



OneRail

America's future is riding on it.

"Continued growth of this line will only strengthen our state as people and dollars continue to flow between the Milwaukee and Chicago metropolitan areas."
-- Tom Barrett, Mayor of Milwaukee

Success Stories in Rail Investment

Amtrak Hiawatha Service Wisconsin, Illinois

Overview

The 86-mile train route connecting Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Chicago, Illinois with 7 round trip daily, has been a part of the Amtrak system since its inception, following a long history of operation by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad. In 1989, Wisconsin and Illinois jointly funded a demonstration project that added two daily round trips to the service.

The demonstration proved successful. The two states have jointly funded Amtrak's Hiawatha Service ever since.

Over the years, Wisconsin and Illinois have made incremental improvements to the service, such as adding frequencies, building new stations, and improving track infrastructure.

Today, over 829,000 people enjoy Amtrak's Hiawatha service each year, which operates on Canadian Pacific track from Milwaukee to Rondout, IL and on METRA track from Rondout to Chicago.

Ridership is continuing to grow. The travel time is faster than driving, at just 89 minutes, and the Hiawatha was number one for on-time performance for federal fiscal year 2017, at 95%. The southeast Wisconsin and northern Illinois business community also increasingly rely on the Hiawatha Service, with some corporations providing private shuttles to intermediate stations such as Sturtevant, WI.

Wisconsin and Illinois are nearing completion of an Environmental Assessment and Service Development Plan to increase the Hiawatha Service from 7 to 10 daily round-trips. This important project with an investment of \$175-200 million needed will be eligible in early 2018 to apply for federal funding for final design, construction and implementation.

FUNDING

Ridership on the Amtrak Hiawatha Service has more than doubled from 327,616 in 1996 to 820,789 in 2013.

RESULTS

- Increased to 7 round trips daily
- Increased ridership with additional coaches
- Trip time reduced to 90 minutes between Chicago and Milwaukee
- Achieved 81% on-time performance in 2013

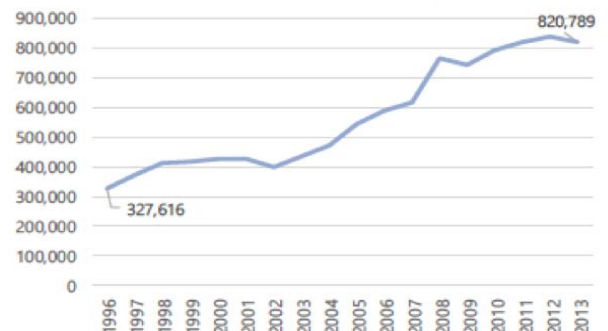
PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Constructed new station at Milwaukee's General Mitchell International Airport (2005)
- Town of Sturtevant, WI constructed a new station to replace its former station (2006)
- Renovated the downtown Milwaukee Amtrak station, now the Milwaukee Intermodal Station (2007)
- Added automated Quick-Track ticketing machine (2007)
- Added 4 coaches to the train sets to increase capacity (2007 & 2009)
- Canadian Pacific Railway installed 17 miles of welded rail between Milwaukee and Kenosha to improve reliability and speed (2009)
- Improved more than 35 rail-highway grade crossings
- Added AmtrakConnect wi-fi service in 2013
- Constructed universal crossover south of Sturtevant, WI in 2013
- Added bike racks in cab cars to enable trackside roll-on-bike service in 2016
- Complete a \$28 million project to construct new train concourse at Milwaukee Intermodal Station in 2016, featuring new ADA-compliant platforms, mezzanine access to platforms with elevators, new roof structure with skylights, new ventilation systems and new signage.
- Facilitated new Amtrak Thruway intercity bus connections.



Over \$68 million in federal, state, and local funds have been invested in the corridor since 2005.

Amtrak Hiawatha Ridership



PARTNERS

Amtrak, Illinois DOT, Wisconsin DOT, Canadian Pacific Railway, Metra

