

RPM PHASE ONE PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION ROUNDUP

WALSH-FLUOR'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021



Rob Cheeseman
Walsh-Fluor
Sr. Project Manager

Leadership Update

July 2017; that's when our team's journey began. 4 years ago Walsh and Fluor joined forces to provide our Statement of Qualification (SOQ) required for short-listing on the RPM project proposal phase. In the years since we've successfully delivered a winning proposal, commenced design, and achieved significant progress towards completion of this monumental Project.

Throughout this timeframe and as the construction effort has intensified, two details have remained constant: things change, and our team can adapt to anything!

Change is natural on the progression of any Project and is expected as we switch major operations, get into new phases and complete milestones. The challenges which arise in your every-day work and within the world we live in are frustrating and at times seem insurmountable. Stay strong, take it one step at a time, and don't give up! Look how far we've come, and what we've endured to get here.

I enjoy coming to work every day because of the unique challenging nature of the Project; but more importantly because I get to work along side a great team of dedicated individuals. You keep me going. We keep each other going. Do your best every day, not only for your teammates, but yourself.

I'm proud of the accomplishments we've made over the past two years, despite the unprecedented hurdles we've faced. Don't lose sight of that or the vision of what this Project looks like at the end of the day. Take pride in being part of something that will serve the region for generations to come. Have fun and do your best!

Automated Monitoring

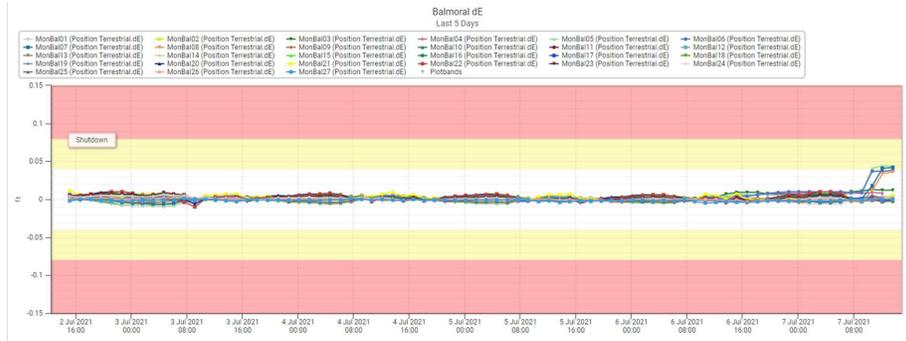
Trimble T4d Monitoring system

As we begin stage A construction on the LBMM part of the RPM project the 2 live tracks that are immediately adjacent to our construction activities will need to be monitored extensively. In order maintain consistent and accurate monitoring of the rails we have invested in the Trimble T4d monitoring system.

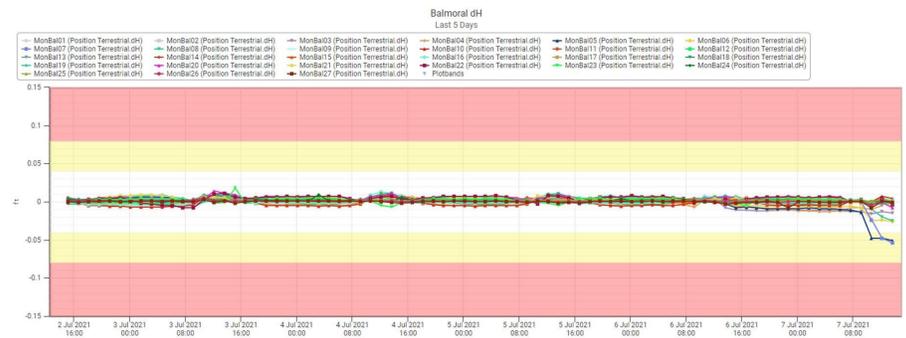
This system consists of a automated total station setup on site and is scheduled to shoot prism targets that are set on the web of the existing rails. We currently have 6 total stations in action shooting rounds every 90 minutes. The targets are spaced every 25 feet on 2 rails of Track #2 and every 100 feet on 2 rails of Track #1. We are contracted to continue monitoring through stage A as we excavate the east side of the stage line sheeting.

The software solution for this system allows us to produce reports for observation and submission to the owner.

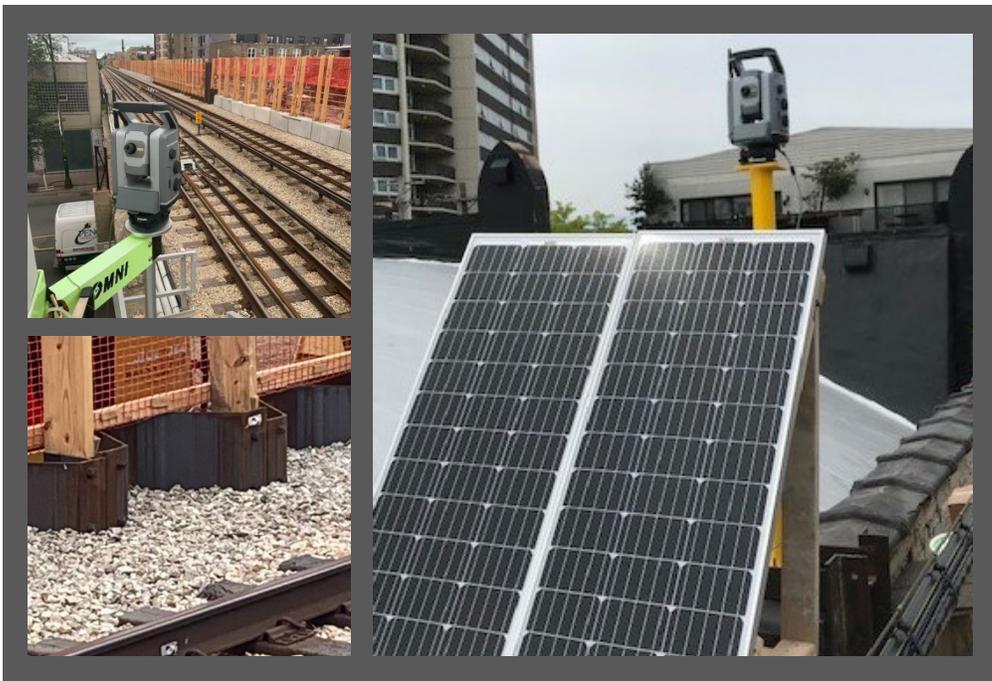
An example of a line graph of the observations taken for the location at Balmoral is RIGHT ▶



Each target is represented by a different symbol and color and each symbol is a representation of a observation taken every 90 minutes.



The software also has the capabilities to Alert our team members with a text message and a email if a target falls into a Warning (shaded yellow) or Shutdown (shaded red) limit.



This system has many advantages for the team and owner. We are able to take multiple elevation rounds per 24 hour day. This gives us the advantage to get almost real time data on how the tracks are reacting. With the stage line barrier being erected on the east side of track 2 access to the live tracks is severely restricted.

This would have made monitoring conventionally with survey crews extremely challenging. We would have had to have multiple crews with CTA flaggers on the right of way with only 2 rounds of shots per day. We have eliminated this hazard and gained the advantage of more timely results without giving up accuracy.



Erica Ramos is a 3rd year carpenter apprentice joining Walsh-Fluor as part of the Chicago Women in Trades workforce development program

Prior to RPM, Erica worked on solar farms and millwork projects in southern Illinois. She is very excited to be a part of RPM because this is her first heavy civil project. "I love a challenge of something new. I think of my work as art because you're putting all the little pieces together to make a beautiful finish," Erica said.

Erica says being in the Lakeview neighborhood makes her experience even better. Erica is a proud member of the LGBTQ community. "Being over here I feel right at home," she says. Often you can find Erica wearing a rainbow arm sleeve on the job. She is thankful to her crew members for being supportive of her.

Almost every Tuesday she and the crew try a new restaurant for Taco Tuesday—this is part of the reason they feel so much like a family.

Erica shows much appreciation to Chicago Women in Trades and WIOA for investing in her and her passion in the trades. It's difficult to get your foot in the door but she showed how ambitious she was for work, they recognized that, and were happy to help.

"My favorite part of the job is learning from the knowledgeable foreman who have been nothing but helpful. Everyone has a unique way of doing things and they're helping me find my niche." Advice Erica would give to others interested in being an apprentice is to never give up—ask if you don't understand, even if it takes you 50 times to get it. In her free time, she loves to shop at antique stores.



Welcome To The Team!



Aoife McGivern RPB Structural Team Intern

Aoife McGivern is a rising Senior at Purdue University, studying Structural Engineering. Going along with her major she is working with the RPB Structural team. This is Aoife's second internship with Walsh, last year working on the McCook Reservoir in the Des Plaines Tunnel.

Advice she has for other interns is to always take notes! "The site can be overwhelming sometimes but if you keep notes, even for something simple like a site name, it will help you be more familiar with the project." She is excited to be working on such a large project that totally different from her last. "Last summer I spent a lot of time underground and working with concrete. This year I get to experience the structural make up of things which is really exciting considering my concentration."

Once complete, she can't wait to talk about her involvement on something so major to the city of Chicago.

After graduating next Spring, she hopes to gain more work experience and then go back to graduate school.



Brandon Narcisse Transit Safety Service Solutions Intern

Brandon Narcisse is a proud 2021 graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He studied Technical Systems Management with a concentration in Drainage Systems. He is currently working on RPM as an intern with Transit Safety Service Solutions, Inc. (TSSS). Brandon expresses

gratitude for immediately being offered a position post-graduation. Working for a Black-owned company and DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) also means a lot to him.

This is Brandon's first time being on a construction job. "This project means a lot to me, knowing how impactful it will be to those who rely solely on public transit," he said. Daily, Brandon works on completing items for Construction Security Compliance (CSC) and coding through the certification matrix. This is something entirely new as his previous internships have been focused mostly on data collection tactics.

"It's exciting knowing how impact this will be for all, but especially for those who rely solely on public transit."

In his free he enjoys gardening, wood working, and completing escape rooms. After completing this internship, he hopes to be offered a full-time position with TSSS and become a Systems Safety & Security Specialist (SSS).

Project Highlight

RPB is coming into the home stretch getting the Flyover ready for operation in September

CURRENT AND COMPLETE

- **Flyover**
 - Trackwork underway on the Flyover closed deck
 - Meade's signals and systems install continues throughout RPB area
 - Casting has started for noise barrier panels at UCP facility
 - Falsework and S&J's structural steel complete for the slide in structure (built offline)
- **Ravenswood Temporary Track (RVT)**
 - Structural steel erection has started
 - Utility relocation to accommodate RVT structure ongoing
 - Thatcher's micropile nearly complete with WF's substructure hot on its heels
- **Ravenswood**
 - Atlantic's abate and paint over halfway done
 - Kenmore Relay House stairs foundation and substructure in progress
 - Structure rehab complete to get ready for the Kenmore Interlocking install
- **Vautravers ongoing prep for building move this month**
- **Clark Substation structural modification prep started**

UPCOMING

- **Flyover**
 - Trackwork on Flyover open deck
 - Erection of noise barrier panels
 - Meade's signals and systems on Flyover
 - Meade's platform install
 - Closed deck for slide in structure (built offline)
 - Slide In extended closure
- **Ravenswood Temporary Track (RVT)**
 - Trackwork, signals, and systems for RVT
 - RVT Tie-In extended closure
- **Ravenswood**
 - Kenmore Interlocking install
 - Kenmore Relay House structural steel
 - Track and structure rehab for Track 1 during extended closure
- **Vautravers building move by Wolfe**
- **Clark Substation outage to complete structural modifications**
- **North Mainline (NM)**
 - Meade's temporary signals and systems to get into two-track operation
- **Clark Relay House foundation and substructure**
- **Foundations for NM**



DBE SPOTLIGHT



AMS Solutions

RPM project drives company to the next level!

For Julie Savitt, president of AMS Elite Solutions, working on a job the size of the RPM project gives small companies like hers the chance to showcase their capabilities and to develop new ones, taking her 15-year-old company to the next level. AMS Elite Solutions is a construction hauling and material supply company.

Like small businesses the world over, they faced challenges during the pandemic, especially finding qualified people to hire. The company now employs 16 people and is based in Lake Villa, Illinois. Her vision for AMS Elite Solutions is to partner with other businesses to build success among many small companies so that they can all grow together and bring opportunities to more people.

Julie participated in the CTA/Walsh-Fluor Building Small Business program which has seen success helping companies like hers develop the capacity to work on major projects like the RPM project. She considers communications key to her success on the RPM project.

"So far it has been good. We have an open communication which I appreciate. Kudos to the Walsh-Fluor team for making sure we are all on the same page."

In the short term, her goal is to be successful on the RPM project. In the long term, Julie hopes to expand AMS Elite Solutions' range of services like taking on other types of freight and products.



LBMM Project Highlight

Stage A construction is now well underway at LBMM. The initial demo / ERS activities are ramping up and several other major activities are getting ready to start later this summer. It will be a summer to remember out here between Leland and Ardmore!

LBMM Area Update: Work Complete or Underway

Systems & Track Demolition – track team and Meade killed productions and vacated the entire LBMM corridor

Stations – temp platform construction completed, engineered barrier installed

Civil – stageline and SOE bent sheeting installation in progress and going very well; wall demo and excavation following behind, existing station platforms currently being demolished

Engineered Barrier – the typical deadman and sheet mounted barrier installations are moving along the entire corridor

SOE Block Construction – bracing, excavation, wall demolition and forming underway at Bent 7195 – this is to support the drilled shaft equipment on top of the embankment

Segment Casting – new operations include special counterweights required for the segments with clipped wings (temp station openings) as well as current modification of forming system to pocket track segments.

LBMM Area Update: Upcoming Work

Bridge Demolition – first bridge demo (Ardmore) on track for 7/12 start

Drilled Shaft Construction – mobilization of equipment slated for 7/19 at Ardmore

Bridge Substructure Construction – will follow shortly behind drilling

Pocket track segment casting slated to begin mid-July

Engineered Barrier at Viaducts – almost every viaduct has a unique temporary engineered barrier design – installation will follow bridge demo



Track Demo



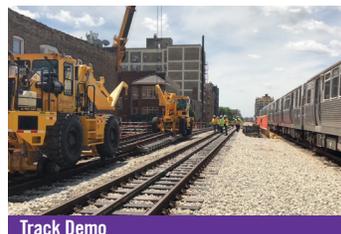
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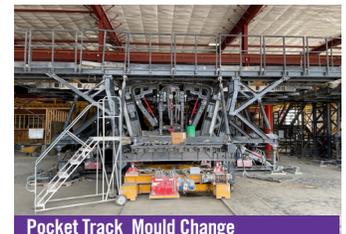
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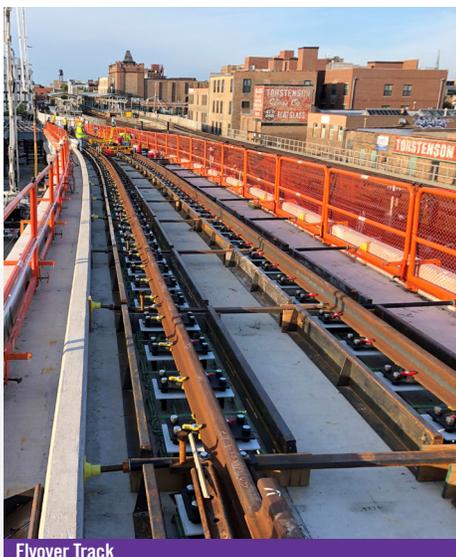
Segment Temp Opening Counterweight



Track Demo



Pocket Track Mould Change



Flyover Track



ABI Hoisting



Eng Barrier - Deadmen Installation