATE

- All CREATE bid advertisements on website (CDOT, IDOT, Railroads, Metra)
- Email distribution list notification
- Interested contractor listing
- Types of work expected to be contracted out by CREATE
- Bid Awards

The screenshot shows the 'Doing Business with CREATE' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, About CREATE, CREATE Projects, Doing Business, and Press Room. Below the navigation bar, the page is divided into two main columns. The left column contains a 'Quick Links' section with a sign-up form for email notifications, and links for 'Upcoming Events' and 'Types of Work'. The right column features a large 'BUSINESS' header, followed by the title 'Doing Business with CREATE'. Below this, there are several links: 'Safety Requirement for Contractors', 'Types of work expected to be contracted out by CREATE', 'CREATE Bid Advertisements/RFPs', and 'CREATE Bid Awards'. A section titled 'Upcoming Events' is also present. Further down, there is a section for 'Join Our CREATE Contractor/Supplier List', which includes a brief description and a link to a list updated on September 12, 2014. At the bottom of this section, there is a form for contractors/suppliers to be listed in the CREATE database, with fields for 'Company/Organization', 'Contact Name', and 'Contact Email'.



**E-mail:** [info@createprogram.org](mailto:info@createprogram.org)  
**Website:** [www.createprogram.org](http://www.createprogram.org)

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