

Kenosha-Racine-Milwaukee Commuter Rail
Kenosha, Wisconsin
New Starts Project Development
Information Prepared August 2022

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), in conjunction with the Wisconsin Transit & Realty Group, LLC (WTRG), proposes to implement commuter rail service along a 33-mile existing, active freight rail corridor from downtown Kenosha, Wisconsin, continuing through Racine and on to the Milwaukee Intermodal Station (MIS) in downtown Milwaukee. The line is expected to serve nine stations—three existing and six new—and provide a connection to Metra's Union Pacific-North (UP-N) commuter rail line in Kenosha. The project corridor runs along the western shore of Lake Michigan parallel to but east of Interstate 94 (I-94). The project includes upgrading the track to allow operating speeds up to 79 mph, constructing up to three 10,000-foot passing sidings, implementing positive train control (PTC) throughout the corridor, and upgrading grade crossings along the route with quadrant gates and signaling. The Project also includes construction of a maintenance facility, rehabilitation/replacement of various bridges, and use of hydrogen-powered rail vehicles. Bi-direction service is intended to be provided initially only on weekday peak-periods, with off-peak and weekend service to be added in the future. The project's current estimated capital cost is \$460 million, with the amount of Capital Investment Grants funding requested to be determined.

WisDOT believes that the project will improve regional transit mobility and access in Southeastern Wisconsin, especially for transit-dependent populations by connecting currently disjointed transit systems and providing a transit alternative to the congested I-94 corridor.

WisDOT anticipates selection of a locally preferred alternative (LPA) in December 2022, and adoption of the LPA into the region's fiscally constrained long range transportation plan in January 2023. WisDOT anticipates completing the environmental review process by late 2023, receiving approval to enter Engineering in early 2024, and receiving a Full Funding Grant Agreement in early 2025. The anticipated start of revenue service date is mid-2026.

KRM Commuter Rail Alignment

