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Amtrak Celebrates Upgrades at Columbia River Stations *Customers will benefit from investments in accessibility*

SEATTLE, WA. – Amtrak customers can enjoy a more accessible and comfortable experience at the [Bingen-White Salmon](#) and [Wishram](#) stations following the completion of \$5.2 million in upgrades. Amtrak’s [Empire Builder](#) stops twice daily at both Columbia River locations on its journey between Portland and Chicago.

“Making stations accessible to all customers is a priority we’re actively pursuing with construction, renovation, repair and upgrade projects at stations across our National Network,” said Amtrak Vice President of Accessibility Dr. David Handera. “We want Bingen-White Salmon, Wishram and all of our stations to provide a welcoming and comfortable environment for every customer.”

Working with the city of Bingen, Amtrak advanced a series of accessibility improvements in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The most notable upgrade — replacing a small 10-foot-long platform with a 255-foot-long span of new concrete, eight inches above top of rail, providing a smooth surface for wheeled mobility device users and all passengers.

Funded by Congressional investments at a cost of \$3.2 million, the platform, new lighting and ramp connects to the public right of way and provides a brighter and more accessible journey to and from trains.

“I appreciate Amtrak’s dedication to improving mobility and access for all users,” said Bingen Mayor Catherine Kiewit. “These upgrades are well-timed as the City of Bingen is invested in making our community welcoming for visitors and a comfortable place for residents to thrive, regardless of age or disability. I look forward to continuing this momentum to make additional improvements.”

As an important gateway to scenic and recreational opportunities offered by the Columbia River, the \$2 million federally funded Wishram projects create two accessible parking spaces and a ramp to connect to the existing accessible concrete platform. Other accessibility improvements include replacement of the detectable warning tactile surface along the platform edge that

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assists passengers with vision disabilities, upgrades to the waiting room entrance and the addition of a platform shelter.

Due in large part to Congressional investments, Amtrak has spent more than \$860 million since 2011 in accessibility upgrades and improvement projects at 121 stations across the national network to ensure a safe, efficient, and comfortable travel experience for customers with disabilities. Another 31 stations are targeted for completion this fiscal year as Amtrak [moves toward 100% completion by 2029](#).

About Amtrak[®]

For more than 50 years, Amtrak has connected America and modernized train travel. Offering a safe, environmentally efficient way to reach more than 500 destinations across 46 states and parts of Canada, Amtrak provides travelers with an experience that sets a new standard. Book travel, check train status, access your eTicket and more through the [Amtrak app](#). Learn more at [Amtrak.com](#) and connect with us on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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