



**NICTD WEST LAKE CORRIDOR NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2024
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 SSL route 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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**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.
- Hammond Gateway Station site development is complete.
- The existing Hammond Station partial demolition has begun and will be completed in Q3.
- MSF yard construction is nearing completion. Non-hazardous special waste material and debris has been hauled away per the remediation plan. Final closeout material disposal to be completed in Q3 as utility connections are completed. Pond excavation, liner and rip rap has been installed. Site fill and track sub-ballasting completed. Topsoil to be completed in Q3.
- Munster Ridge parking lot grading and paving has been completed.
- Munster-Dyer Southeast Parking lot earthwork and drainage is complete.
- Munster-Dyer Southwest Parking lot detention pond excavation complete. Final grading and paving to be completed in Fall of 2024.
- Munster-Dyer pedestrian tunnel west excavation/concrete/backfill on-going.

Stations Construction

- Roofing, warming huts, handrails, conduit/raceways and signage for the SSL Platform have been completed while electrical fixtures and site furniture are planned to be completed in the 3rd quarter.
- South Hammond Station warming hut and electrical wiring installations are in progress, while final electrical equipment and fixtures along with signage will be completed in the 3rd quarter.
- Structural and miscellaneous steel painting, the warming hut, and masonry column veneer have been completed at the Munster Ridge Station. Final electrical equipment and fixtures along with signage will be completed in the 3rd quarter.
- Hammond Gateway – WL concrete ramps, precast stairs and elevator steel have been completed, while roofing, handrails, and conduit/raceways are ongoing. Warming hut, signage, and electrical fixtures are planned to be completed in the 3rd quarter. The Hammond Gateway Station Building is wrapping up with finishes and electrical fixtures nearing completion.

- EALM (Employee Administration Light Maintenance) Building - Door frames, metal wall studs, windows, overhead doors, and masonry walls have been installed. Electrical conduit/raceways, interior wall plumbing, and ceiling mechanical work is progressing. Drywall installation, flooring, wall finishes, and ceiling tile work are all ongoing.
- The Munster Dyer Station concrete walls and ramps to the Pedestrian Tunnel along with the foundations for the Station Building were completed during the 2nd quarter. Precast foundations have started and will progress along with structural steel which will be followed by roofing.

Structure Construction

- Bridges, Elevated Structures and Retaining Wall structures at the northern limits of the project, in Hammond, were completed in May.
- Bridges, Elevated Structures and Retaining Wall structures near 45th St in Munster were completed at the end of June.
- The only outstanding Structure remaining is the CSX Bridge over the future Main St in Dyer.

Systems Construction

- Conduit raceways continue to be installed throughout the project limits.
- Conduit raceway installations are underway on elevated structures and bridges.
- Installation of poles and assemblies for Overhead Contact Systems continues.
- Installation of gate crossing devices at road crossings continues.
- Lateral fiber installations are underway in the middle area of the project limits.
- Underground work at traction power substations continues.
- Signal equipment installations at the future rail alignment is currently progressing in Hammond and Munster

Rail Construction

- Track construction and siding construction between 173rd Street and Fisher Street has been completed.
- Track installation from Douglas Street to the new South Shore Line switch is ongoing with completion in 3rd Quarter.
- MSF track construction is ongoing with targeted completion in 3rd Quarter.
- Track construction south of Fisher Street toward the Munster Dyer Station has started with a targeted completion in the early fall.
- The South Shore Line cutover, placing the new Hammond Gateway Station into service will be completed in 3rd Quarter.
- SSL pending cutover for completion.