



## Press Release

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### **New Bridge over Labe River Will Be Built during Modernization of Line to Lysá nad Labem**

Správa železniční dopravní cesty (SŽDC) launches another extensive project in the neighbourhood of Prague – the optimization of a line section between stations Lysá nad Labem – Čelákovice, its predominant part being the construction of a new railway bridge over Labe River near Čelákovice. Construction works will be carried out by the companies EUROVIA CS, GJW Praha and Elektrizace železnic Praha. Planned investments will reach up to CZK 1.47 billion (VAT excluded); the EU will help financing the construction through its Connecting Europe Facility Programme (CEF).

The construction includes a reconstruction of the double-track section between stations Lysá nad Labem – Čelákovice, i.e. railway superstructure and substructure; platforms at Čelákovice-Jiřina railway stop will be adapted as well as railway crossings, bridges, technology buildings, roofing for passengers, the catenary and signalling equipment.

The construction's main objective is to eliminate insufficient infrastructure capacity for a still growing number of passengers transported and to increase line speed up to 140 kph. *"A key part of the construction will be the exchange of the bridge over Labe River which does not satisfy current needs of rail transport especially due its width arrangement"*, says Mr. Jiří Svoboda, Director General of SŽDC. The bridge will be replaced by a new deck including adaptations of its substructure which will allow connecting a separate footbridge for pedestrians and cyclists in the future. When the reconstruction is complete, the bridge will satisfy minimal headroom of 5.25 metres (compared to current headroom of 4.7 metres); for construction purposes, it will be prepared for headroom of seven metres.

Due to very extensive passenger transport during peaks and to problems related to operation during closures of one track, the construction includes a definite branching-off point Káraný which will divide the current section Lysá nad Labem - Čelákovice into two ones. Main construction works will start next March when long-term closures are expected to be launched. The construction's completion is expected in November 2021; finishing works will continue up to the end of May 2022. A technological building for the branching-off point Káraný should be built this year

already together with necessary signalling equipment. The branching-off point will remain even after the construction is finished for mitigating impacts of closures during maintenance.

Next year, a reconstruction of both line tracks in the section Lysá nad Labem – Káraný will start together with the substructure of the final bridge over Labe River and a provisional deck. In 2021, works will continue in the section Káraný – Čelákovice. The single railway stop on the line Čelákovice-Jiřina will acquire a new shape as well. Current platforms will be removed and replaced by new ones 200 metres long with a height of 550 millimetres above the top of rail. Current roofing will also be reconstructed and extended according to the expected number of transported passengers who will have also new orientation system boards at their disposal.

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