



LIPNÍK NAD BEČVOU, 20 April 2023

## **Busy section of 2nd railway corridor awaits complete reconstruction**

Six-kilometre section of the corridor between Lipník nad Bečvou and Drahotuše will undergo modernisation, Správa železnic announced a competition for the construction contractor today. An important part of the planned investment is also the construction of a new branch line Jezernice, which will divide the intermediate station section and thus increase the capacity of the busy line and simplify the organisation of traffic during maintenance and emergencies.

The current state of the infrastructure in this section requires frequent and costly maintenance, which has a negative impact on the flow of passenger and freight traffic. Therefore, the construction will include rehabilitation of the railway substructure, complete replacement of tracks, sleepers and ballast, and construction of a new overhead contact line in the entire section. The line will also get state-of-the-art signalling equipment. The project envisages the reconstruction of nine bridges and four culverts. To reduce noise, a noise protection wall is planned in the vicinity of Slavíč.

The modernisation of the corridor section may start this September, according to the tender process, and construction should be completed by the end of 2027. The progress of the works is designed to enable traffic to the maximum extent possible, which is why two temporary branch lines will be built to divide the entire modernised section into thirds. During the construction period, fixed safety barriers will be installed around the work areas to allow train speeds of 80 km/h on the operating track. As part of the overhead line reconstruction, the contractor shall provide safety protection that will preclude the use of self-locking hook clips.

The estimated value of the public contract is CZK 1,792,949,770. The total investment costs of the construction amount to CZK 2.2 billion. The construction will be financed from national resources and a loan from the European Investment Bank.

The construction is closely coordinated with the reconstruction of another corridor section, namely between Polom and Suchdol nad Odrou stations. Work on this section will start in 2025, when the passage between Lipník and Drahotuše will be temporarily unrestricted. They will then continue in parallel on both sections in 2026 and 2027.