

GLENWOOD SPRINGS — Train buffs and tourists will have to wait a week longer than previously announced to ride the Amtrak California Zephyr from Denver through Glenwood Springs, or vice versa, according to officials from Amtrak and the owner of the tracks.

[Amtrak Southeast Route In Jeopardy](#)

KMVT-Sep 24, 2013

Amtrak says the southwest chief route which starts in Chicago, runs through New Mexico and ends in Los Angeles Could be rerouted by 2016.

[Major train collision east of Amarillo, 4 to hospital](#)

KFDA-Sep 25, 2013

It happened just after 4 o'clock Wednesday morning.

The Texas Department of Transportation says three BNSF trains collided near highway 60 and FM 1912, near the Tyson plant.

An eastbound train was reportedly stopped on the tracks when it was rear-ended by another eastbound train.

A few seconds later a westbound train hit the wreckage.

Four people were transported to the hospital; two reportedly in critical condition and the other two in non-critical condition.

Would this have happened if PTC was on this route? This is the route Amtrak thinks it would reroute the Chief off of the Raton Pass. BNSF says it will cost as much for upgrades to reroute through Amarillo as to fix the line through the Raton Pass.

[Keep Amtrak service](#)

Hutchinson News-Sep 23, 2013

It was with great dismay that I read in The Hutchinson News of Sept. 7 that the application for U.S. Transportation Department funds to upgrade the railroad tracks in south central and southwest Kansas was refused, endangering the future of Amtrak service in this part of the state.

[How to Save the Chief](#)

By Noel T. Braymer

The prospects for the future of the Southwest Chief don't look good. The BNSF has made it clear that they will not spend more money on the route between Albuquerque, New Mexico and Newton, Kansas to maintain the tracks to passengers standards with so little freight traffic on them. BNSF wants Amtrak or someone else to pay for track maintenance on this route. Amtrak has assumed it could reroute the Chief on the BNSF Mainline through Amarillo, Texas if the current route is no longer available. The BNSF has warned Amtrak that any reroute of the Chief through Amarillo would cost about as much money as repairing the existing tracks through New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas. Amtrak in this case is considering dropping the Chief entirely.

[We Could Fix America's Highways If Every Driver Kicked In an Extra \\$4.66 Per Month](#)

The Atlantic Cities Sep 25, 2013

A one-paragraph primer in case you're new to the topic. The federal gas tax, which populates the Highway Trust Fund that pays for the major highways most drivers use for their commute, hasn't been raised since 1993. In the past five years Congress has injected at least \$53 billion from the general taxpayer fund to cover the shortage. By 2015 the Highway Trust Fund will go broke.

The Highway trust fund also pays for rail transit improvements. NB

[Costs hidden for in commuter rail line](#)

Miami Today-Sep 25, 2013

A commuter train running through an 85-mile stretch of Florida's East Coast between downtown Miami and Jupiter would be great. It would be even better if Miami-Dade could offer this service using tracks mostly funded by Florida East Coast Industries and rented for a mass transit service...

Florida East Coast Industries, or FEC, is gearing to launch train service from Miami to Orlando in a privately funded venture. The company also is in talks with regional and local transportation agencies about an offer to rent its infrastructure to provide mass transit to citizens of the tri-county area.

[Welcome to All Aboard Florida!](#)

Florida East Coast Industries (FECI) is developing a privately owned, operated and maintained intercity passenger rail service that will give business and leisure passengers a new convenient, environmentally friendly and cost-effective way to travel between South Florida and Central Florida...

Florida East Coast Industries, Inc. (FECI), is one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service commercial real estate and infrastructure companies. Headquartered in Coral Gables, Fla., FECI has a rich history dating back over a century when Henry Flagler first established the company, which became a pioneer in the development of Florida's eastern coast.

It is possible to operate passenger trains at a profit. But the real money in transportation is and always has been in land development. Private ownership and operation of passenger rail service can be profitable, but much of the money to be made will be from development. For rail service either publicly or privately owned to succeed, it has to be tied into economic growth. Rail service is the best way to move the most people, the most economically, and quickest into and out of an area of any travel mode. More people in an area equals more money. NB

[2013 Steel Wheels Conference, October 5th](#)



2013 Steel Wheels Conference Joint RailPAC-NARP members meeting

Saturday, October 5, 2013

**Port of San Francisco Community Room
Pier 40 • Embarcadero, San Francisco**

10:30 am-3:00 pm with a break for lunch (*not provided*)

Doors Open 10:00 am

RailPAC members business meeting 3:00 pm

2013 Conference Program Includes

High Speed Rail – Dan Richard, CHSRA

Northern California Regional Rail – Dan Leavitt, SJVJPA

Caltrain Modernization – Marian Lee, PCJPB

Amtrak and the National Network – Robert Stewart, Chairman, NARP

[Station to Station: All aboard in Barstow](#)

Victorville Daily Press-Sep 23, 2013

The Station to Station train — equipped with separate cars for hanging out, dining, the media, recording, the artists, sleeping and storage, according to the event's website — will likely park at the Harvey House Station.

“That’s the only logical place they can park (the train) long-term without causing a nuisance,” Hisquierdo said, imagining the train will arrive sometime Monday and then leave for its next stop, Los Angeles, on Wednesday.

[‘Station to Station’ art train stopping at Union Station this Thursday](#)

The Source Sep 25, 2013

This Thursday, L.A. artist Doug Aitken and his art train project Station to Station: A Nomadic Happening will arrive in Los Angeles for a one-night only event that should not be missed. Station to Station pulls in to Union Station at 6:30 p.m. and the event lasts until 11 p.m.

[Saturday Metrolink Service to San Juan Capistrano Disrupted 3 ...](#)

Patch.com-Sep 23, 2013

Because of construction in San Clemente and San Juan Capistrano, Metrolink service on three consecutive Saturdays will be disrupted in ...

[RIVERSIDE: Locomotive fire briefly delayed rail traffic](#)

Press-Enterprise - Sep 26, 2013

A locomotive fire halted a BNSF freight train in Riverside, temporarily closing two sets of parallel tracks, though city fire officials were able to quickly reopen the unoccupied tracks so that freight and passenger train traffic could resume.

[Your Metrolink “System-Wide” Weekend Pass May Not work on Metro.](#)

LA Street Blog Sep 27, 2013

One of the best transportation bargains on offer in Southern California is the Metrolink’s Weekend Day Pass. The agency, offers a ticket on Saturdays and Sundays that allows the holder to ride anywhere on Metrolink’s service, albeit reduced from weekday offerings, for just \$10.

It’s so popular that beginning two weeks ago, Metrolink began to run out of the special stock it issues tickets on, stranding customers connecting to the Red and Purple Lines at Union Station at turnstiles that do not open. Metro does not have any staff present down in the Subway’s fare mezzanine to assist.

[Suicide rate on Metro Blue Line alarms officials](#)

Los Angeles Times-Sep 23, 2013

The 22-mile line that connects downtown Los Angeles and Long Beach has the dubious distinction as the most fatal transit line in Southern California. Since its opening in 1990, the line has seen more suicides -- 31 -- than the county’s four other light-rail lines combined. This year alone, there have been three suicides on the Blue Line. In the last 18 months, there have been seven.

[Metro urges public to help stop rash of suicides along the Blue Line](#)

The Source Sep 23, 2013

A media event was held at the Blue Line’s Willowbrook station on Monday morning — please see the above video...

Also, Metro began a partnership with the Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center to help prevent suicides. Signs with the suicide crisis line (877) 727-4747 had been posted in the stations and the alignment.

[Gold Line Foothill Extension update: concrete pours for another big bridge and grade crossings almost half complete!](#)