

Downtown Rail Reconstruction Project

Week in Review



86-Day Schedule
28 Days to Go



Friday, October 31, 2025

Overview:

Last weekend, crews reconstructed the **light rail crossing** at Kalamath Street and reopened two lanes of traffic on Saturday evening. Crews continued work this week, **tamping** and **surfacing** over 1,000 linear feet of track, completing 6 **welds**, and performing **rail-to-earth testing**.



[Watch Video](#)



Safety Moment: Make sure to check the batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at least once a month. It's good practice to replace the batteries in these safety devices twice a year, making the start and end of daylight savings time a helpful reminder. Clocks will "fall back" for the end of daylight savings time on Sunday, Nov. 2.



Project Lookahead

Crews will continue work over the weekend, completing the **final welds** to tie the new rail to the existing tracks on both ends of the work area. Next week, crews will **destress** the new rail and install **restraining rail** on the tamped and surfaced tracks. The current **double, left-lane closure** will remain in place next week.



Week in Review



1 | Tamping Machine

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 28, 9:09 AM



2 | Regulating Ballast

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 28, 10:12 AM

Crews used a **tamping machine** on Tracks A and B to surface the tracks on both sides of Kalamath Street this week. They tamped over **1,000 linear feet** of track, raising the rail and ties to their final **elevation** and **alignment** while packing ballast beneath and around the ties. Using a **ballast regulator**, crews evenly distributed the ballast across the tracks. Crews completed **6 more welds** this week, tying the completed crossing on Kalamath to the surfaced tracks on either side.

Amplifying Results

Work continues to progress at the **20th•Welton Station**. Crews have installed **reinforcing rebar** and poured the **concrete foundations** for both new high blocks. **Temporary shoring** is currently installed to ensure the canopy is properly supported, allowing for the safe replacement of the **pipe columns**. The next phases of work will include erecting the **steel structures** for the high blocks.





Safety Observations



October 28, 2025 / 10:38AM

Removal of Concrete Washouts

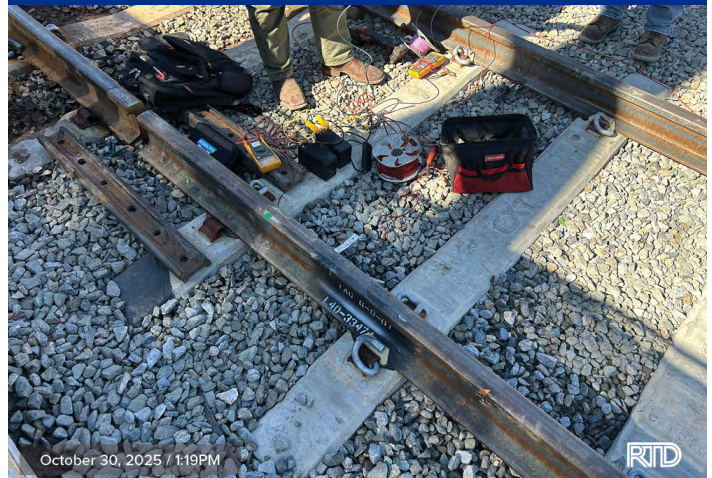
Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 28, 10:38 AM

This week, crews maintained a clean and safe work area by removing the **concrete washout pans** that were no longer needed. During **concrete pouring**, crews used these pans to **contain** the “slurry” and water collected when washing out concrete trucks and tools. These pans help prevent **contaminated water** from polluting soil and groundwater.

Crews performed **rail-to-earth** testing on both tracks. This is an important step of the **quality management plan** that measures the **electrical resistance** between the rails and the surrounding ground. This test helped verify that the tracks are **properly insulated** and that stray current from the DC power system does not lead to **corrosion** of the rails and surrounding metallic structures.



Quality Observations



October 30, 2025 / 1:19PM

Rail-to-Earth Testing

Kalamath Street Crossing | Oct. 30, 1:19 PM

Did You Know...

Tamping machines are a relatively new invention in railroading. The first hydraulic tamping machine was only developed in the 1950's. Prior to that, ballast tamping was done by hand, using large **track jacks** to raise the rail and ties, while railroad workers used **shovels** and **beaters** to manually move and compact ballast. Modern machines use multiple **vibrating tines** to, in effect, liquify the ballast and force it underneath the ties.



October 29, 2025 / 4:43PM



Kalamath Street Crossing 86-Day Schedule

Full-Depth Rail Reconstruction



~~Week 1~~

~~Week 2~~

~~Week 3~~

~~Week 4~~

~~Week 5~~

~~Week 6~~

~~Week 7~~

~~Week 8~~

Week 9

Week 10

Week 11

Week 12

Week 13

**Project Completion
Nov. 27**



65%

Total Progress

62%



Track Replacement*
1220/1300 Track Feet

58%



Special Trackwork
175/1100 Track Feet

100%



Vehicle Crossing
1/1 Upgraded

0%



Pedestrian Crossing
0/2 Upgraded



Amplifying Results

- ☒ Concrete Repairs
- ☐ Tactile Warning Strips
- ☐ Pavement Markings
- ☐ Curb and Gutter Repair
- ☐ Station Improvements

**Percentage of track replacement includes special trackwork and crossings*