

# Moline, IDOT seek \$12M for Amtrak

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MOLINE — The Illinois Department of Transportation and the city of Moline have requested \$12.04 million in federal grant funds to help build an Amtrak station in the downtown area.

The money from the TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program administered by the U.S. DOT would be used to pay for the Moline Multimodal Station east of 12th Street, between the railroad tracks and 4th Avenue. The station cost is estimated at \$16.63 million in the application.

Illinois would contribute \$2.9 million, and Moline \$1.69 million to the project, the application states.

In January, the state passed legislation setting aside \$45 million to establish passenger rail service from Chicago to the Quad-

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Cities. Local Amtrak advocates have said service could be established in 2012.

According to the application, the station could be built and ready in 2012.

The project would include renovating the first floor of the existing O'Rourke building, 1201 4th Ave., for the Amtrak passenger station, the welcome center and for retail and food service. The upper floors would be available for private development, the application states.

A grand passenger hall would be built to serve as an information area, staging and waiting area, pedestrian concourse and for community event space.

It would connect to the O'Rourke Building and Centre Station.

Pedestrian plazas and green space along 12th Street and 4th Avenue is part of the design, according to the application.

The plan also uses land now occupied by Moline Automotive Repair Shop, which is located at 1311 4th Ave.

U.S. DOT is authorized to award \$600 million in TIGER II grants around the country.

U.S. DOT could announce the recipients of the awards as soon as mid-September.