Visits Chicago sites in support of infrastructure projects that are creating Chicago jobs

WASHINGTON—During the recent district work period, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) spent a day working on the railroad. Quigley donned a hard hat and visited rail workers at two Chicago sites to see first-hand how investments in rail provide Chicagoans jobs, improve infrastructure, and will help mitigate expected traffic increases in the coming years.

Congressman Quigley learns about the CREATE Project and sees rail lines being upgraded near Halsted and Pershing, the old site of the Chicago stockyards.

As part of his ongoing “Undercover Congressman” program, Quigley met with workers laying track for a Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) project near the site of the old Chicago stock yards. With Chicago’s demand for rail traffic expected to double over the next two decades, CREATE is a partnership between Amtrak, Metra, the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, the Department of Transportation and regional railroads founded to address critically needed rail infrastructure improvements throughout the region and prepare for Chicago’s expected increase traffic. Quigley also visited the Norfolk Southern 47th Street Intermodal terminal, where he worked with trailer inspectors and load planners and helped perform a safety inspection of a departing train.

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Congressman Quigley helps perform a safety check on a departing train from the Norfolk Southern 47th Street Intermodal terminal.

Today, Chicago remains the busiest rail gateway in the United States, accounting for one-third of the nation's freight rail traffic. The rail industry supports more than 38,000 jobs in the Chicago-area.

High-resolution versions of the above photos are available upon request.