

## Detailed version:

**Extent of the restoration** - for permitting the cars to be there, they essentially had to be confirmed to be structurally sound, envelopes sealed, had to have new roofs put on, be painted, and finally welded to the tracks. This was for permitting for "ornamentation only"; we hoped to eventually permit for them to be used inside as well in some way, but given the process and difficulties in doing so, ultimately decided to just stay ornamentation only until a later point. It's also perhaps notable that this all is in addition to actually transporting and craning the cars to 1155 (with a pitstop at the Parade of lights!), building the "foundation" for the tracks' railbed, then laying the tracks on new railroad ties from BNSF, spiking each one in, etc etc.

## Specific work done so far:

- **Structural:** The cars were assessed by Jesse Sholinsky with GFE Structural, and the work he specified (primarily for the roofing sheathing/substructure on both, as well as beefing up the side-to-side bracing on the boxcar) was done last year.
- **Roof:** Beyond the completed roof substructure work, Greenpoint Roofing installed new standing-seam tin roofs on both cars. (We actually still owe approximately \$5K for this work, as they let us do a payment plan which we're working to pay down over time)
- **Securing to the tracks:** The cars also had to be welded directly to the trackage, which was completed last year as well with custom, laser-cut wedges welded directly to the wheels themselves and the trackage.
- **Exterior Paint:** Both cars were painted, including wheelsets (as requested by the City for permitting).
- **Exterior siding Boxcar** - to pass inspection, we put new sheathing on the exterior of the boxcar, but our next step was to do the period-correct tongue-in-groove siding, then paint it just like the boxcars in the photos from the Acme and Rex Mines in the early 1900s (with the block letter C&S logo, etc). The correct boxcar siding was purchased and is inside the boxcar, ready to install.
- **Exterior siding Caboose:** The caboose - we'd hoped to replace the wood sheathing on the exterior (as well as the boxcar work) with grant partnership from the HPC. That should be done next, then the interior built out to suit future purpose (museum display? space for Santa to meet kids over the holidays and serve hot cocoa? lots of fun ideas we've had here for sure :))

## Photos:

General concept rendering of the vision (note the C&S car with exterior to match how it would have looked in Louisville in the early 1900s):











Experimenting with some nighttime lighting:











Boxcar - I was having trouble finding a shot of the inside (we sealed it up last year for permitting, so it's not easy to get into and out of now without the side door)., but I did find this shot of Sophie, from when we were replacing the exterior siding, which gives the idea of the vibe and look inside. Basic, empty boxcar.



Boxcar wheels:

