

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Plans by Railway for Critical Economic Infrastructure**



Finger Lakes Railway based in Geneva plans to spend \$850,000 for tie, ballast and rail installation on the two lines it operates in Ontario County, according to General Manager Joann Armstrong-Bruch. This expenditure is part of an ongoing program to upgrade the railroad's weight-carrying capacity in addition to routine track maintenance.

“Our goal is to increase the limit from 263,000-pounds per carload to the 286,000-pound design capacity of the newest railroad freight cars,” she said. “To stay competitive in their respective product markets, our customers need the ability to ship heavier loads for their transportation dollars.”

The 2017 program includes 32 miles between Geneva and end points of Canandaigua and Victor. Beneficiaries include Pactiv (a major employer in Canandaigua), Phelps Supply, Lansing Trade Group, and Thompson Grain (growing agricultural companies). Others will supply materials and labor for the improvement project, such as ballast stone from Hanson at Oaks Corners. The track upgrading is also a selling point for prospective industrial development candidates.

#### **About Finger Lakes Railway Corp.**

Finger Lakes Railway Corp. is a Class III railroad that operates on 167 miles of track from its Geneva headquarters. They operate in 6 counties in the Finger Lakes region including Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Yates, and Schuyler. Their current customer base has grown to 89 active shippers. FGLK connects with CSX, Norfolk Southern, and New York Susquehanna Railroads. Since they began operations in 1995, they have added 50+ full time employees and now have 14 locomotives. They also currently lease 400+ railcars to better serve their customers needs. For more information visit [www.fingerlakesrail.com](http://www.fingerlakesrail.com)

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