



NICTD WEST LAKE CORRIDOR NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2023
PROJECT UPDATE NEWSLETTER

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The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District's (NICTD) existing South Shore Line (SSL) provides a vital transportation link that connects Northwest Indiana to Chicago and Cook County, Illinois. NICTD, along with the contractor, F.H. Paschen Ragnar Benson JV (FHP/RB) is currently constructing the West Lake Corridor Project as a southern branch extension of the South Shore Line to reach high-growth areas in Lake County, Indiana. The Project will expand NICTD's service coverage, improve mobility and accessibility, and stimulate local job creation and economic development opportunities for Lake County.

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Hammond Gateway Station



**F. H. PASCHEN
RAGNAR BENSON
JOINT VENTURE**

Current and upcoming construction activities include:

Civil Construction

- Erosion control continues to be installed at project-specific construction areas.
- Municipal utility relocations are nearing completion in the City of Hammond and Town of Munster.
- Grading, utilities and track work will be completed crossing Sheffield Avenue this fall.
- Hammond Gateway Station site development is close to complete.
- Munster-Dyer Southeast Parking lot earthwork and drainage is complete. Underground electric to be installed in late 2023.
- Munster-Dyer Southwest Parking lot detention pond excavation complete. Final grading and paving to be completed in Spring of 2024.
- 165th Street grade crossing is complete with track panels.
- New Allman Street and Wabash Street are paved and will open for traffic December 2023.
- MSF yard construction is underway. AOC material has been hauled away per the remediation plan. Final closeout material disposal to be completed later this winter as electrical utilities are completed. Pond excavation, liner and rip rap has been installed. Site fill continues as areas are opened from bridge installation. Track sub-ballasting will begin in mid to late December.
- Rail bed construction from Douglas Street to Fisher Street is complete. Track is installed from Douglas to Fisher Street with a gap at the Little Calumet.

Station Construction

- Hammond South Shore Line station work is moving to completion this fall.
- Hammond Gateway - Precast structures and Structural Steel for the SSL Platform have been erected and roofing is anticipated to begin near the end of the 4th quarter.
- Conduit/raceways are in place and handrails installation are complete. Warming hut storefront is anticipated to be completed during the 4th quarter at South Hammond Station
- Munster Ridge structural and miscellaneous steel is complete. The roofing is anticipated to be completed in the 4th quarter.

- Hammond Gateway – WL precast structures and structural steel will be completed in the 4th quarter.
- EALM premanufactured building has been erected including installation of wall panels and roofing.
- Munster Ridge station structure is complete. Roofing will begin in December. Munster Ridge parking lot grading and paving was completed in November 2023.

Structure Construction

- Substructure construction continues in the City of Hammond and the Town of Munster.
- Bridge erection and concrete superstructure construction continues in the City of Hammond and the Town of Munster
- Precast retaining wall construction is complete in the City of Hammond.
- Precast retaining wall construction in ongoing in the Town of Munster.

Systems Construction

- Conduit raceways continue to be installed throughout the project limits for communication systems.
- Conduit raceway installation are underway on elevated structures and bridges.
- Installation of catenary poles for Overhead Contact Systems has started.
- Installation of crossing devices at grade crossings has begun.
- Lateral fiber installations are underway in the middle area of the project limits.
- Underground work at the future rail alignment continues to progress in Hammond and Munster.
- Foundations for Traction Power Substations have begun and will continue through the 4th quarter.

Rail Construction

- Rail construction is complete from Douglas Street to Fisher Street. Track panels and finish pavement have been installed at Waltham, Detroit, Kenwood, Conkey, and Highland, 165th, 173rd Street, Ridge Road and Fisher Street. Track is gapped awaiting installation of bridge over Little Calumet.
- Turnout installation has started south of 173rd Street. Track installation 173rd Street south to Ridge Road will be completed when the bridge over Little Calumet was completed in November.
- Additional rail is to be delivered south of Fisher Street for track work in Munster.

- Rail will also be delivered near Allison Street for track construction next spring from future Main Street to 45th Street.
- Track work for the SSL station will be completed this fall including track panels and finish paving at the relocated Sheffield Avenue grade crossing.