

Success Stories in Rail Investment

Tower 55 Texas

Tower 55 is a vital intersection for the national rail network, providing connectivity for freight and passenger travel between the West Coast, the Midwest, the Gulf Coast, the Southeast, Canada, and Mexico.

Located in downtown Fort Worth, Texas, Tower 55 is the intersection of four railroad tracks that collectively handle 106 train crossings a day, making it one of the busiest and most congested rail intersections in the United States.

Daily freight traffic carries high-priority, intermodal goods moving across the nation. The Tower 55 project touches the movement of agricultural products destined for Gulf Coast ports, industrial and manufactured goods with destinations throughout North America, and low-sulfur coal bound for power plants in Texas.

Passenger service through this intersection includes Amtrak's Heartland Flyer and Texas Eagle services, and an additional 43 commuter trains pass by on the adjacent Trinity Railway Express each weekday.

Project improvements will enhance pedestrian safety near this vital rail intersection. Efficiency for shippers and more convenience for commuters are additional benefits. Decreased train delays and grade crossing blockage times reduce carbon emissions from idling locomotives and automobiles, and improve economic productivity.

PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Construction of an additional North-South mainline through Tower 55
- Redesigned Centralized Traffic Control (CTC) signal and interlocker system to improve control and increase transit speed
- Structural improvements to existing bridges over intersecting roads
- Arterial street/intersection improvements supporting grade crossing closures
- Improved emergency vehicle access and pedestrian safety with reconstructed grade separations.

FUNDING

\$103.7m total:

- \$65.2m from BNSF Railway and Union Pacific Railroad
- \$34m from USDOT TIGER Grant
- \$2.5m from NCTCOG
- \$1m from the City of Ft. Worth
- \$1m from Texas DOT



RESULTS

Environmental Results: Emissions Reduction

- Carbon Dioxide reduction by over 93,000 tons per year—equivalent to eliminating more than 15,000 cars
- Nitrogen Oxide reduced by 13,000 tons over 20 years
- Fuel consumption reduced by 22,600 gallons per day
- 100,000 hours per year of reduced motorist delays

Livability

- Enhanced safety and reduced delays for motorists and pedestrians through at-grade crossing closures and improved grade separations
- Improved emergency vehicle access to adjacent neighborhoods
- Improved commuter rail reliability and performance

Employment & Economic Development

- As many as 2,000 job-years of employment and 700 direct jobs spread over eight Economically Distressed Area counties
- \$996 million in supply chain costs avoided, benefiting manufacturers, shippers, and consumers
- Capacity added to support projected rail volume growth over the next 20 years

PARTNERS

USDOT, TXDOT, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), City of Fort Worth, BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railroad

Find out more at: www.corridorsofcommerce.com/tower55