



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2017

State of Kansas

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one National Network train through Kansas, the *Southwest Chief* (daily Chicago-Kansas City-Los Angeles via Topeka, Newton, Dodge City, and Garden City).

During FY17 Amtrak served the following Kansas locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Dodge City	5,208
Garden City	6,966
Hutchinson	4,294
Lawrence	9,834
Newton	15,828
Topeka	10,084
Total Kansas Station Usage:	52,214

(up 5.7% from FY16)

Procurement

Amtrak spent \$3,321,504 on goods and services in Kansas in FY17. Much of this, \$2,280,341, was in Parsons.

Employment

At the end of FY17, Amtrak employed 19 Kansas residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Kansas were \$1,441,330 during FY17.

Expansion Planning

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) requested Amtrak study options for the return of passenger rail service along a route between Kansas City and Oklahoma City, via Newton and Wichita. The Feasibility Report of Proposed Amtrak Service provided an analysis of potential service scenarios, schedules, ridership and revenue estimates, required state operating contribution, and capital requirements, to establish new service. Kansas sought further refinement of the initial Amtrak study and continues to

investigate options for implementation. Amtrak has testified before a joint committee of the Kansas legislature on the benefits of and the railroad's experience providing passenger service under contract for state governments.

In June 2017, Amtrak, BNSF Railway, policy makers, and other stakeholders conducted an inspection trip from Oklahoma City to Newton. This well publicized trip was the next step toward restoring passenger rail service between Texas and Kansas.

Service Improvements

Newton-Wichita-Oklahoma City Thruway Service: Amtrak actively engages with intercity motor coach operators and private charter bus companies to expand the destinations available to Amtrak passengers. Under the brand name *Amtrak Thruway*, rail customers get interline ticketing and coordinated same-station connections to destinations not served by rail, but reachable on motorbuses, ferries, and other railroads. In April 2016, *Amtrak Thruway* bus service began, to and from the Newton rail station providing rail customers convenient connections to Wichita and Oklahoma City. At Oklahoma City direct connections are made Amtrak *Heartland Flyer* service to southern Oklahoma and Texas destinations. Amtrak provides this service in partnership with Village Tours LLC of Wichita.

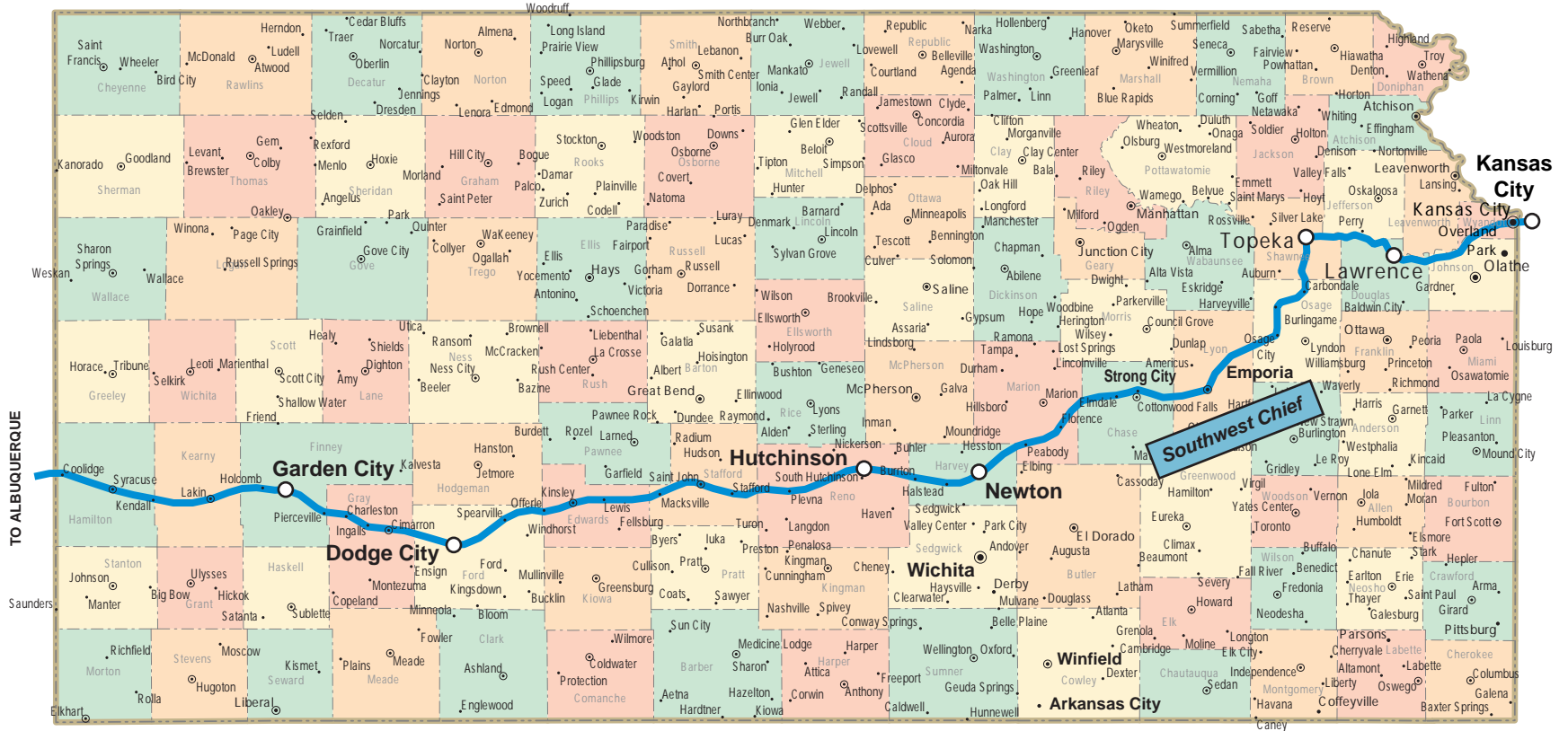
Southwest Chief route

The present route of the *Southwest Chief* in Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico could be altered if sufficient capital funding is not found to modernize the line. Amtrak has been working with the states and communities that would be affected and has informed them of the situation, which results from changing freight traffic patterns, and that effort has produced significant results so far.

In September of 2014, through the TIGER VI program, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded a \$12.5-million TIGER grant to the Kansas Department of Transportation to begin the process of modernizing the BNSF La Junta subdivision used by the *Southwest Chief*. Combined with matching funds from Amtrak (\$4 million), BNSF Railway (\$3 million), Kansas DOT (\$2 million), and the cities and counties of southeastern Colorado (\$250,000), almost \$22 million was allocated towards the requisite rail infrastructure upgrades in Kansas and Colorado. The sum represented a significant down payment on this project and is part of a sustained effort by all stakeholders to keep the *Southwest Chief* on its current route.

In 2015, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded an additional \$15.2-million Grant via TIGER VII to the City of La Junta, Colorado, to continue the rehabilitation of the *Southwest Chief* line. The funding was used to add approximately 39 miles of new rail and repair over 20 miles of roadbed on segments between Waldo, New Mexico, and Garden City, Kansas. Combined with matching funds from Amtrak (\$4 million), BNSF (\$2 million), and the states of Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico (\$1 million, each), over \$24 million was allocated to upgrades and repairs via this grant award.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN KANSAS



TRACK OWNERSHIP	
█ Amtrak	█ NS
█ UP	█ CP
█ BNSF	█ CN
█ CSX	█ Other