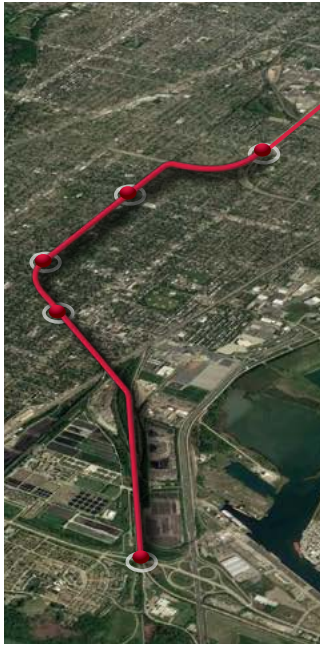


CTA wants to keep you informed about our proposed **Red Line Extension (RLE) Project**, part of the **Red Ahead Program**, a comprehensive initiative for maintaining, modernizing, and expanding Chicago's most-traveled rail line.

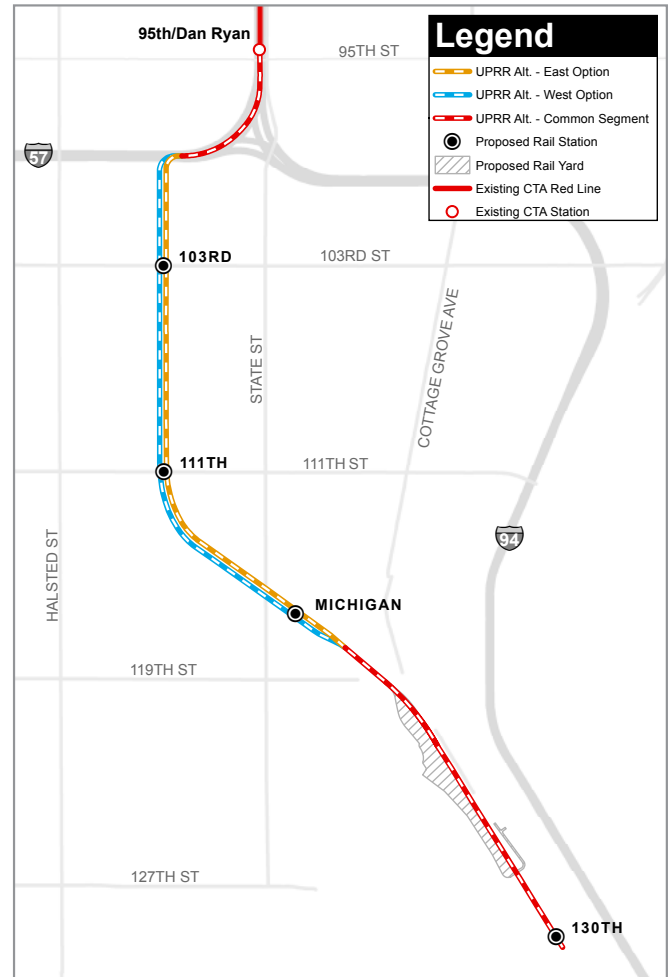
September 2017 Newsletter

RLE Project



The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) is proposing to extend the Red Line from the existing terminal at 95th/Dan Ryan to 130th Street, subject to the availability of funding. The proposed 5.3-mile extension would include four new stations near 103rd Street, 111th Street, Michigan Avenue, and 130th Street. Each new station would include bus and parking facilities.

In August 2014, CTA announced that the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) alignment is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Preferred Alternative. Two options are being considered for the alignment along the UPRR corridor: the East Option and West Option. The CTA elevated structure would be located either east or west of the existing UPRR corridor.



Project Status

CTA published the RLE Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in October 2016. The Draft EIS publication was followed by a public hearing in November 2016 and a formal public comment period.

Since that time, CTA has been reviewing each comment received and preparing responses to the comments, which will be included in the Final EIS.

We have also been coordinating with railroads in the project area, and with local and regional agencies to further evaluate the East and West Options, refine the alignment, and address impacts.

CTA has not yet made a decision between the two Options of the proposed RLE route, but we expect to make a decision by the end of 2017 based on public feedback, agency coordination, and additional technical analysis.

CTA will conduct additional public outreach to provide information about the selected option once the decision has been made.

2016 Public Outreach

Thank you for attending the November 2016 RLE public hearing and providing feedback.

Your input is important!

280 people attended the public hearing

284 comments received during comment period



Property Displacements

Construction of the project would require the acquisition of private property. CTA alerted property owners of the potential need for acquiring their property in fall 2016. Because the project is still in the planning stage and CTA continues to evaluate both the East and West Options, it is not known at this time whether acquisition of proposed property will be required. CTA will provide additional communication when the preferred option has been decided. At this time, CTA does not plan to pursue acquisition of private property for the RLE Project until the environmental reviews are complete and project funding is secured. CTA would then notify property owners of their intent to purchase. CTA is committed to working with the community, elected officials, and property owners and keeping you informed.

Property owners and tenants who are impacted by acquisition and relocation will be protected under the The Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970.

- 1 *Property owners will not be paid less than fair market value for their land and buildings. In some circumstances, if current appraisals are less than the original property purchase price, an owner may be eligible for compensation equal to the original purchase price.*
- 2 *In addition, CTA must provide financial assistance and relocation services for property owners as well as commercial and residential tenants who must move because of the RLE Project.*

If You Have Additional Questions About Potential Property Acquisitions

Please visit the CTA website to learn more at: transitchicago.com/RedEIS

OR

Please contact CTA's customer service department by telephone at: 1-888-YOUR-CTA (1-888-968-7282), or by e-mail at: RedExtension@transitchicago.com

Next Steps and Timeline

Once CTA makes a decision about the proposed RLE route (either east or west of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks), a Final EIS will be prepared and additional preliminary engineering will be conducted. On November 27, 2016, Mayor Emanuel and CTA announced approval of \$75 million in funding over the next five years for RLE Project.

This investment will allow CTA to continue to move forward with preliminary engineering and analysis necessary to finalize the project alignment and to complete the Final EIS.

As the Final EIS is prepared and preliminary engineering is conducted, CTA plans to apply to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for entry into the Project Development Phase of this project to pursue federal funding for construction of the project under the competitive federal "New Starts" program. Development and obtaining full funding for this project under this program is a multi-year, multi-step process. CTA will continue to work with the community for completion of this important project.

