

Congressman Jesús “Chuy” Garcia Tours CREATE Projects

November 2019 - The CREATE partners had the honor of providing Congressman Jesús “Chuy” Garcia (IL-4), member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, a tour of CREATE projects on November 7, 2019. Emily Traiforos of GoRail joined the partners for the tour. Congressman Garcia visited the Chicago Transportation Coordination Office (CTCO), Harlem Avenue Grade Separation (GS18, not started), Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad at 71st Street Grade Separation (GS14, completed in 2013), 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project (P3 and GS19, in final design) and Englewood Flyover (P1, completed in 2016). In addition to highlighting CREATE’s national importance, the partners relayed the local mobility, transit, education and workforce benefits associated with CREATE projects such as the Harlem Avenue Grade Separation and 75th Street Corridor Improvement Project.



Congressman Garcia seeing railroad coordination firsthand at the Chicago Integrated Rail Operations Center



Congressman Garcia, CREATE representatives - IDOT, Cook County, CDOT, Metra, AAR and Emily Traiforos at the Englewood Flyover (P1)

“Everyone in our city needs transportation to get to school, go to work, or run a business,” said Congressman Garcia. “Yesterday the Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program showed me their projects to improve our region. I got several ideas for my work on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Future of Transportation caucus I launched recently. Thanks to the CREATE program for making our city better.”



Congressman Garcia in the field touring CREATE projects

Earlier this year Rep. Garcia’s congressional colleague David Price (NC-4), Chair of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations subcommittee, also participated in a CREATE Program tour while in Chicago. During that March 11 visit Congressman Price emphasized the importance of CREATE for national freight movement, noting that the economic strength of our nation depends upon efficient freight movement through Chicago’s railroad lines and yards.



Jeff Srivver, Chicago Department of Transportation, and Congressman David Price at the 75th St. CIP (March 2019)

The CREATE partners are excited by the national momentum surrounding the Program and look forward to working with Congressmen Garcia, Price and their committee colleagues to implement these important transportation improvements.



The Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program is a first-of-its-kind partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation, the State of Illinois, Cook County, City of Chicago, Metra, Amtrak and the nation's largest freight railroads. A project of national significance, CREATE will invest billions in critically needed improvements to increase the efficiency of the region's passenger and freight rail infrastructure and enhance the quality of life for Chicago-area residents.

For more information, visit www.createprogram.org.