

BLANSKO, 11 February 2022

## New Underpass for Blansko Město Train Stop by Year End

Passengers and local residents will be able to use the new pedestrian underpass at the train stop Blansko město (Blansko Town) at the end of this year. Its construction just has started recently and, along with the ongoing construction of a bridge over the corridor line, it will allow the elimination of the level crossing in Rožmitálova Street. Investment costs will total CZK 183.2 million, civil works will be performed by FIRESTA-Fišer, rekonstrukce a stavby a.s. Next month, Správa železnic launches yet another investment project in the territory of the municipality Blansko, namely the rebuilding of a bridge near the stop Dolní Lhota.

Building a fly-over crossing in immediate vicinity of the stop Blansko město will increase the safety of railway and road transport. Apart from the construction of the bridge, which is an investment of the municipality Blansko, also the existing railway underpass will be remodelled. The tube of the new underpass will be 4 metres wide and 2.6 metres high. Its structure will consist of a monolithic reinforced concrete frame, the total length of which is designed with respect to the future position of a third track.

At the same time, the waiting room building will be removed. Lavatories and new technological cabin will be established near the pedestrian underpass. The elimination of the level crossing changes the whole area of the stop Blansko město. Part of the project is the modification of the approach to existing platforms and their ends to ensure barrier-free access from the walkways. The platforms themselves will not be affected by this.

During majority of the construction period, road traffic in the proximity of the stop will be diverted to one lane along the sidewalk near the platforms and will remain two-way, controlled by traffic lights linked to the provisional level crossing safety installation cabin with original warning road signals moved to a new temporary position.

In March, another construction activity should commence in Blansko, specifically the renovation of the railway bridge over a millrace near the train stop in Dolní Lhota. The purpose of the project, in addition to the renovation of the double-track bridge, is track lining and levelling in the total length of approximately 250 metres. The current steel structure from 1931 with timber bridge sleepers will be replaced by a new load-bearing structure with concreted steel girders and gravel ballast bridge deck.

After finishing of the works with total cost of CZK 45.5 million, the speed of modern trains will increase up to 140 km/h; they will thus run as fast as in the connecting sections. The completion is planned for the end of this year, when trains diverted via Havlíčkův Brod will resume operation on the line between Brno and Česká Třebová.