Minneapolis Rail Safety Meeting

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Project Director

December 2, 2021
Southwest LRT

- 14.5 miles double track
- 16 new stations
- One seat ride from Eden Prairie to Downtown St. Paul
- Direct service to Downtown Minneapolis, U of M, stadiums
- Connections to Blue Line and Northstar
Kenilworth Freight Rail Work Improvements

• Crews upgrading the freight rail tracks near West Lake Street Station
Kenilworth Freight Rail Work Improvements

Old Freight Rail Track

New Freight Rail Track
Minneapolis Freight Rail Construction Activities

**SWLRT Freight Rail Progress – December 2021**

- Freight rail track improvements completed
- Freight rail tie replacement anticipated to be completed by 2022
- Freight rail track improvements to be completed after tunnel construction

Freight rail track to be repositioned to its original location once tunnel construction is complete
Freight Rail Monitoring and Maintenance

• Freight rail track conditions are monitored multiple times per workday
• Monitoring conforms to contract specifications, which are more conservative than FRA’s track safety standards
• If a track is inspected and found to be out of compliance, work is halted; TC&W flagger is contacted immediately to stop train movement through the area until track is brought into compliance
• Rail maintenance activities are on-going to maintain serviceability
Freight Track Non-Emergency Incident Response

Contractor’s Project Management and Freight Rail Coordinator

Observing Staff

Contractor’s Site Supervisor  Emergency Services (911)*

TC&W Flagger

SWLRT CAR

TC&W Dispatch (Holds Trains)  SWLRT Leadership, Safety, Outreach, Comms, etc.

TC&W Project Manager  Community Notification

City of Minneapolis Dept. of Public Works  City Traffic, Police, Fire, Water, etc.

*911 is called depending on the severity of injuries or risk of harm to people or property
Construction Safety

• Safety training is required for all construction staff
• Construction safety is under the jurisdiction of OSHA/MNOSHA and FRA
  ▪ Federal and Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration
  ▪ Federal Railroad Administration
  ▪ Both agencies can conduct unannounced and announced inspections during construction
  ▪ Both agencies have jurisdiction to issue fines for safety/rule infractions
• All construction personnel undergo jobsite safety training to identify and report safety issues
• Safety training includes recognizing when to escalate response and directly call 911
Stay Updated!

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