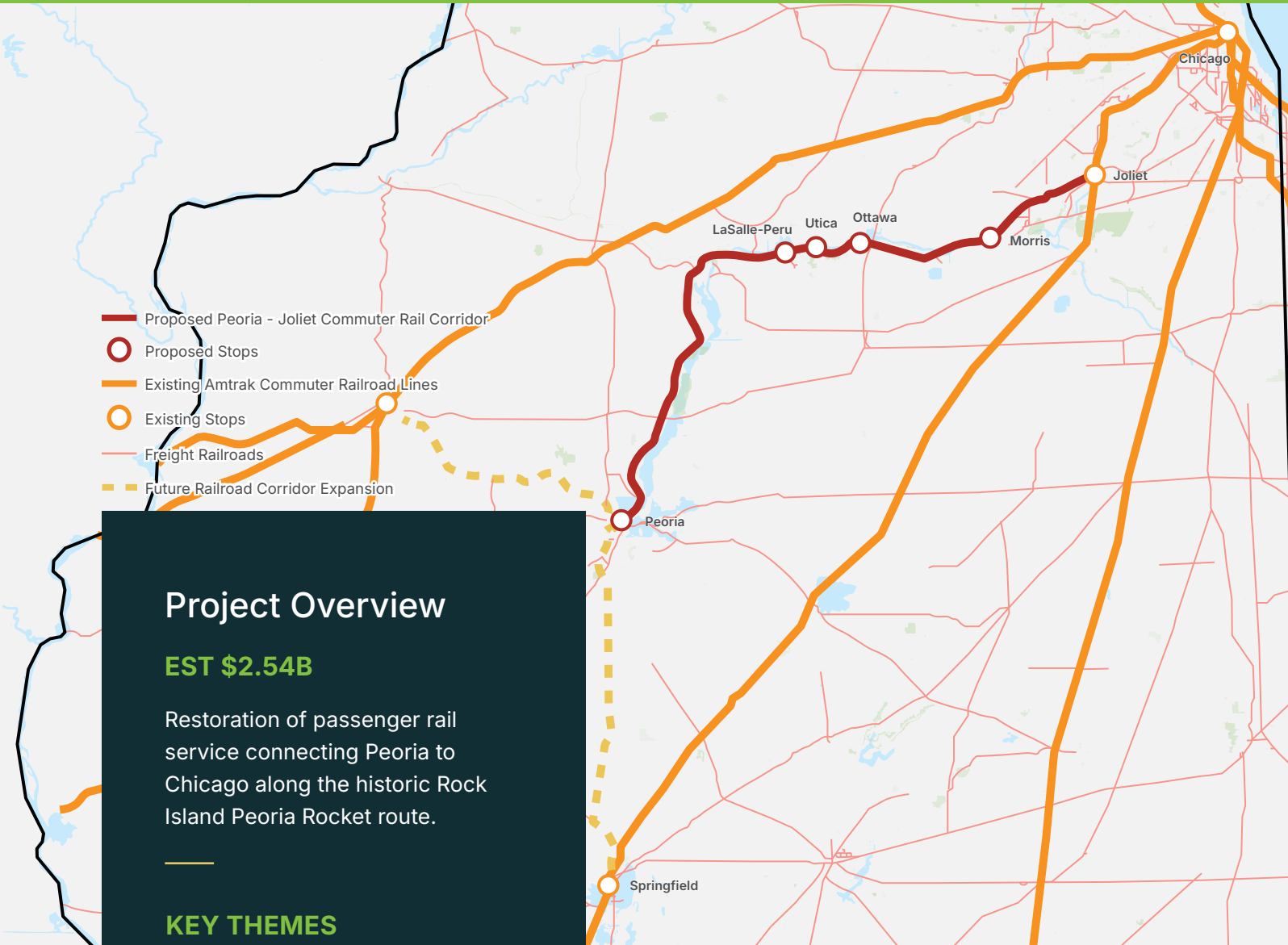
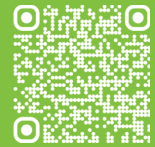


Peoria Metropolitan Area

Passenger Rail Initiative



Project Overview

EST \$2.54B

Restoration of passenger rail service connecting Peoria to Chicago along the historic Rock Island Peoria Rocket route.

KEY THEMES

- Regional Connector
- Employment Connections
- Transit Improvements
- Economic Development Catalyst
- Congestion Abatement

Project Description

Peoria Metropolitan Area | Passenger Rail Initiative

The Peoria Passenger Rail initiative will reinstate service between Peoria and Chicago along the historic Rock Island Peoria Rocket route. Recognizing the economic benefits of reviving passenger rail service, municipalities and agencies serving communities along the Rock Island Peoria Rocket route have explored piecemeal restoration strategies since 2003. In recent years, various municipalities, agencies, and stakeholders have coalesced to advocate for passenger rail. Partners include the Illinois Department of Transportation; the Cities of LaSalle, Ottawa, Morris, Peoria, and Peru; Tri-County Regional Planning Commission; the North Central Illinois Council of Governments; Greater Peoria Economic Development Council; Chambers of Commerce; and the Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The restoration of rail services would bolster numerous economic incentives, supporting business recruitment and expansion strategies. In the Greater Peoria Area, passenger rail service would strengthen the region's position as a multi-modal hub. For all communities with proposed stations, passenger rail service entices companies who conduct business in the Chicago area, increasing productivity by freeing up employees to work during a rail commute. Multi-modal options would reduce congestion near Chicago and, importantly, encourage regional migration of those that are drawn to the amenities and affordability of Central Illinois, but who still require access to Chicagoland markets and commerce.

Quick Facts

Project Type

- Passenger Rail Service

Jurisdictions

- City of Peoria
- City of Joliet
- City of LaSalle
- City of Morris
- City of Ottawa
- North Central Illinois Council of Governments
- City of Peru
- County of LaSalle
- County of Peoria
- Tri-County Region
- Village of North Utica
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Districts

- US Congressional District 14, 16, 17
- Illinois State House District 73, 76, 86, 92
- Illinois State Senate District 38, 43, 46

Next Steps

Complete the remaining steps of the Federal Rail Administration's Corridor Identification and Development program

Complete a Service Delivery Plan to determine potential service providers and outline operating services, and finalize railway design, environmental reviews, and engineering to prepare for construction.