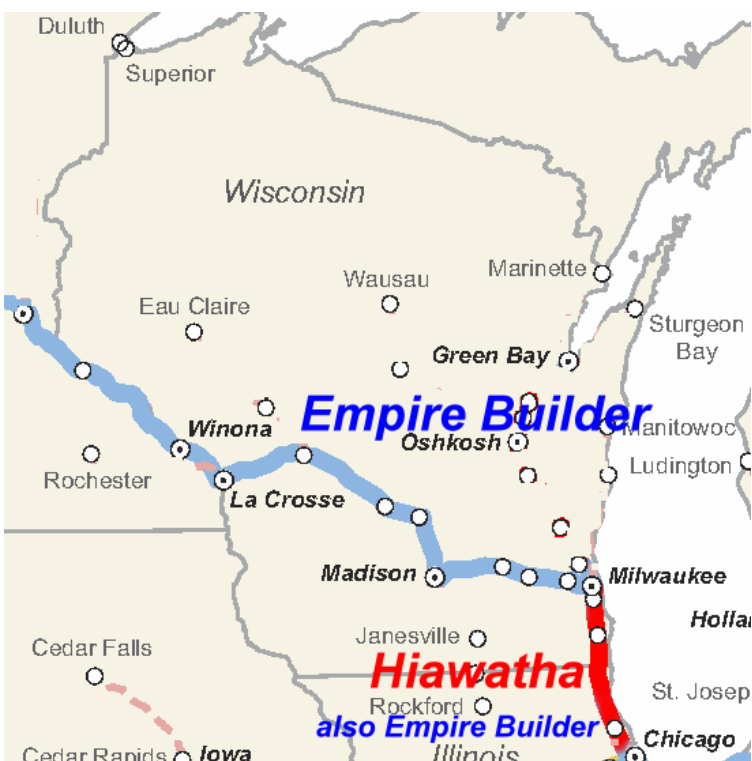




U.S. Department of Transportation • Federal Railroad Administration
Capital Assistance to States–Intercity Passenger Rail Service Program
Project Summary for the State of Wisconsin

<i>Project</i>	<i>Location in Wisconsin</i>	<i>FRA Program Share</i>	<i>Matching Funds from Other Sources</i>	<i>Total Project Cost</i>
Welded Rail Installation, Hiawatha Route	Milwaukee	\$5,022,968	\$5,022,968	\$10,045,936

Benefiting Intercity Passenger Train Routes: *Hiawatha* (Chicago–Milwaukee, 7 round-trips/day), *Empire Builder*



Project Description: The State of Wisconsin and the Canadian Pacific Railway will undertake a track improvement project to install 18 miles of continuously welded rail (CWR) on the Chicago to Milwaukee corridor. The project will replace the last sections of remaining jointed rail with CWR, as well as reprogram signal circuitry at grade crossings to accommodate higher speeds. These tracks are used by eight intercity trains between Chicago and Milwaukee, including seven that are supported by the State of Wisconsin, and the transcontinental *Empire Builder*.

Project Benefits: Installation of CWR will increase the reliability of passenger trains on the Chicago to Milwaukee corridor by improving train speed, reducing travel time, and eliminating up to 70% of the delays along this segment attributable to slow orders associated with ongoing maintenance of jointed rail. These improvements will insure a greater on-time arrival into Metra territory, avoiding a potential 10-20 minute delay into Chicago. In addition, CWR will enhance the ride quality for Amtrak passengers and equipment along this corridor.

Source(s) of Matching Funds: Canadian Pacific Railway (\$5,022,968)