

Relieving Rail Congestion >>

Eliminating rail line
bottlenecks means more
reliable passenger rail

Vancouver Rail Yard Bypass

More than 100 trains pass through the Vancouver rail terminal each day, creating a major chokepoint for freight and passenger rail traffic. The Vancouver Yard Bypass project is one in a series of improvements designed to reduce rail congestion through the Vancouver rail terminal, one of Washington's busiest rail yards.

Project information

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/rail/pnwrc_vancouver/

Cascades High Speed Rail program information

www.wsdot.wa.gov/passengerrail

Train schedules & tickets

www.amtrakcascades.com

Vancouver
Rail
Yard
Bypass



>> **Better reliability**

>> **More daily trains**

>> **Faster trips**

VANCOUVER RAIL YARD BYPASS

The Vancouver rail terminal extends more than three miles between the Port of Vancouver and downtown.

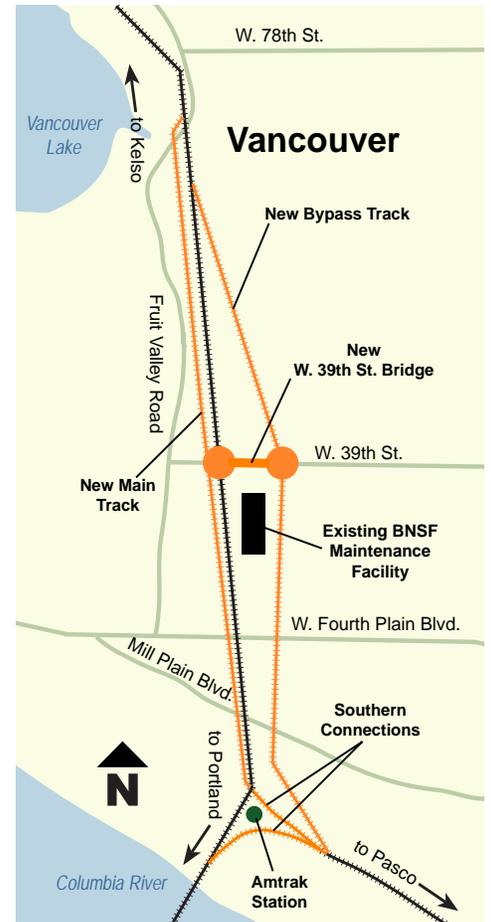
The yard serves as a major hub for freight and passenger rail traffic, carrying goods and cargo bound for the Port of Vancouver and business and leisure travelers traveling north and south through Vancouver aboard Amtrak *Cascades*.

The details

- Crews will construct a two and-a-half mile segment of track around the east side of the BNSF yard and most maintenance facilities.
- The new track construction requires relocating existing turntable and 1,000 feet of lead track as well as maintenance offices and storage buildings.
- The new bypass track also requires removing 4,500 feet of industrial and maintenance-of-way spur tracks and turnouts. Earthwork and retaining walls will also be constructed to allow for the track construction.

The benefits

- The new bypass takes freight traffic off the rail main line and out of the path of passenger trains, resulting in better Amtrak *Cascades* on-time performance and schedule reliability.
- Train speeds on the new bypass track will be between 25 and 35 mph, nearly three times faster than current speeds allowed through the busy rail yard.
- Increases Amtrak *Cascades* service reliability by separating freight and passenger traffic.
- Eliminating this major chokepoint will improve freight movement through the Vancouver rail yard, a major hub for freight traffic carrying goods and cargo bound for the Port of Vancouver.
- Enhances safety by closing two at-grade crossings and upgrading two others with technologically advanced warning systems



The investment

Federal High Speed

Rail Funds: \$28.5 million

The states of Washington, Oregon along with Amtrak, jointly sponsor Amtrak *Cascades*, a 466 mile regional service that operates between Eugene, Ore. and Vancouver, B.C.

Project Status:

Environmental work
Complete: August 2012

Project design
Complete: April 2013

Project construction
Complete: fall 2016



Contact Information

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