

BEROUN, 2 October 2023

Modernisation between Karlštejn and Beroun starts. Work will affect traffic less

Správa železnic signed a contract for the reconstruction of the line between Karlštejn and Beroun. The construction will be carried out by Elektrizace železnice Praha and SWIETELSKY Rail CZ. The value of the contract is nearly CZK 2.3 billion. The construction works include the complete reconstruction of a 7.1-kilometre-long section and will require less traffic restrictions than expected. Construction will start this November and is expected to be completed in 2026.

The construction is in a challenging area of the Bohemian Karst Protected Landscape Area, with a very limited access to the construction site in the narrow valley of the Berounka River. New, barrier-free platforms and a pedestrian underpass will be built at the Srbsko stop. To increase traffic safety, the rock masses above the line will be rehabilitated and secured, especially in the vicinity of the Tetín village.

The construction of a new branch line Lom in approximately the middle of the line section will ensure higher line capacity and thus more regular train operation. The line speed will increase to 120 km/h after the activation of the European Train Control System (ETCS).

"Due to the very high volume of traffic on this corridor section, an important criterion for the public procurement was to minimise traffic restrictions as much as possible. One tenderer entered the competition and offered to carry out the work with less need for closures than the project envisaged, and without a complete interruption of service," said Jiří Svoboda, Director General of Správa železnic. He added that the contractor's offer included emergency services in case of incidents and accidents.

The work will thus be carried out in single-track operation. Thanks to the relevant measures, a higher speed of 80 km/h will be introduced along the work sites instead of the usual 50 km/h.

The implementation of the construction *Optimisation of the line Karlštejn (excl.) – Beroun (excl.)* is approved for co-financing by the European Union from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).



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