

CTA wants to keep you informed about our proposed Red Line Extension (RLE) Project, part of the Red Ahead Program, a comprehensive initiative for maintaining, modernizing, and expanding Chicago's most-traveled rail line.

RLE Project:

The CTA is proposing to make transportation improvements by extending the Red Line from the 95th Street Terminal to the vicinity of 130th Street. The proposed 5.3-mile extension would include four new stations near 103rd, 111th, Michigan, and 130th Streets.

RLE Project Status:

Since the RLE Project open house meeting during the summer of 2011, we have started the technical analysis of the project and are preparing a Draft Environment Impact Statement (EIS) on behalf of Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which is the federal lead agency for the project.

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

RLE Project will require significant federal funding for construction. To acquire federal funding, an EIS is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An EIS includes a description and comparison of each of the studied alternatives, explanation of the existing environmental setting and community context, and analysis of potential positive and negative effects of construction and operation of each alternative.

What's Next for RLE?

The CTA is continuing to coordinate with communities and will be hosting an open house and attending community group meetings throughout the winter to share preliminary findings of the environmental studies and learn about the communities' desires and concerns. After that outreach, we will make sure the proposed project responds to community concerns, and then issue the Draft EIS in conjunction with the FTA. A public hearing will be held on the Draft EIS in 2014.

Red Line South Reconstruction Project:

The CTA is rebuilding the tracks along the Red Line's Dan Ryan Branch from Cermak-Chinatown to 95th/Dan Ryan—a project that will provide faster, smoother and more reliable service for Red Line South riders. Crews are replacing everything in the track bed, including ties, rail, third rail, ballast and drainage systems. Red Line South stations are receiving improvements ranging from new canopies, paint, and lighting upgrades to new benches and bike racks, plus accessibility upgrades (including new elevators) that will make the entire 10.2-mile route fully accessible. The project is on time and the Red Line South is expected to reopen in October.

The work is part of Mayor Rahm Emanuel's Building a New Chicago program, updating infrastructure critical to the city. Funding for the work is part of more than \$1 billion in federal, state and local funding announced in late 2011 by Governor Pat Quinn and Mayor Emanuel for the Red and Purple lines. For more information, visit redlinesouth.com.

RED AHEAD PROGRAM



Learn more about the Red Ahead program by visiting our website: transitchicago.com/redehead





Get Involved and Stay Informed:

We appreciate your feedback and encourage you to stay involved in the Red Line Extension (RLE) Project.

By providing us your email address, we can keep you up-to-date on information about the next meetings and project progress.

If you would like to be added to the project mailing list or e-list for future updates or have any questions about the RLE project, please contact:

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For more information about RLE and project updates,
visit: www.transitchicago.com/RedEIS



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