Use of Highway ROW for High-Speed Trains

Abstract
The implementation of high-speed passenger trains (HST) within existing highway right-of-way (ROW) offers a solution for regions with a demand for the capacity and service offered by HST but lacking the support for sharing freight rail ROW or acquiring new ROW corridors. Within the states of Florida, Colorado, California and Nevada are HST projects proposing use of highway ROW to increase the capacity of the highway, prevent or minimize impacts and prevent disruption of freight rail operations. Despite the possible constraints of using existing ROW, such as speed-limiting degrees of curvature, solutions and mitigation measures exist. Based on the experiences of planning for the U.S. projects, this poster presents the advantages of and potential issues with the use of highway ROW compared with the use of existing freight rail ROW. In addition, the poster will present the results of a feasibility study for the use of I-35 ROW between San Antonio and Dallas-Fort Worth for high-speed passenger rail.

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