

**EXPERIENCE** Transportation

#### CMAP Freight Advisory Committee Chicago, IL

Charles J. Stenzel, PE and James A. Giblin

January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011



EXPERIENCE liarsportation

#### **Definition of a Flyover**

#### Flyover: High-Level Overpass Railway Structure that Crosses Over Another Railway





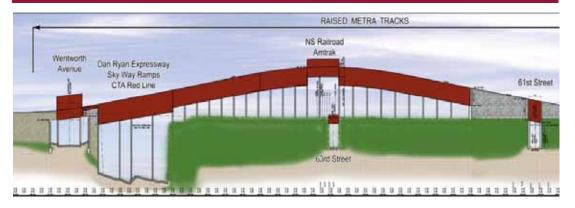
#### **TranSystems Flyover Experts**



#### Argentine Flyover – Kansas City, KS

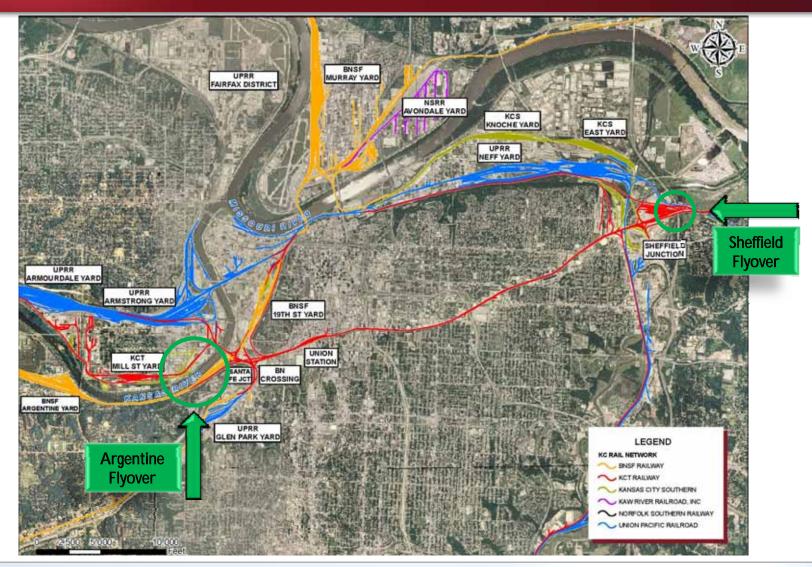


#### CREATE P1– Chicago, IL





#### Kansas City Rail Layout





#### Kansas City History

- Kansas City grew up where the Kansas River flows into the Missouri River, straddles KC-MO state line.
- Rail lines were constructed along the bottom of river valleys in tight, confined areas.
- Nation's largest rail center by freight tonnage and second largest (after Chicago) by train volume.
  - 5 class ones meet here.
  - No commuter trains.

#### Kansas City Metropolitan Area





## Kansas City Terminal Overview

- BNSF and UP operate mainlines "through" the terminal; other railroads terminate and interchange here.
- Kansas City Terminal Railway was formed in 1906 by the 12 original Kansas City railroads.
- Today owned by BNSF, CPR, KCS, NS and UP.
- Operates 87 miles of track
  - Kansas: 25 miles; Missouri: 62 miles





#### **Sheffield Junction Overview**

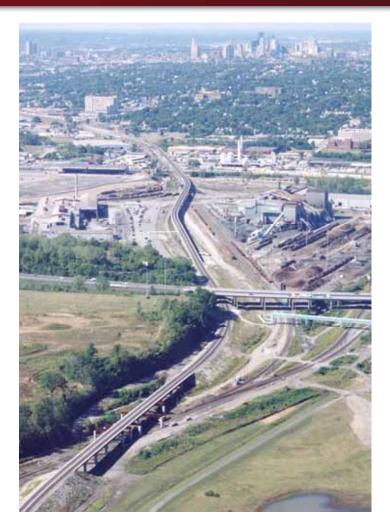
- Sheffield was a collection of crossings vs. a single interlocking (3.2-mile corridor).
- Busy BNSF (ex-Santa Fe) Transcon mainline crossed UP's KC-St. Louis mainline.
- Plus, crossings of KCS and UP mainlines south to Shreveport and Little Rock.
- Crossings of Rock Creek, Blue River and US Route 24 added to complexity.





## **Sheffield Junction Solution**

- Sheffield Flyover is actually 3 separate structures.
  - From east to west, first is a 200 foot long span over Rock Creek.
  - Second is 1,000 foot long over UP and KCS mainlines to St. Louis (then under I-435).
  - Third, and largest, 6,000 feet, passes over KCS north-south mainline and UP mainline to Little Rock.





#### **Sheffield Junction Solution**

- First cooperative project among competitors.
- 32-month design and construction.
- Total cost of \$74 million.
- Resembles CREATE's 75<sup>th</sup> Corridor Project in complexity.





#### **Argentine Junction Overview**

- Significant choke point where 3 heavily traveled, 80million gross-ton-mile mainlines intersected.
- Busy BNSF (ex-Santa Fe) Transcon line crossed over pair of UP and BNSF north-south mainlines that primarily handled coal and grain unit trains.





#### **Argentine Junction Solution**

- Flyover elevates BNSF Transcon line over <u>both</u> the BNSF and UP northsouth routes.
- Bridge is 2,496 ft. long and 80 ft. high at tallest point.
- Three levels of doubletrack mainlines crossing at one location.





## **Flyover Financing Package**

- Funding solutions were as innovative as the engineering.
- Both projects were early examples of public-private partnerships.
- No federal involvement.
- Multiple local and state jurisdictions in partnership with multiple, competing rail carriers.
- Relied primarily on bonds issued by tax-exempt corporations, provided lower interest rates than railroads receive on their own.



#### **Flyover Financing Package**

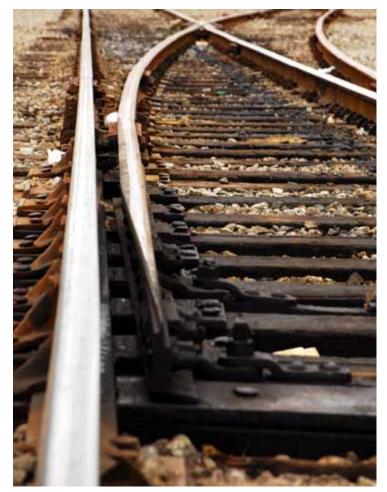
- Sheffield Project financed by issuance of bonds by nonprofit corporation created under Missouri law.
- KCT created K.C. Intermodal Transportation Corporation for purpose of issuing debt for construction and assessing tax-exempt status from property tax.
- BNSF, UP and KCS responsible to pay back the bonds over a 20-year period.





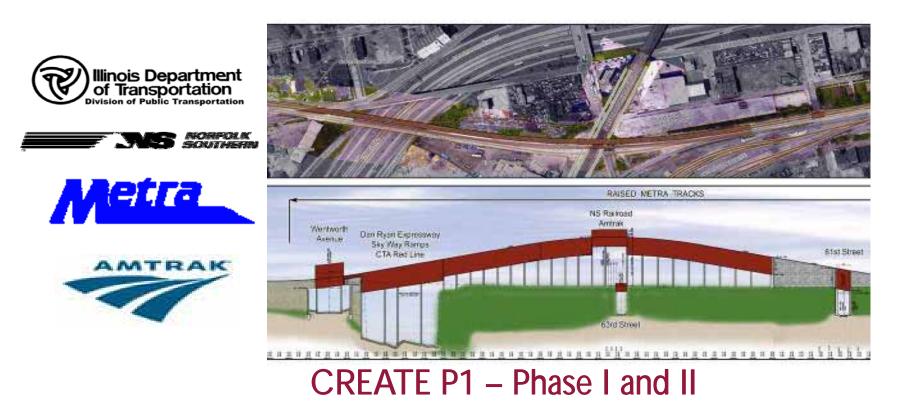
#### **Flyover Financing Package**

- Argentine straddled the state border; two separate financing mechanisms required.
- Missouri portion (\$46.3 million) financed by bonds issued the Westside Intermodal Transportation Corporation.
- For Kansas portion (\$13.5 million) Unified Government of Kansas City/Wyandotte issued bonds; KCT responsible for debt service on those bonds.





## **CREATE P1: Englewood Flyover**



Tran Systems

## **Englewood Junction Solution**

- Englewood Junction, located on Chicago's south side, is an at-grade crossing of Metra's double-track Rock Island District mainline and Norfolk Southern's triple-track mainline, also used by Amtrak.
- Needed to eliminate this bottleneck to improve current reliability and allow for significant future growth by Metra, NS and Amtrak.
- Solution was to construct a flyover to take Metra's Rock Island District mainline up and over Norfolk Southern's mainline.



# **CREATE P1 : Englewood Junction**

#### Englewood Design





## Englewood Design Challenges

- Project site is located adjacent to densely populated residential neighborhoods.
- South end of flyover structure spans Dan Ryan Expressway (I-94) and CTA Red Line.
- Cannot adversely impact rail operations on Metra's Rock Island District.
- Cannot adversely impact rail operations on NS mainline or at NS' Park Manor intermodal terminal located just east of the site.



## 75<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Improvement Project (CIP)





Forest Hill Diamond Crossing



71<sup>st</sup> Street Highway Rail-Grade Crossing





# Questions?

www.transystems.com

CMAP Freight Advisory Committee January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011



20