



## PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY

**Date:** Thursday March 26, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

**Location:** Woodson Regional Library, 9525 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Illinois 60628

**Format:** Open House (6:00 pm to 6:30 pm); Presentation with public comment (6:30 pm to 7:30 pm)

**Number of Attendees per Sign-In Sheet:** 19

**Number of Commenters at the Public Information Meeting during live comment/response session:** 13

**Number of Comments Received (March 26 – April 10):**

- At the Public Information Meeting: 1
- After the Public Information Meeting: None received

**Meeting Purpose:** This was the only public meeting for this project. The exhibit boards and presentation covered the following related to the project:

- Project/Phase I Process Overview
- Purpose and Need
- Original Alternatives Considered
- Preferred Ultimate Alternative (Grade Separation with 95th Street under the Railroad)
- Interim Improvements: Due to community impacts and concerns, CDOT is deferring the grade separation. Interim improvements are proposed at the at-grade crossing to address the purpose and need.
- Next Steps

**List of Public Information Meeting Summary Exhibits**

- A. Newspaper Advertisements
- B. Public Information Meeting Flyer distributed locally
- C. Letter to adjacent property owners
- D. Email to mailing list
- E. Handout
- F. Exhibit Boards
- G. Presentation
- H. Sign-in Sheets
- I. Live Comment/Response Session
- J. Additional Comments Received

Exhibit A  
Newspaper Advertisements

# CHICAGO SUN TIMES

## Certificate of Publication

On Behalf of:

BEAMAN INC

Customer No: 105155

Ad No: 14955

PO Number: 95 th Street at the Union Pacific Railroad

### ATTESTATION OF PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK:

Chicago Sun-Times does hereby certify it has published the attached advertisements in the following secular newspapers. All newspapers meet Illinois Compiled Statute requirements for publication of Notices per Chapter 715 ILCS 5/0.01 et seq. R.S. 1874, P728 Sec 1, EFF. July 1, 1874. Amended by Laws 1959, P1494, EFF. July 17, 1959. Formerly Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, CH100, PI.

As published in Chicago Sun Times in the issue(s) of:

3/11/2026, 3/23/2026

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized, has caused this Certificate to be signed by:

William Weibert  
Senior Director  
Advertising



Date: 3/23/2026

#### Chicago Department of Transportation 95th Street at the Union Pacific Railroad Public Information Meeting

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) will hold a public information meeting for the proposed improvements at the 95th Street and Union Pacific Railroad highway-rail grade crossing. The grade crossing is located along 95th Street, approximately 1/2-mile west of I-90/94.

All persons interested in the project or wanting to receive more information about the project are invited to attend. The details of the meeting are as follows:

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2026  
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Location: Woodson Regional Library, 9525 S. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL 60628

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Provide information on the project
- Present the alternatives considered, the preferred alternative, and proposed interim improvements
- Obtain public feedback

The proposed project may affect the Chicago Park District's Fernwood Parkway Park. These impacts would not affect the park's activities, features, or attributes that make the property eligible for Section 4(f) protection. A Section 4(f) de minimis impact finding will be sought from the Federal Highway Administration.

The proposed project may result in future property relocations. Right-of-way acquisition and relocation assistance information will be available at this meeting.

Exhibits will be on display from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Project team members will be present to discuss the project and answer questions. The formal presentation will be from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be accessible to people with disabilities. Anyone needing special assistance, including the need for a sign language interpreter or other similar accommodations, should contact Soliman Khudeira at least five days prior to the meeting, at (312) 744-9605.

All correspondence regarding this project should be sent to:

Chicago Department of Transportation  
2 N. LaSalle St., Suite 820  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Attn: CDOT-Division of Engineering  
Soliman Khudeira, PhD, PE, SE  
Section Chief - Major Projects  
or submitted via email to:  
[Soliman.Khudeira@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Soliman.Khudeira@cityofchicago.org)

Comments received by April 10, 2026, will become part of the meeting record.

Comments can be sent via email to [Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com](mailto:Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com) and can also be provided at the project website: <https://95thuprr.com/contact/>.  
3/11, 3/23/2026 #14955

BEAMAN INC

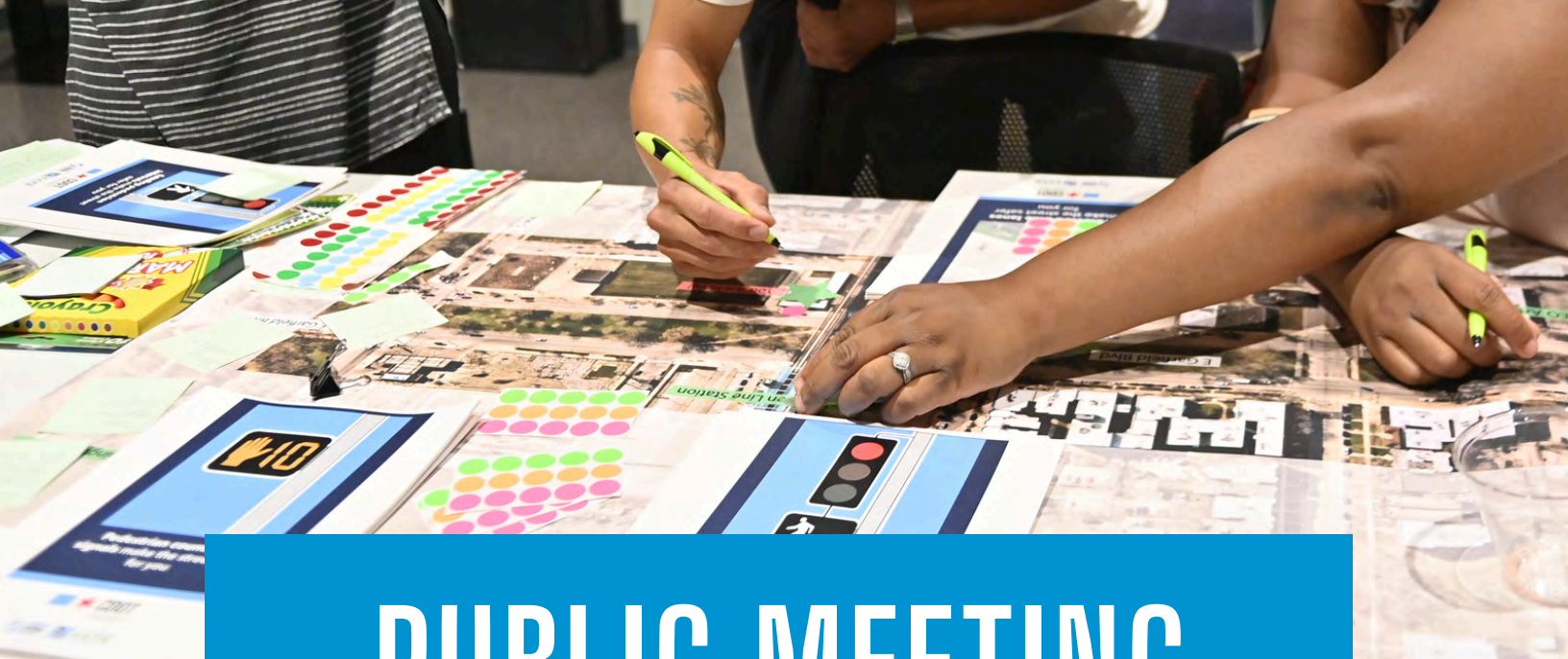
440 N WABASH AVE STE4808  
CHICAGO, IL 60611

## **Exhibit B**

### **Public Information Meeting Flyer distributed locally**

CDOT distributed these flyers at the following locations:

- Woodson Regional Library (where the meeting will be at)
- Euclid Park
- Medgar Evers Elementary School
- Smith Wendell Park
- Fernwood Elementary School
- Whiz Kids Nursery Center
- Trinity United Church of Christ
- Gospel Truth Missionary Baptist
- Robichaux Park
- The Purchased Church of God



# PUBLIC MEETING

## 95TH ST & THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

### Join us!

**Date:** Thursday, March 26  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Woodson Regional Library  
**Address:** 9525 S. Halstead Street

### Accessibility

Please submit any accessibility requests at least five days prior to the event by contacting Soliman Khudeira at 312-744-9605

### Contact

For any other questions, please contact Soliman Khudeira at [soliman.khudeira@cityofchicago.org](mailto:soliman.khudeira@cityofchicago.org)

The Chicago Department of Transportation is facilitating a public information session for the proposed improvements at the 95<sup>th</sup> Street and Union Pacific Railroad highway-rail grade crossing.

The purpose of this meeting is to:

- Provide information on the project
- Present the alternatives considered, the preferred alternative, and proposed interim improvements
- Collect public feedback
- Answer any questions

**Exhibit C**  
**Letter to Adjacent Property Owners**

**March 16, 2026**

First and Last Name  
Parcel Number  
Address

Subject: 95th Street at Union Pacific Railroad Public Information Meeting

Dear First and Last Name,

The Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) will hold a public information meeting for the proposed improvements at the 95th Street and Union Pacific Railroad highway-rail grade crossing. The grade crossing is located along 95th Street, approximately ½-mile west of I-90/94.

All persons interested in the project or wanting to receive more information about the project are invited to attend. The details of the meeting are as follows:

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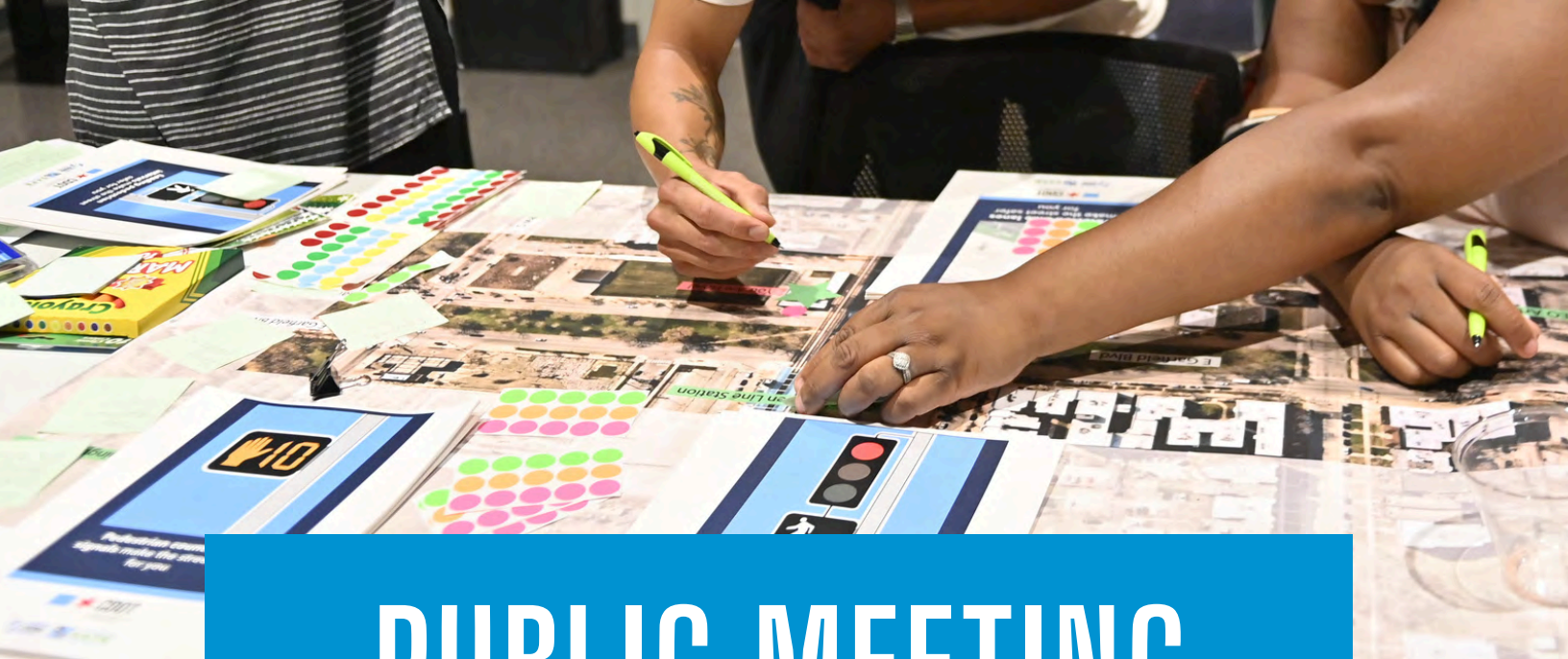
Comments received by April 10, 2026, will become part of the meeting record. Comments can be sent via email to [Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com](mailto:Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com) and can also be provided at the project website: <https://95thuprr.com/contact/>. See the attached flyer for additional information.

Sincerely,

**PARSONS**



Tony Pakeltis  
Project Manager



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Exhibit D  
Email to Mailing List

**From:** [Pakeltis, Anthony \[US-US\]](#)  
**To:** [Pakeltis, Anthony \[US-US\]](#)  
**Subject:** 95th Street at Union Pacific Railroad Public Information Meeting  
**Date:** Monday, March 16, 2026 9:13:22 PM  
**Attachments:** [95th & Union Pacific Project Flyer UPDATED.pdf](#)

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**TONY PAKELTIS, AICP**

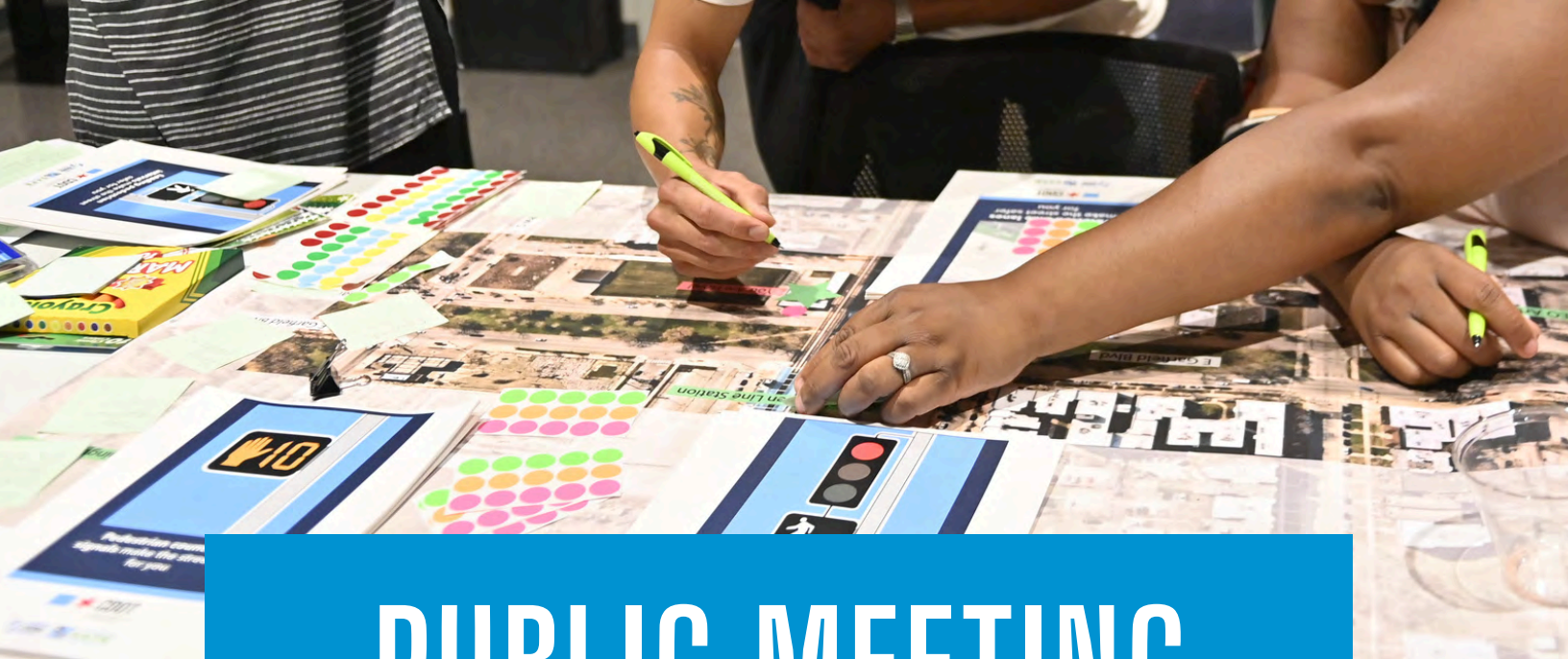
222 South Riverside, Suite 2450, Chicago, Illinois 60606

[anthony.pakeltis@parsons.com](mailto:anthony.pakeltis@parsons.com)

Direct: +1 312.930.5268 / Mobile: +1 312.590.3312

[Parsons](#) / [LinkedIn](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#)





# PUBLIC MEETING

## 95TH ST & THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

### Join us!

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- Answer any questions

Exhibit E  
Handout



# 95th Street & UPRR Grade Crossing Phase I Study

March 2026

## Public Information Meeting

**Thursday, March 26, 2026**

**6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

**Woodson Regional Library**

**9525 S. Halsted Street**

**Chicago, Illinois**

*Send your comments by  
April 10, 2026.*

**Email:**

[Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com](mailto:Anthony.Pakeltis@parsons.com)

**Mail:**

Anthony Pakeltis

Parsons, 222 S. Riverside Plaza,  
Suite 2450, Chicago, IL 60606

**Website:**

[www.95thrupr.com](http://www.95thrupr.com)



**Scan to share  
feedback.**

### Study Overview

- Examine mobility and safety needs along 95th Street at the highway-rail crossing at the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), approximately ½-mile west of I-90/94
- Address traffic congestion, travel delays, crossing safety concerns that occur as a result of the UPRR tracks crossing 95th Street at-grade
- Evaluate alternatives for a grade separation of 95th Street and the UPRR tracks
- CDOT deferring grade separation at this time due to impacts and community concerns

### Interim improvements are proposed to address project area purpose and needs.

- Replace railroad warning signals/gates
- Add pedestrian gates
- Replace the grade crossing surface
- Replace sidewalks at the grade crossing
- Replace concrete median
- Replace the warning signs and pavement markings
- Resurface the pavement/replace curbs

## Project Schedule

### Phase I: 2018–2nd Quarter 2026

#### Preliminary Engineering & Environmental Study

- Data Collection
- Field Studies
- Develop Purpose & Need
- Identify & Evaluate Alternatives
- Select Preferred Alternative
- Public Information Meeting (03/26/26)
- Design Approval

### Phase II: 2027\*

#### Final Design

Interim Improvements Only

### Phase III: 2028\*

#### Construction

Interim Improvements Only

\*Dependent on funding availability and project readiness.



For more information, visit [www.95thrupr.com](http://www.95thrupr.com).



**Exhibit F**  
**Exhibit Boards**

# 95TH STREET AT THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD GS21a PROJECT

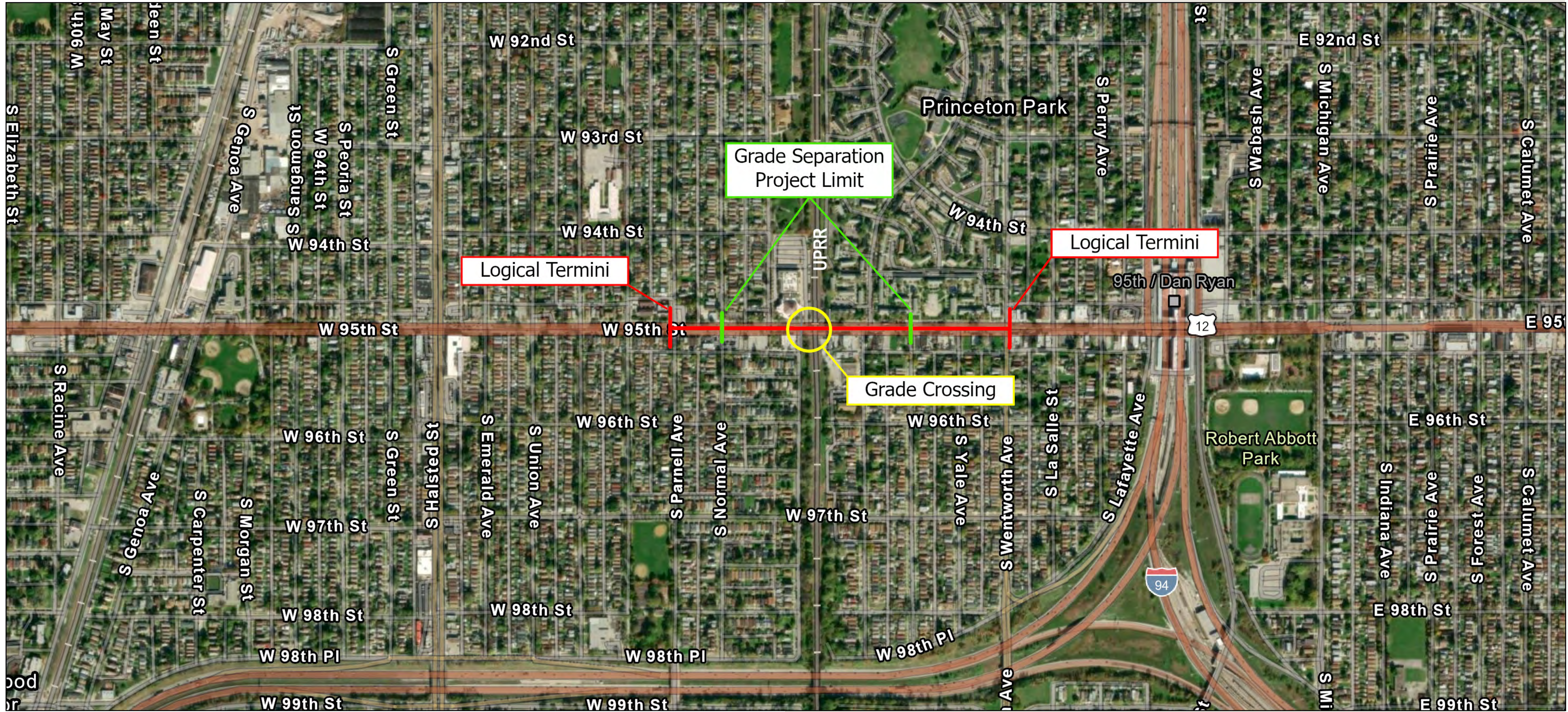


# Welcome

to the Public Meeting, March 26, 2026



# // PROJECT OVERVIEW



# // PROJECT SCHEDULE

## Phase I: 2018 - 2nd Quarter 2026

### Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study

- Data Collection
- Field Studies
- Develop Purpose & Need
- Identify and Evaluate Alternatives
- Select the Preferred Alternative
- Public Information Meeting (March 26, 2026)
- Design Approval

## Phase II: 2027\*

**Final Design**  
(Interim  
Improvements  
Only)

## Phase III: 2028\*

**Construction**  
(Interim  
Improvements  
Only)

\*Dependent on funding availability and project readiness

# // PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

## Mobility Needs:

- The existing at-grade crossing is a conflict between 95th Street users and trains.
- Trains blocking the crossing result in delays for all users of 95th Street.
- Trains blocking the crossing affect emergency vehicle response times.

## Safety Needs:

- Conflicts between the railroad and the traveling public create safety concerns.
- Vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists are not prevented from entering the railroad right-of-way.
- Rear end crashes may also be affected by drivers' behavior when crossing the tracks.

# // PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

## Purpose of the Project:

- The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and safety for all users in the project study area

## Project Needs:

- Improve mobility
- Enhance safety



# // PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

## Community Advisory Group:

- CAG 1 – April 16, 2019
- CAG 2 – June 27, 2019
- CAG 3 – July 28, 2020
- CAG 4 – September 27, 2021

## Public Information Meeting:

- Public Information Meeting –  
March 26, 2026



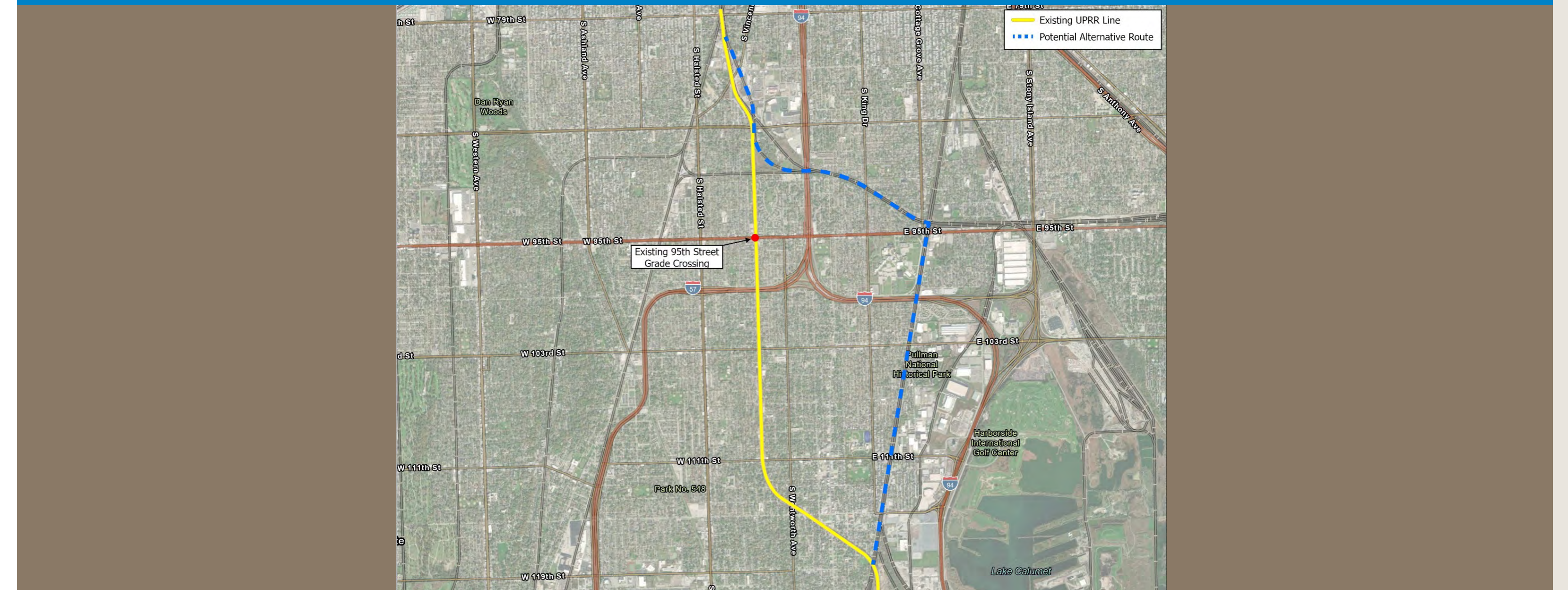
# // Original Alternatives Considered

## • Alternative #1: No Build (Do Nothing)

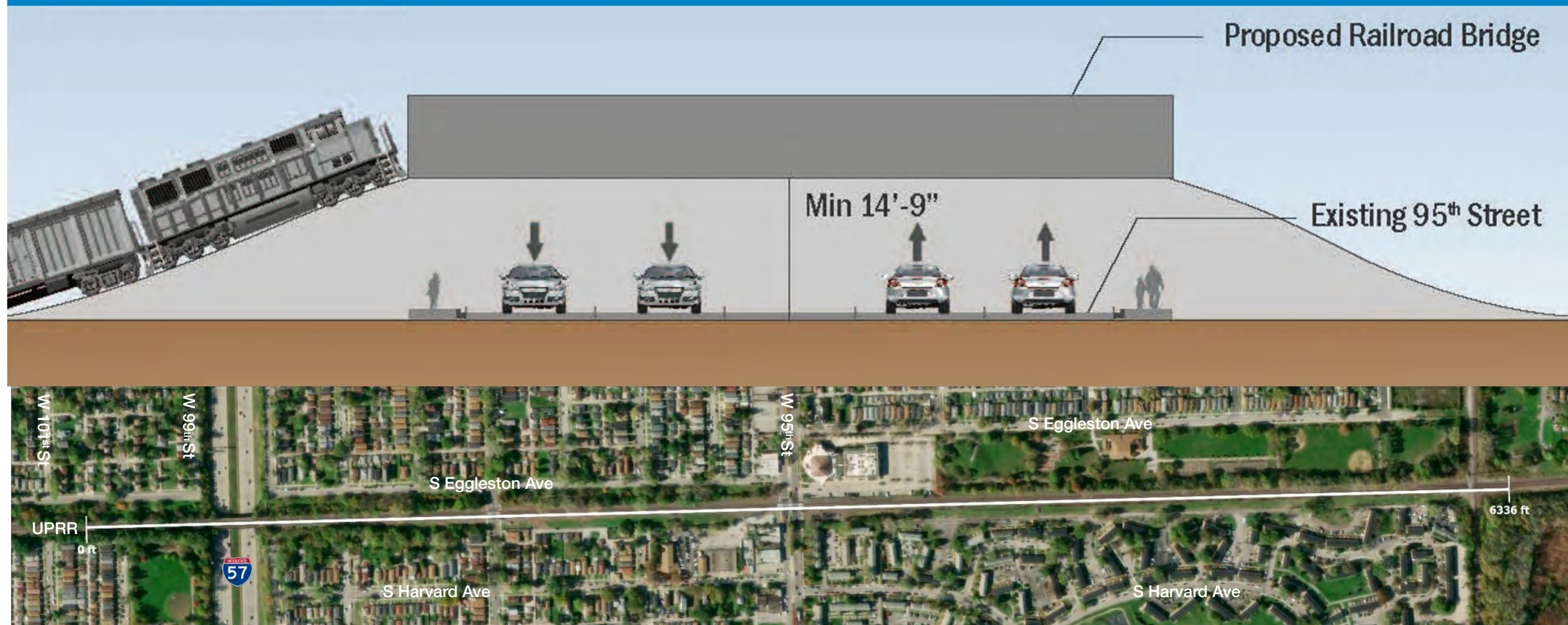


No improvement to the UPRR at grade crossing at 95th Street.

## • Alternative #2: UPRR Relocation

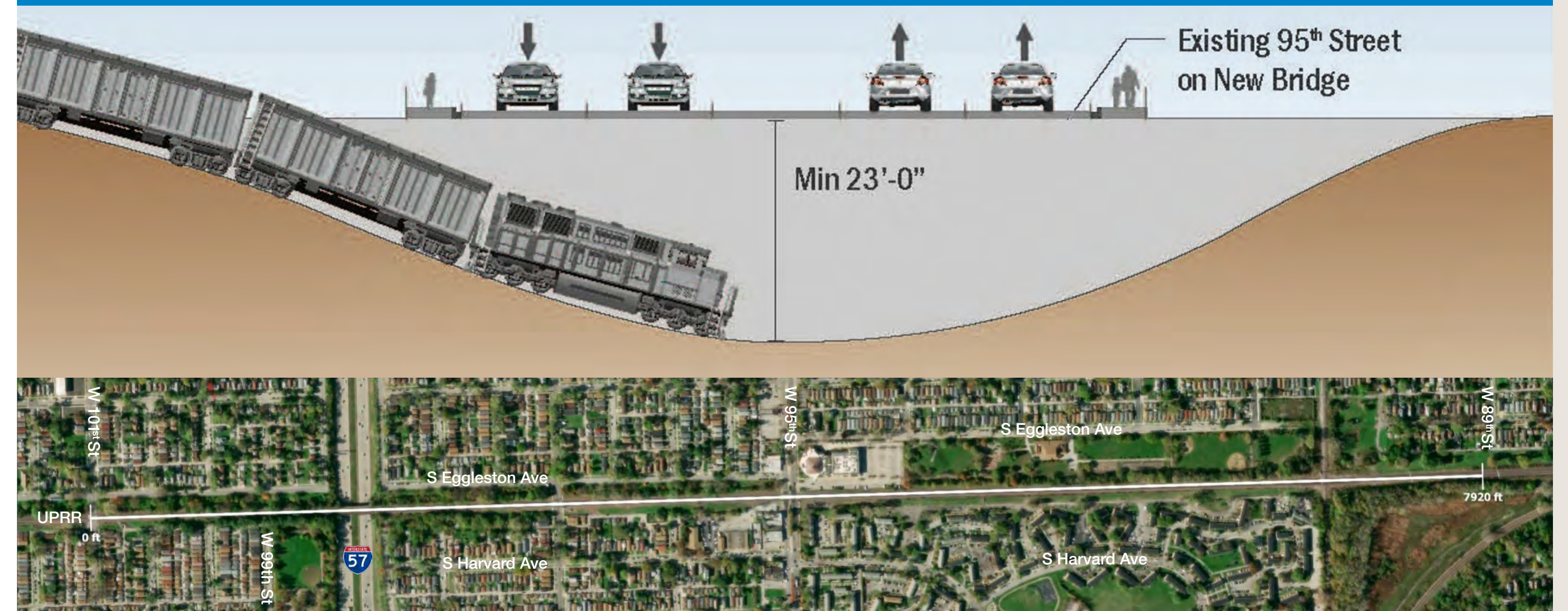


## • Alternative #3: Railroad over 95th Street



Length of railroad improvements = 1.2 miles

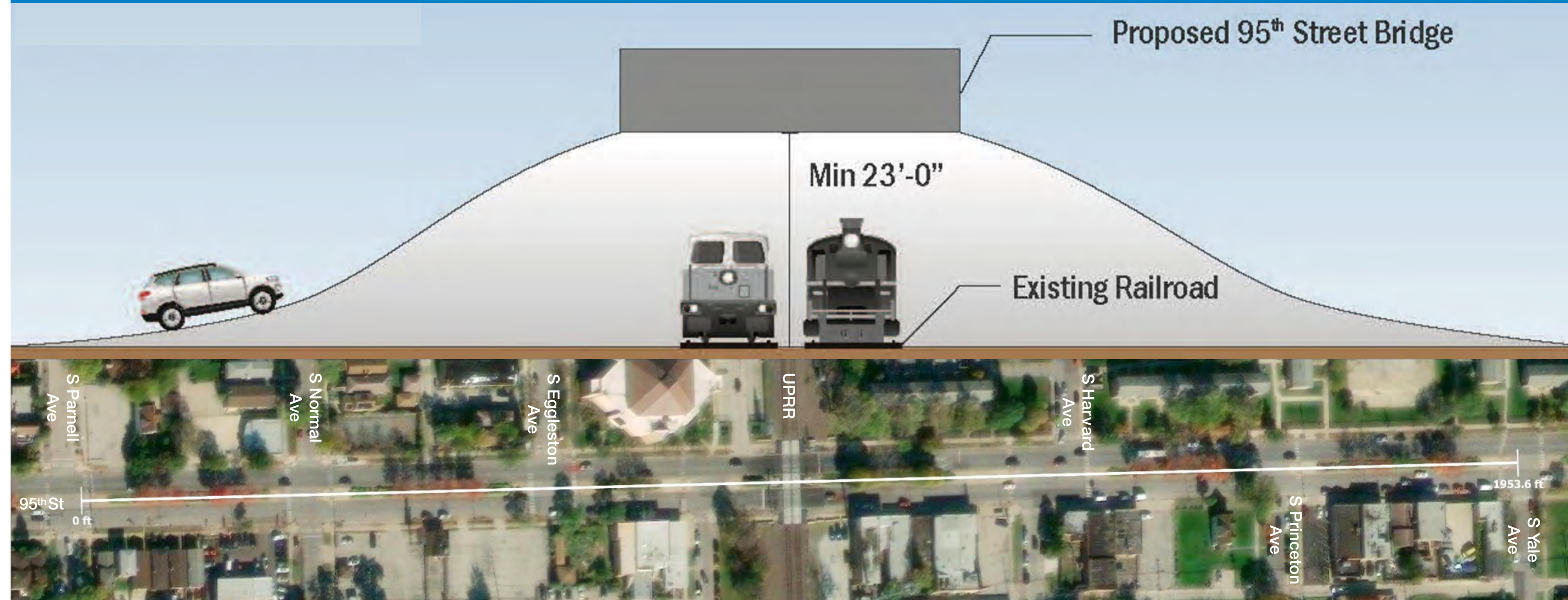
## • Alternative #4: Railroad under 95th Street



Length of railroad improvements = 1.5 miles

# // Original Alternatives Considered

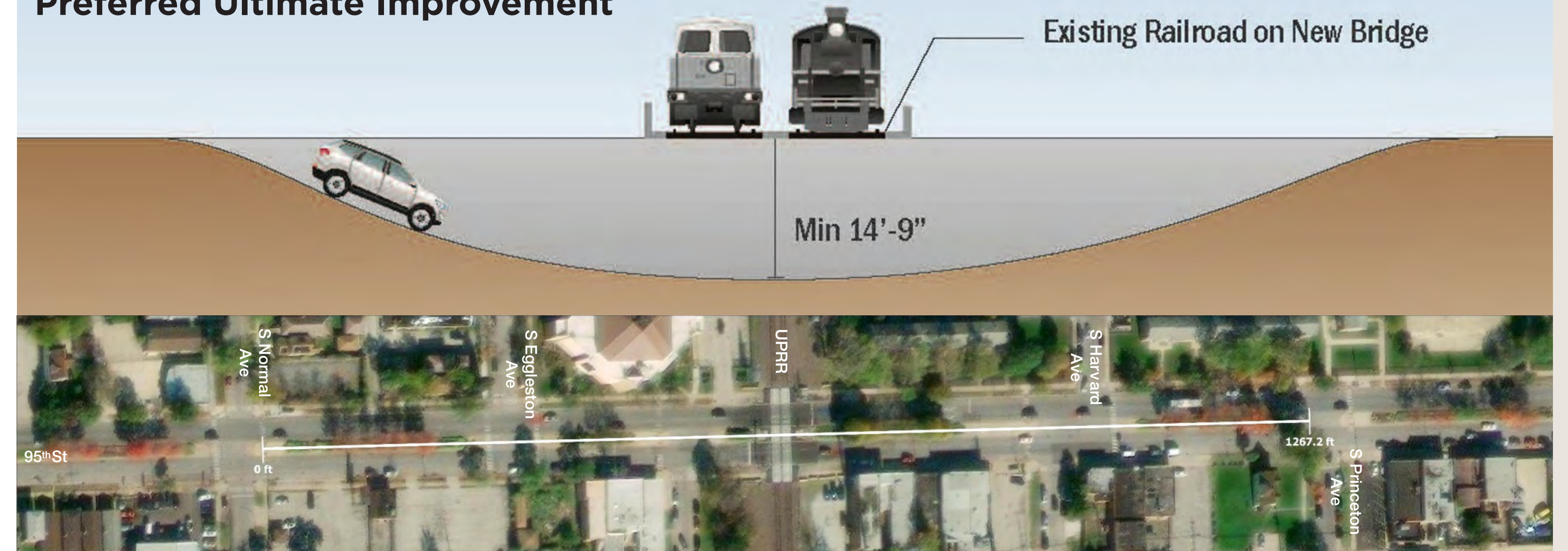
## • Alternative #5: 95th Street over Railroad



Length of roadway improvements = 0.37 miles

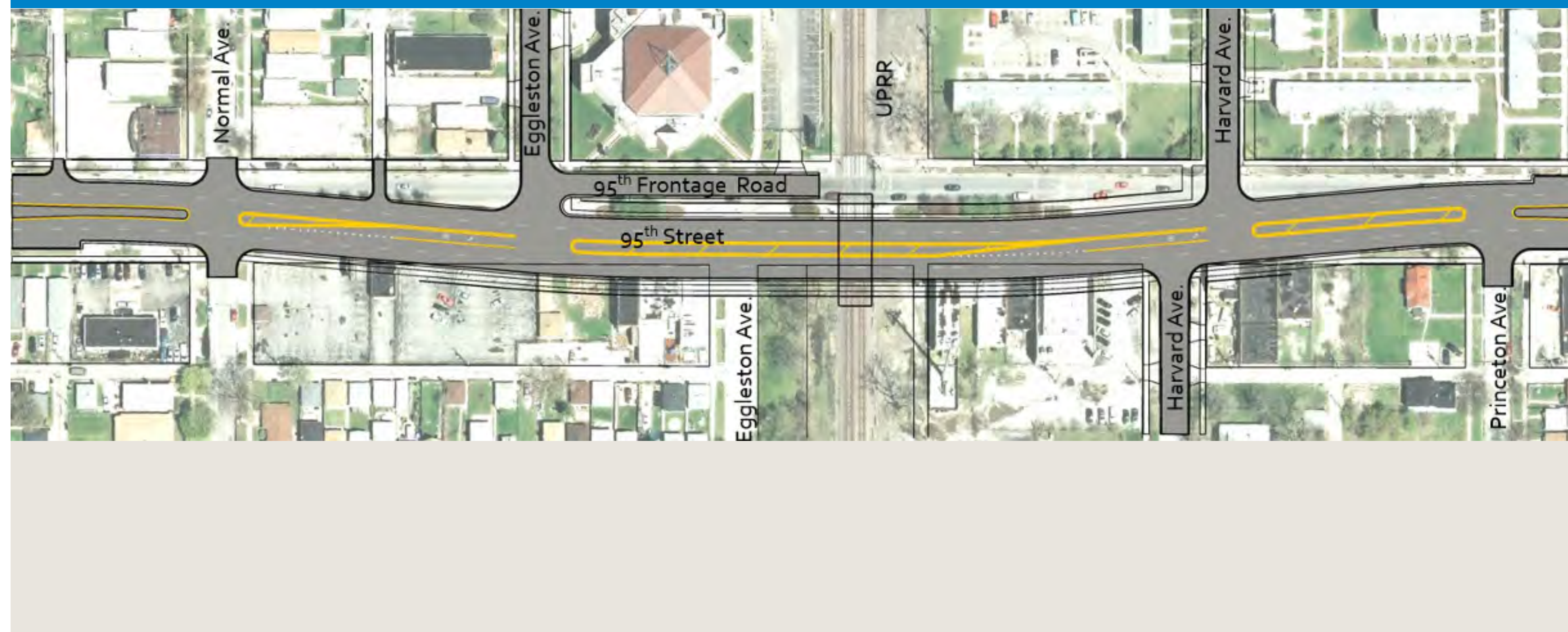
## • Alternative #6: 95th Street under Railroad

### Preferred Ultimate Improvement



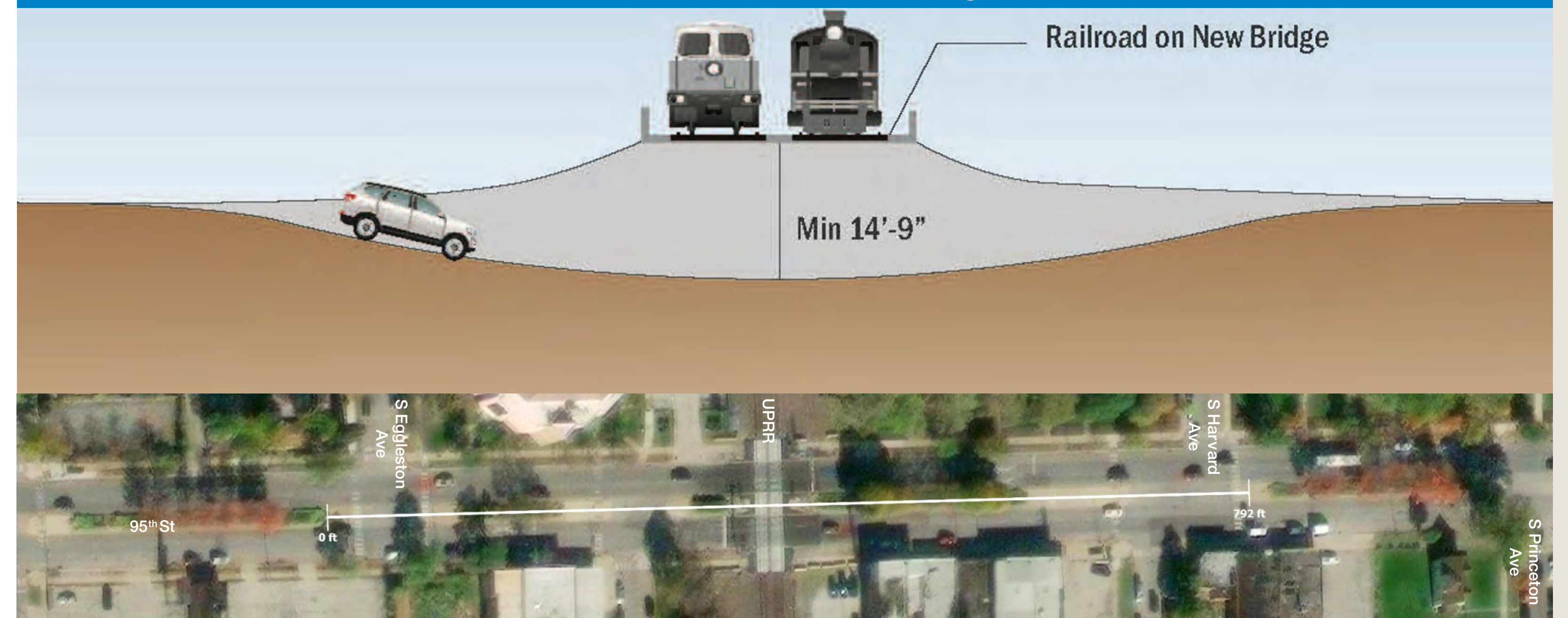
Length of roadway improvements = 0.24 miles

## • Alternative #7: 95th Street under Railroad with Offset Alignment



Length of roadway improvements = 0.32 miles

## • Alternative #8: Hybrid



Length of improvements = 0.15 miles (roadway), 0.71 miles (railroad)

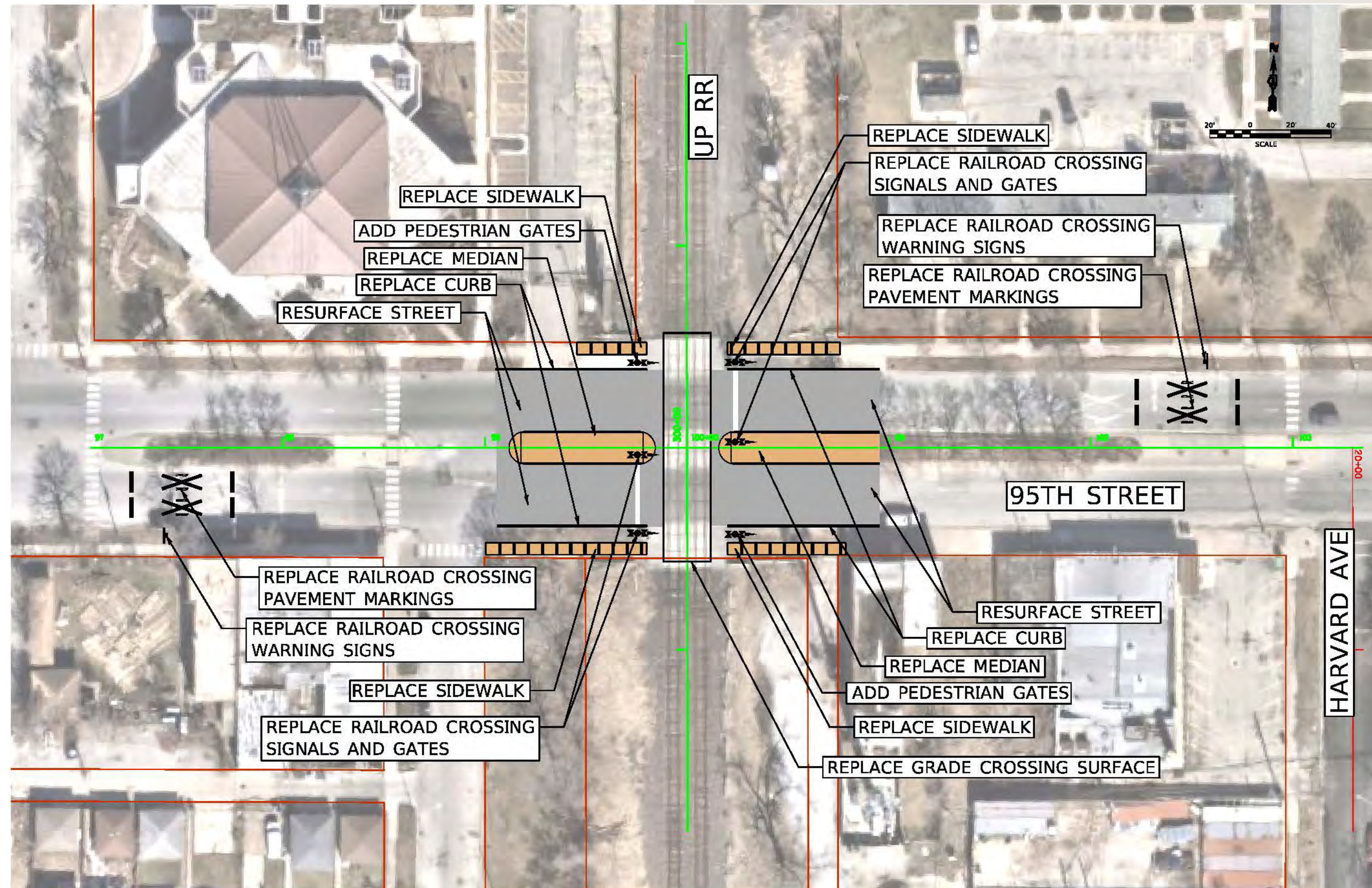
# // Proposed Interim Improvements

Due to impacts and community concerns, CDOT is deferring the grade separation at this time.

To address project safety needs, interim improvements are proposed. This includes:

- Replace the existing railroad warning signs and signal gates
- Add pedestrian gates
- Replace the grade crossing surface
- Replace the sidewalk adjacent to the grade crossing
- Replace the concrete median adjacent to the grade crossing
- Replace the warning signs and pavement markings to match current standards
- Resurface the pavement and replace curbs

# // Proposed Interim Improvements



# // Proposed Interim Improvements

## Replace the Existing Railroad Warning Signals and Gates



## Add Pedestrian Gates



Existing Condition



Example of Pedestrian Gate

# // Proposed Interim Improvements

## Replace the Grade Crossing Surface



Facing North



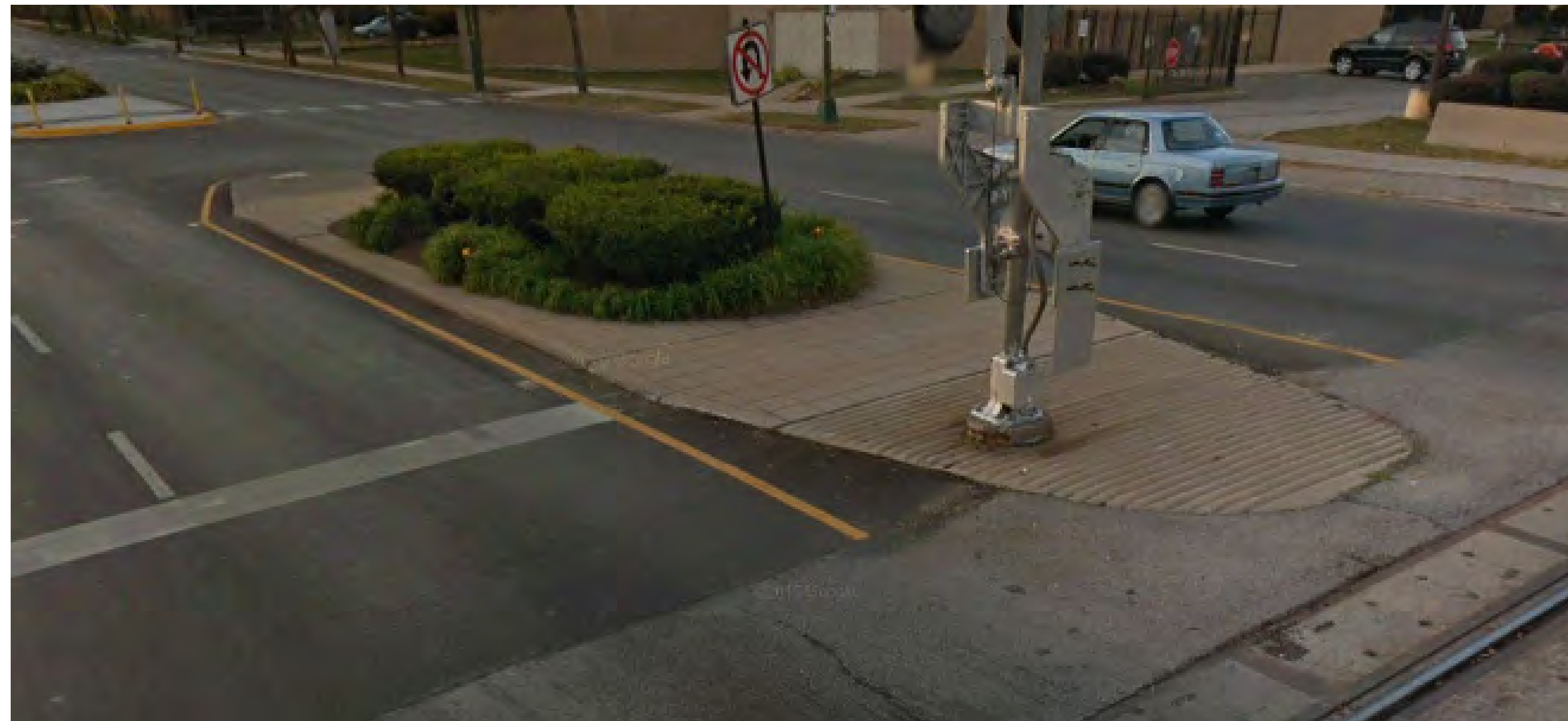
Facing South

## Replace the Sidewalk Adjacent to the Grade Crossing



# // Proposed Interim Improvements

## Replace the Concrete Median Adjacent to the Grade Crossing

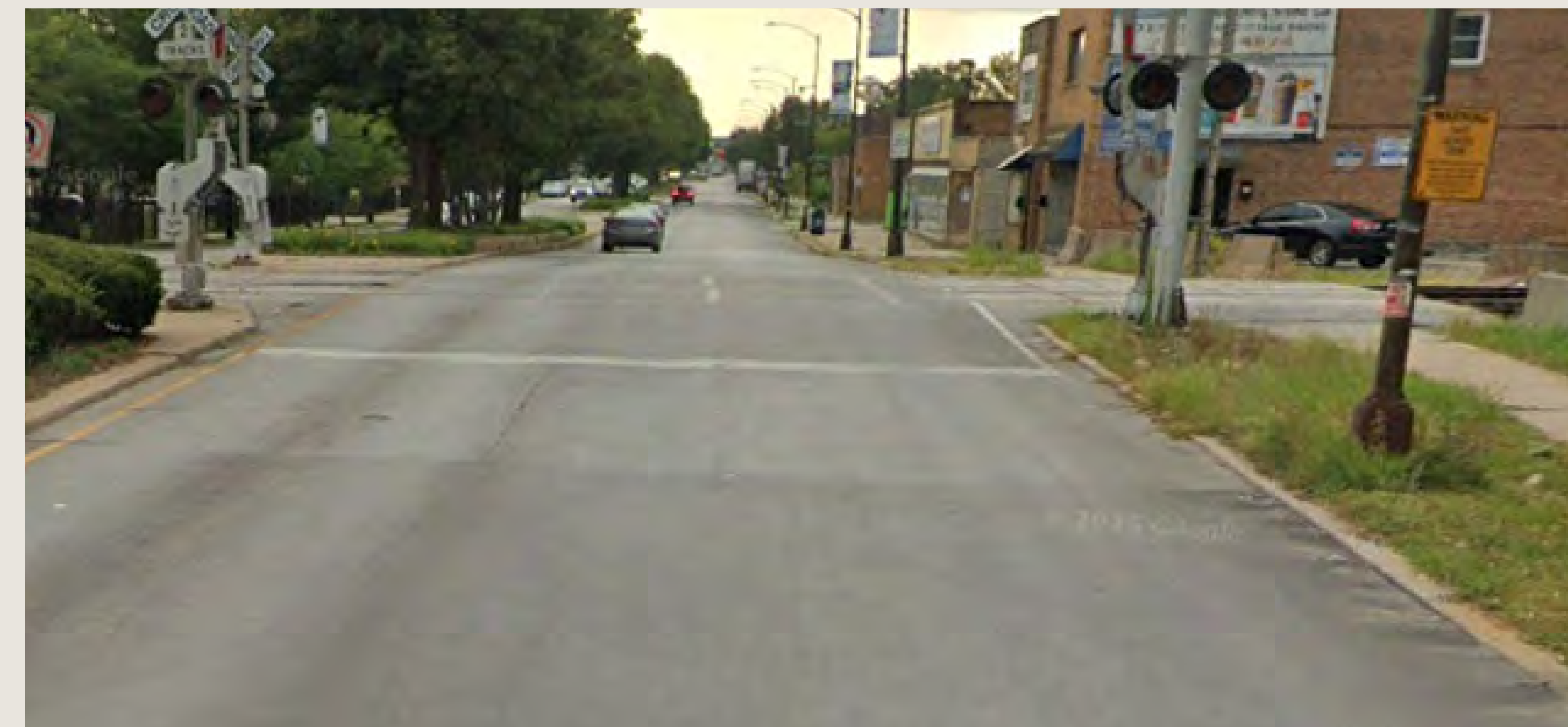


West Concrete Median



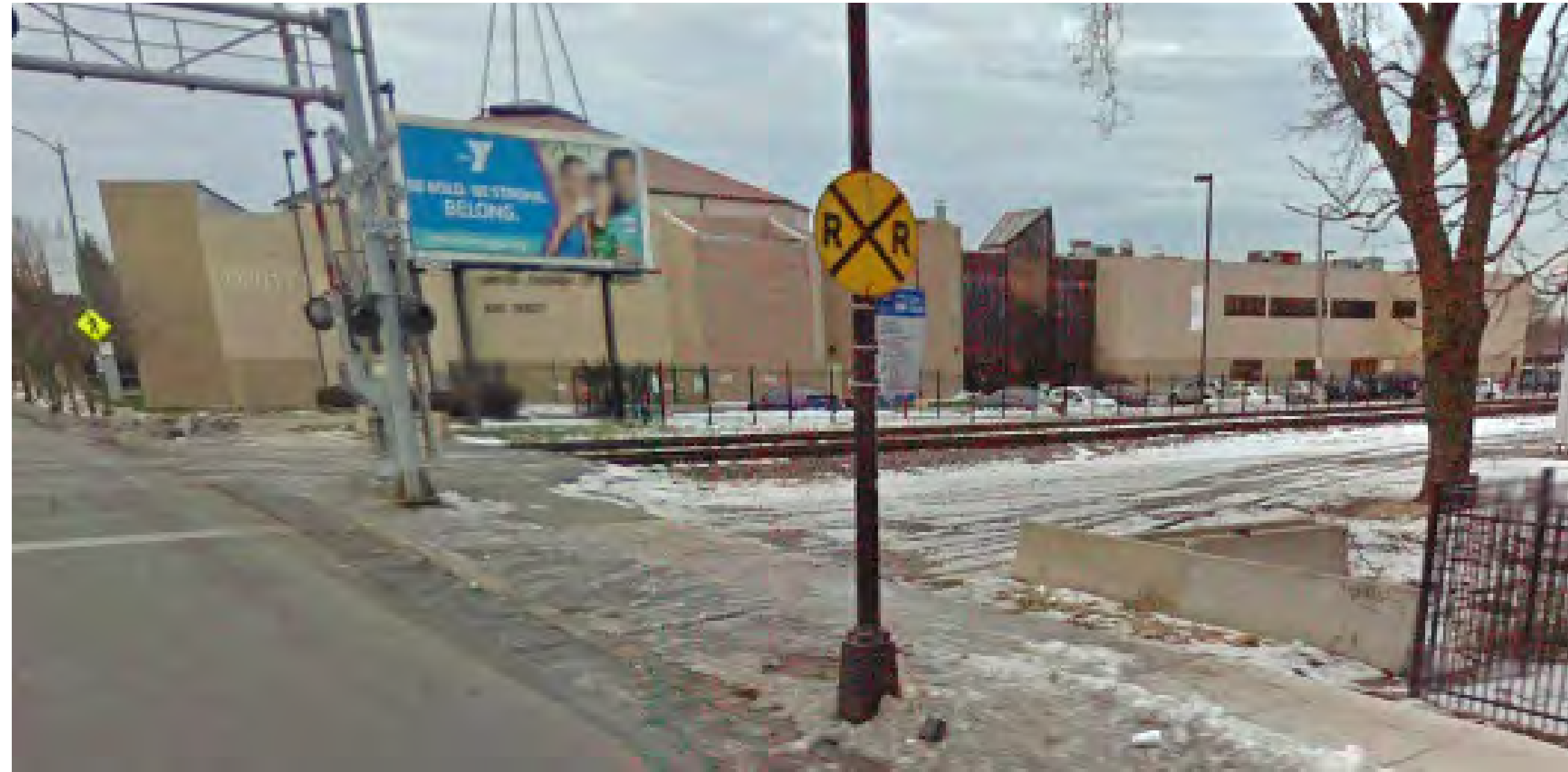
East Concrete Median

## Resurface the Pavement and Replace Curbs



# // Proposed Interim Improvements

Replace the Warning Signs and Pavement Markings to Match Current Standards



# // SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Send your comments by April 10, 2026

Email

[Anthony.Pakeltis@Parsons.com](mailto:Anthony.Pakeltis@Parsons.com)

Mail

Anthony Pakeltis  
222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2450, Chicago, IL 60606

Website

[www.95thuprr.com](http://www.95thuprr.com)



Scan to share feedback.



**Exhibit G**  
**Presentation**

# 95TH STREET AT THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD GS21a PROJECT



Public Information Meeting  
March 26, 2026



# // TODAY'S PRESENTERS



**Soliman Khudeira**  
Chicago Department of  
Transportation



**Robin Beaman**  
Beaman Incorporated  
CDOT Consultant



**Tony Pakeltis**  
Parsons  
CDOT Consultant

# // AGENDA

- Project Overview
- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives Considered
- Preferred Ultimate Alternative
- Interim Improvements
- Next Steps
- Questions and Comments





# PROJECT OVERVIEW



# // PROJECT OVERVIEW



# // PROJECT SCHEDULE

## Phase I: 2018 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2026

### Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Study

- Data Collection
- Field Studies
- Develop Purpose & Need
- Identify and Evaluate Alternatives
- Select the Preferred Alternative
- Public Information Meeting (March 26, 2026)
- Design Approval

## Phase II: 2027\*

**Final Design**  
(Interim  
Improvements  
Only)

## Phase III: 2028\*

**Construction**  
(Interim  
Improvements  
Only)

\*Dependent on funding availability and project readiness

# // PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

## Community Advisory Group:

- CAG 1 – April 16, 2019
- CAG 2 – June 27, 2019
- CAG 3 – July 28, 2020
- CAG 4 – September 27, 2021

## Public Information Meeting:

- Public Information Meeting –  
March 26, 2026





# PURPOSE AND NEED



# // PROJECT DETAILS

**23,000**

Cars Daily

**2,600**

Trucks Daily

**700**

CTA and Pace  
Buses Daily

**26**

Freight and  
Amtrak Trains

# // PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

## Mobility Needs

- The existing at-grade crossing is a conflict between 95th Street users and trains.
- Trains blocking the crossing result in delays for all users of 95th Street.
- Trains blocking the crossing affect emergency vehicle response times.

## Safety Needs

- Conflicts between the railroad and the traveling public create safety concerns.
- Vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists are not prevented from entering the railroad right-of-way.
- Rear end crashes may also be affected by drivers' behavior when crossing the tracks.

# // PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

## Purpose of the Project:

- The purpose of the project is to improve mobility and safety for all users in the project study area

## Project Needs:

- Improve mobility
- Enhance safety





# ORIGINAL ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED



# // ORIGINAL ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

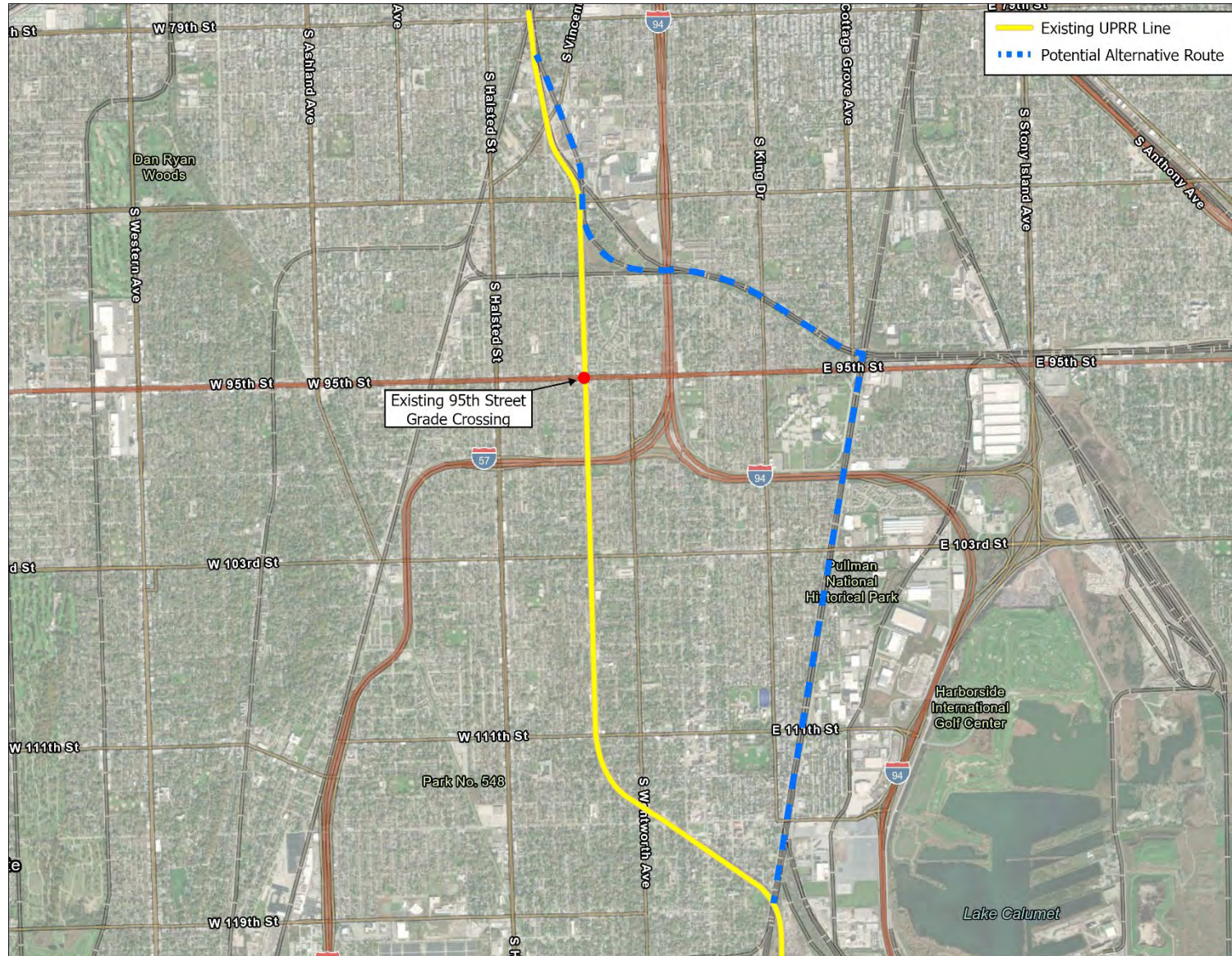
- **Alternative #1:** No Build (Do Nothing)
- **Alternative #2:** UPRR Relocation
- **Alternative #3:** Railroad over 95<sup>th</sup> Street
- **Alternative #4:** Railroad under 95<sup>th</sup> Street
- **Alternative #5:** 95<sup>th</sup> Street over Railroad
- **Alternative #6:** 95<sup>th</sup> Street under Railroad
- **Alternative #7:** 95<sup>th</sup> Street under Railroad with Offset Alignment
- **Alternative #8:** Hybrid

# // Alternative #1: No Build (Do Nothing)

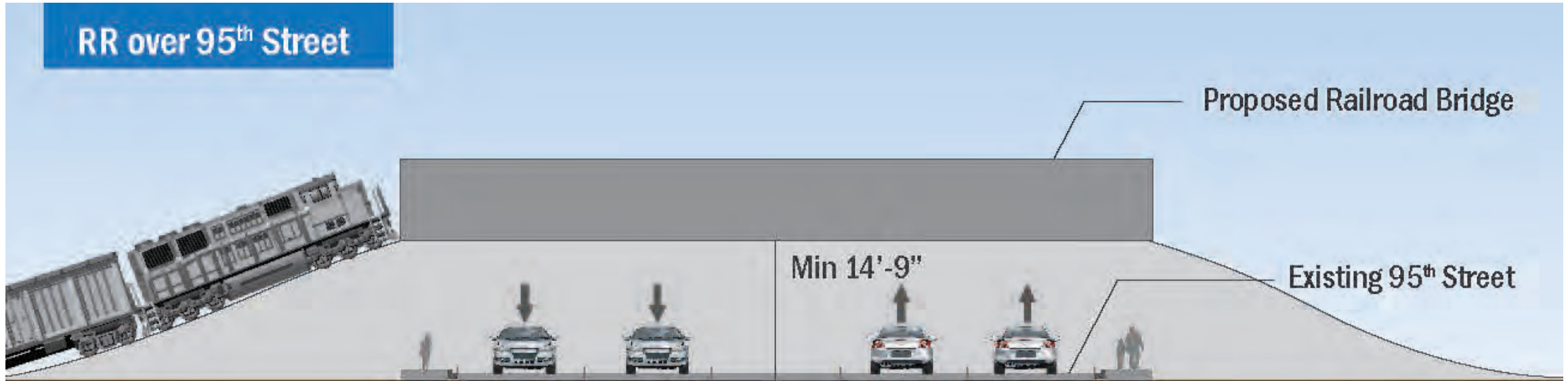
- No improvement to the UPRR at-grade crossing at 95th Street.
- The railroad tracks and roadway remain at the same grade.
- Does not meet Purpose & Need (i.e., improve mobility or enhance safety)



# // Alternative #2: UPRR Relocation

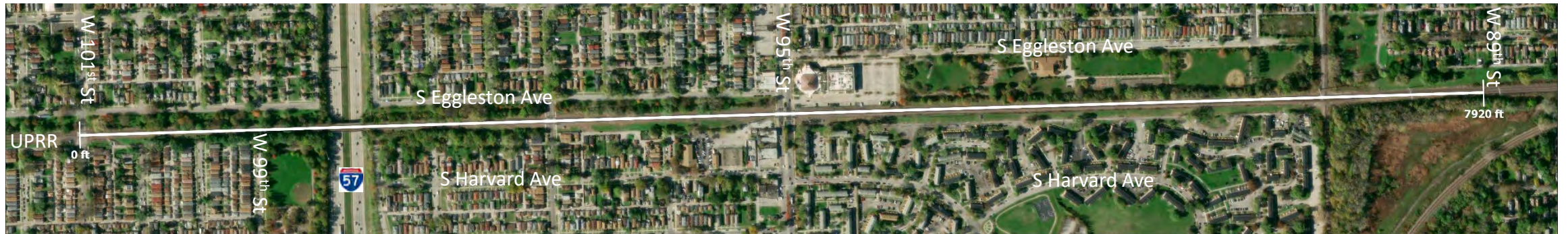
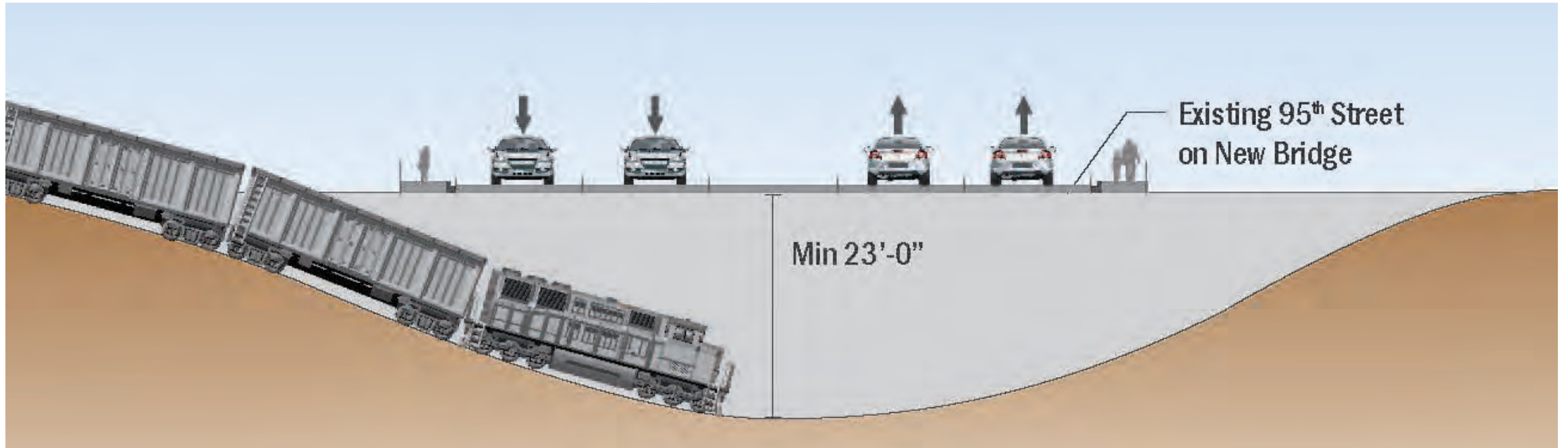


# // Alternative #3: Railroad over 95th Street



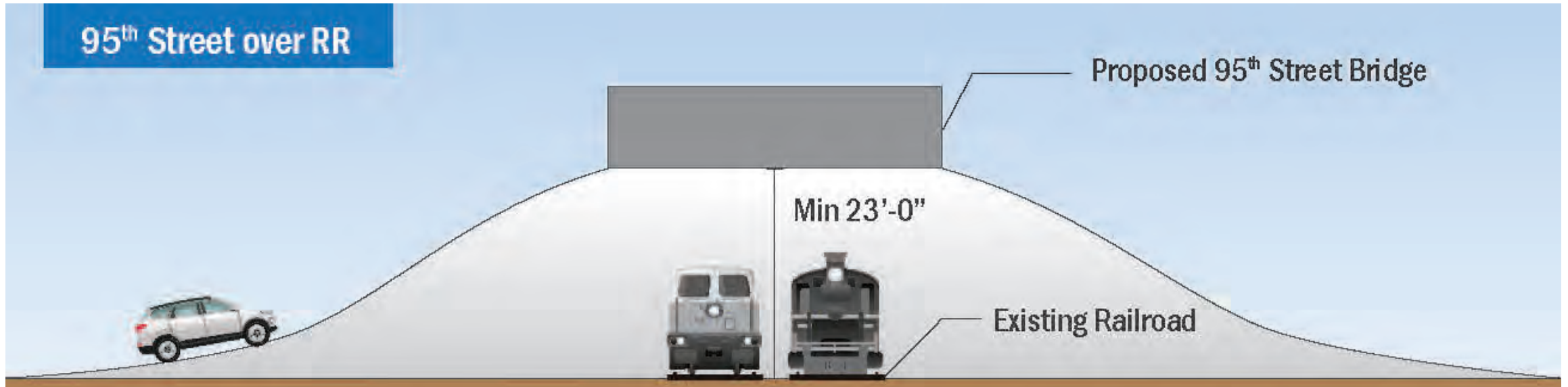
Length of railroad improvements = 1.2 miles

# // Alternative #4: Railroad under 95th Street



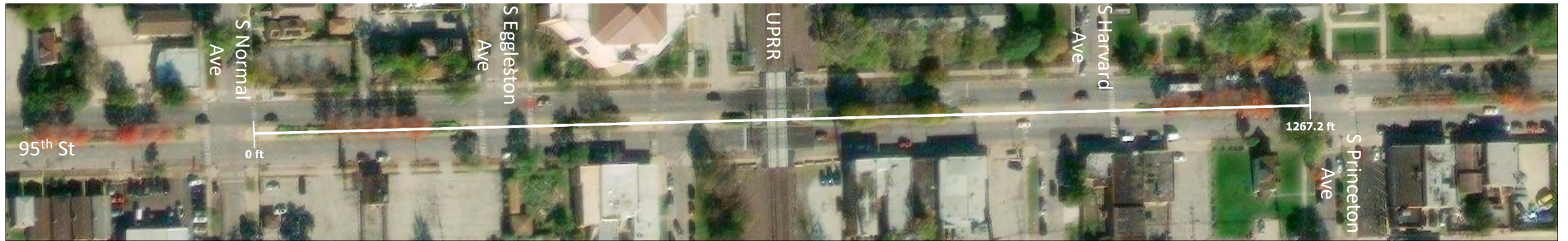
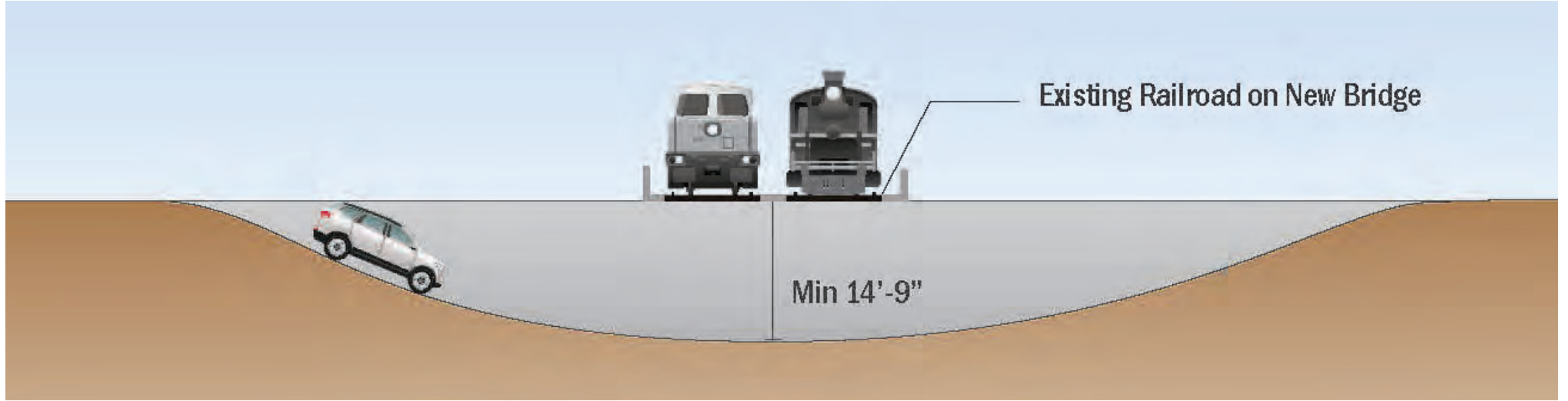
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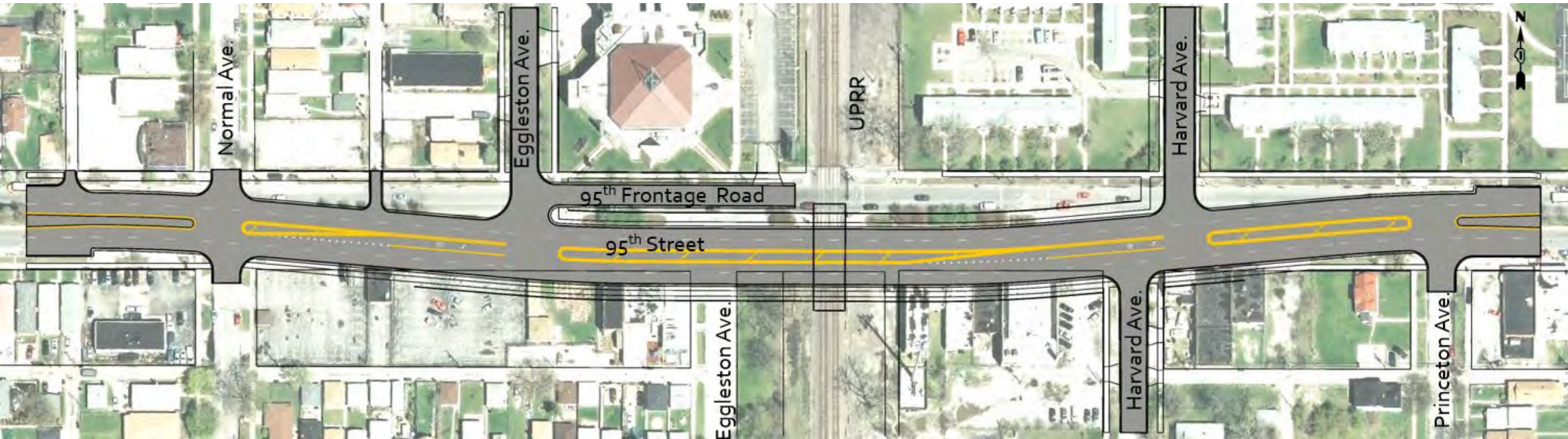
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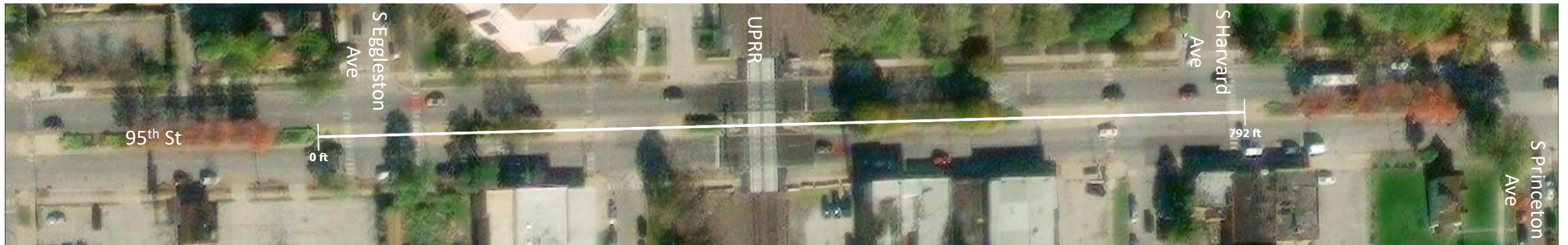
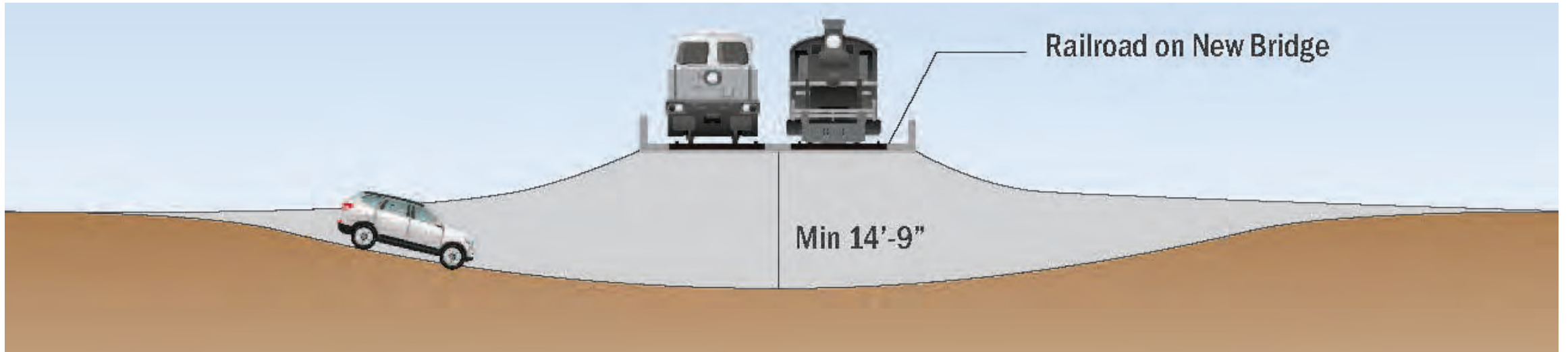
Length of roadway improvements = 0.24 miles

# // Alternative #7: 95th Street under Railroad with Offset Alignment



Length of roadway improvements = 0.32 miles

# // Alternative #8: Hybrid



Length of improvements = 0.15 miles (roadway), 0.71 miles (railroad)

# // FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

**Alternative #6**

**95th Street under Railroad**

**Alternative #8**

**Hybrid**











# // EVALUATION CRITERIA

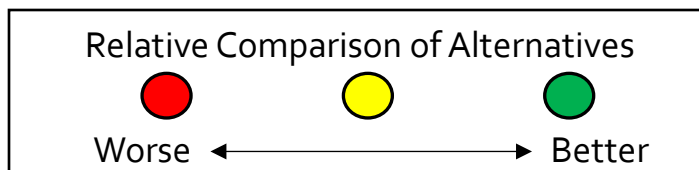
**Performance**

**Constructability  
and Community  
Effects**











**Economically  
Reasonable**

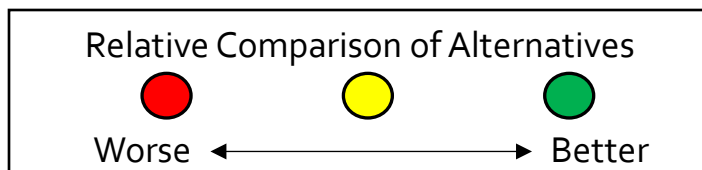
# // EVALUATION OF FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

PERFORMANCE	Alt #6: 95 <sup>th</sup> Street Under RR	Alt #8: Hybrid
Eliminate conflicts between trains and vehicles		
During construction, minimize disruption to 95 <sup>th</sup> Street traffic and freight and passenger trains		
Minimize right-of-way impacts		
Minimize environmental resources impacts		
Accommodate adjacent stakeholder and railroad access		



# // EVALUATION OF FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Constructability and Community Effects	Alt #6: 95 <sup>th</sup> Street Under RR	Alt #8: Hybrid
Enhance project corridor appearance		
Minimize impacts		
Accommodate pedestrian and cyclist traffic along 95 <sup>th</sup> Street		
Facilitate construction and minimal disruptions		
<b>Economically Reasonable</b>		



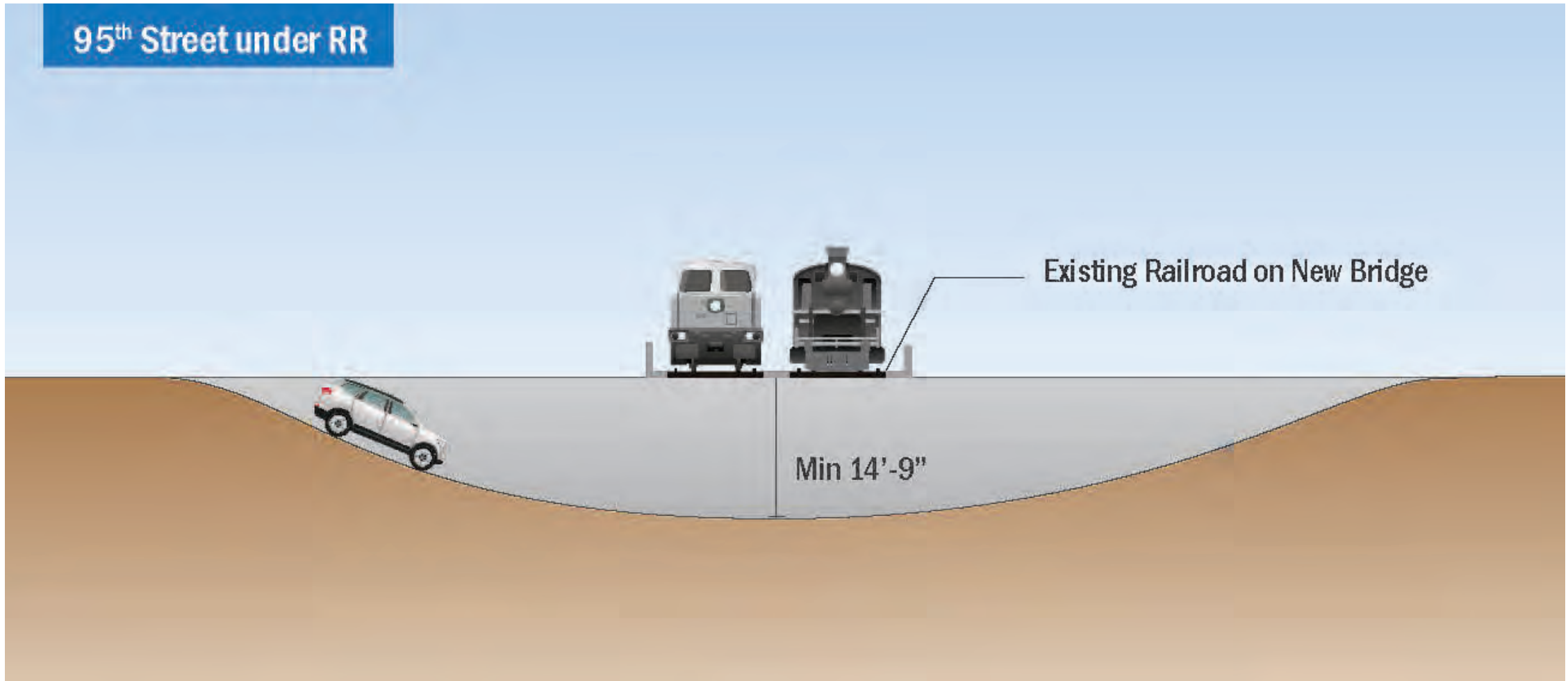


# PREFERRED ULTIMATE ALTERNATIVE



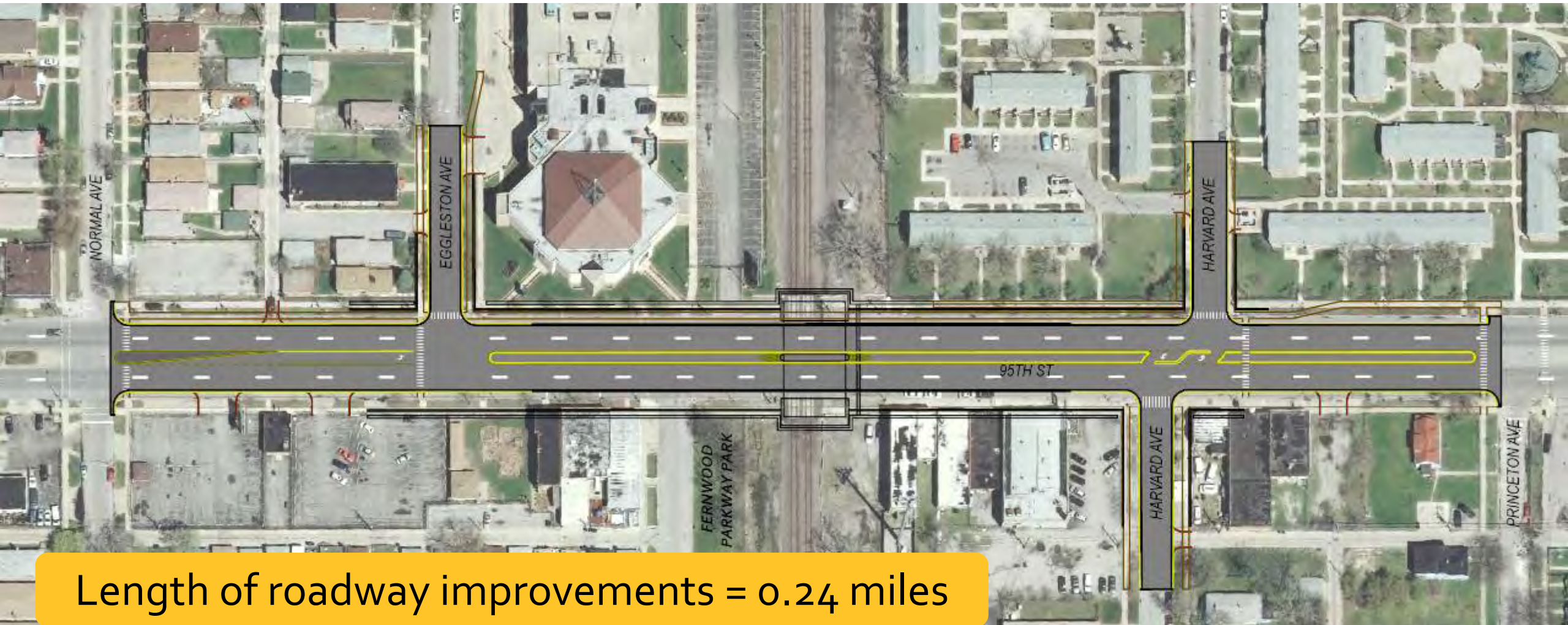
# // PREFERRED ULTIMATE ALTERNATIVE

## Alternative #6: 95th Street under Railroad



# // PREFERRED ULTIMATE ALTERNATIVE

## Alternative #6: 95th Street under Railroad





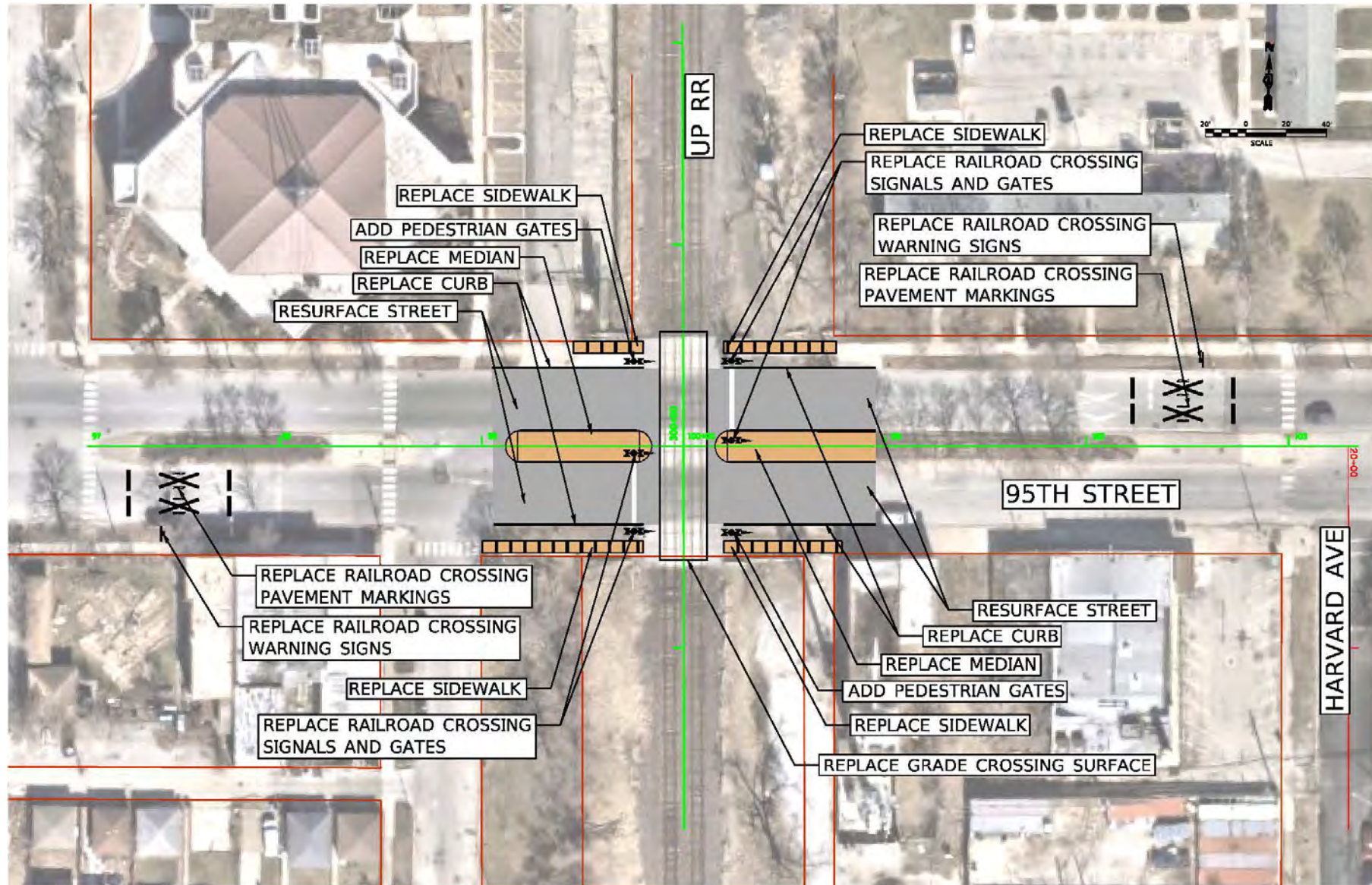
# INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS



# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

- Due to impacts and community concerns, CDOT is deferring the grade separation at this time.
- To address project area purpose & needs, interim improvements are proposed. This includes:
  - Replace the existing railroad warning signals and gates
  - Add pedestrian gates
  - Replace the grade crossing surface
  - Replace the sidewalks adjacent to the grade crossing
  - Replace the concrete median adjacent to the grade crossing
  - Replace the warning signs and pavement markings to match current standards
  - Resurface the pavement and replace curbs

# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS



# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Replace the Existing Railroad Warning Signals and Gates



# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Add Pedestrian Gates



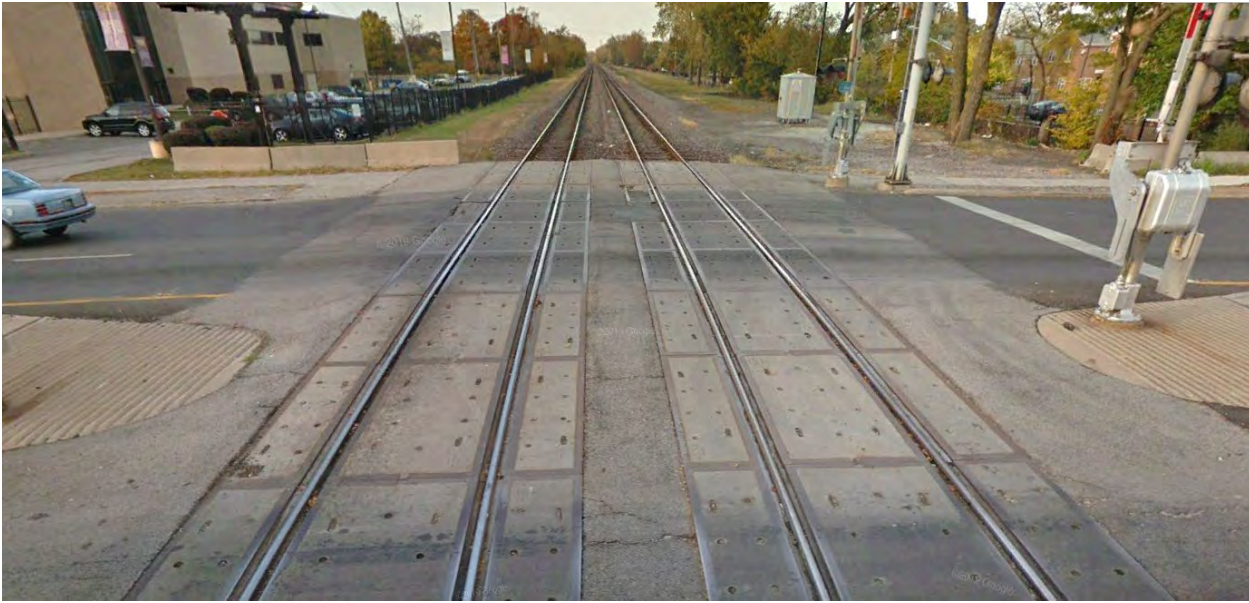
Existing condition



Example of pedestrian gate

# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Replace the Grade Crossing Surface



**Facing North**



**Facing South**

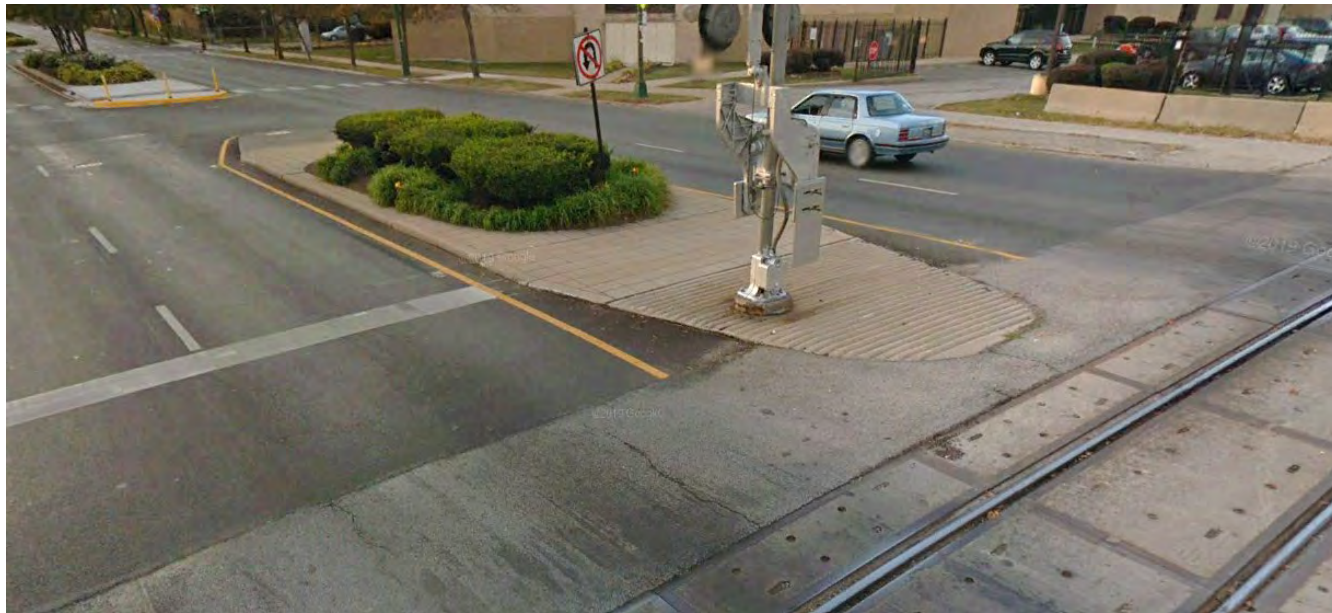
# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Replace the Sidewalks Adjacent to the Grade Crossing

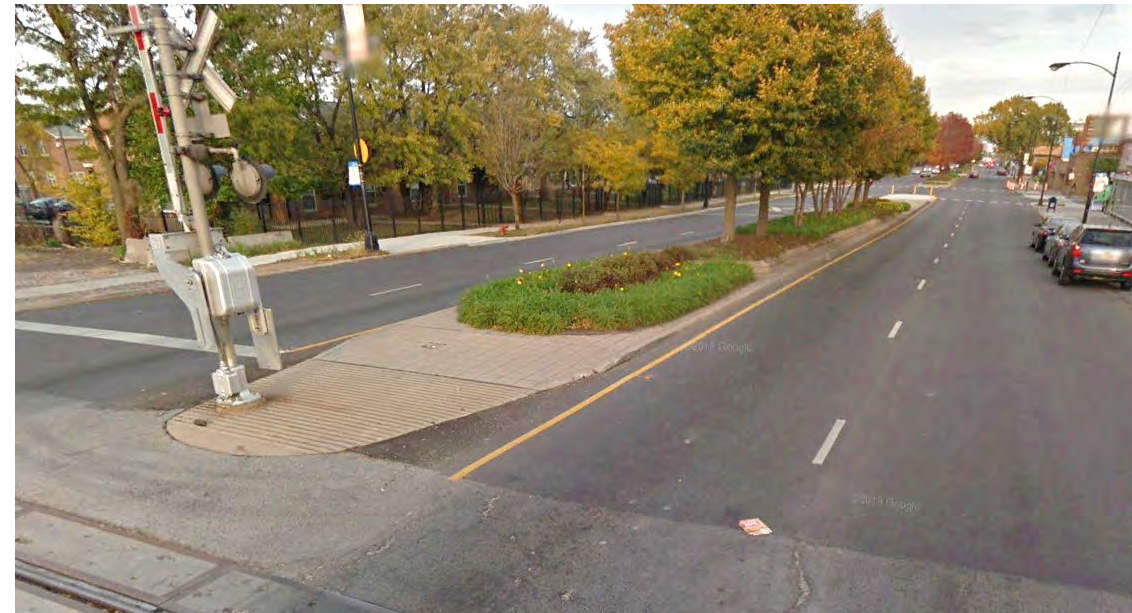


# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Replace the Concrete Median Adjacent to the Grade Crossing



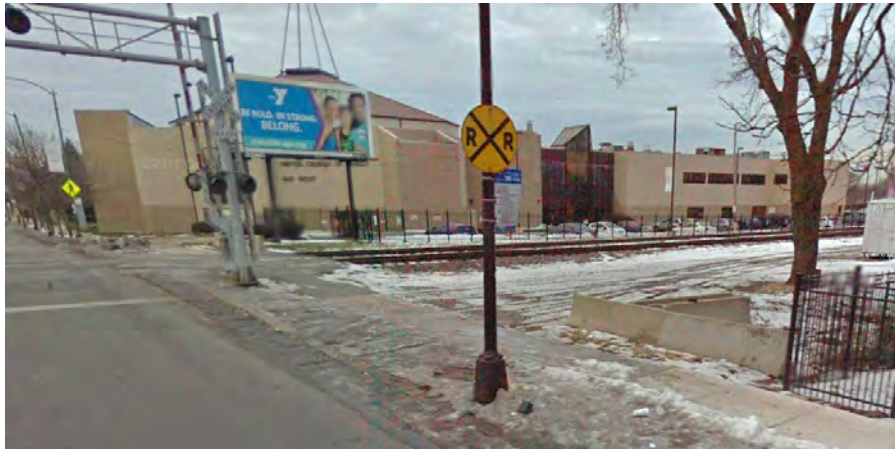
**West Concrete Median**



**East Concrete Median**

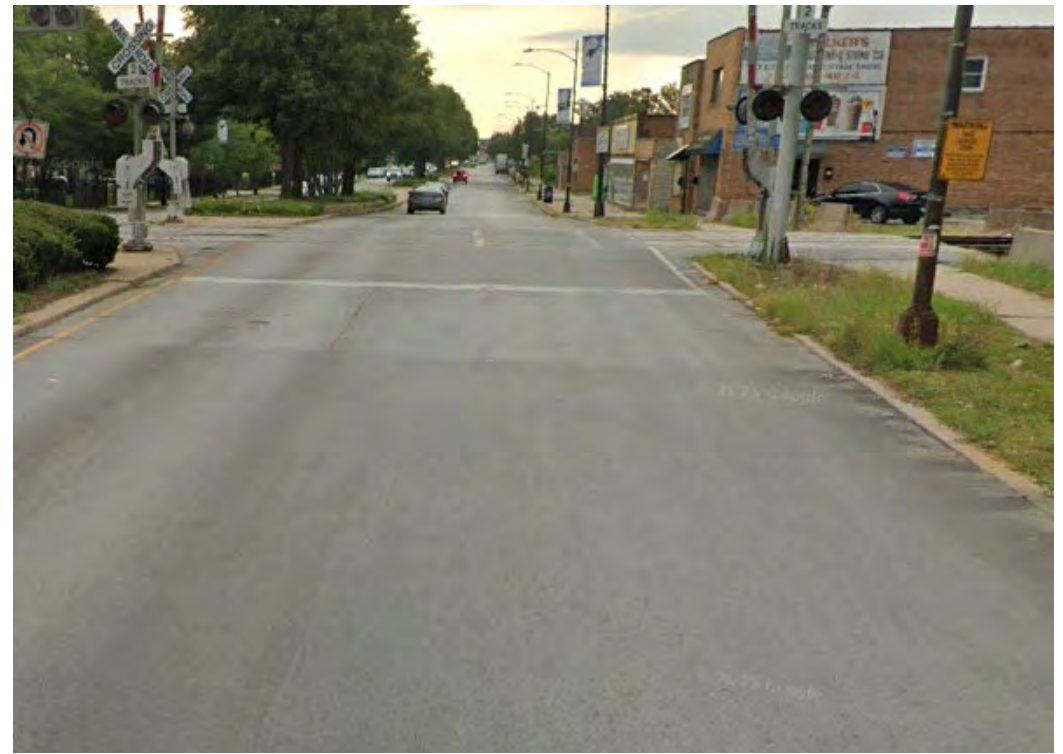
# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

Replace the Warning Signs and Pavement Markings to Match Current Standards



# // PROPOSED INTERIM IMPROVEMENTS

## Resurface the Pavement and Replace Curbs





# NEXT STEPS



# // NEXT STEPS

<b>Complete Project Development Report</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2026</b>
<b>Obtain FHWA/FRA Phase I Design Approval</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2026</b>
<b>Proceed to Phase II Final Design of the Interim Improvements</b>	<b>2027*</b>
<b>Construct the Interim Improvements</b>	<b>2028*</b>

\*Dependent on funding availability and project readiness



# QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS



# // SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

Send your comments by April 10, 2026

Email

[Anthony.Pakeltis@Parsons.com](mailto:Anthony.Pakeltis@Parsons.com)

Mail

Anthony Pakeltis  
222 S Riverside Plaza, Suite 2450, Chicago, IL 60606

Website

[www.95thuprr.com](http://www.95thuprr.com)



# THANK YOU



Exhibit H  
Sign-in Sheets



# SIGN-IN SHEET

Please print clearly.

**Event:** 95<sup>th</sup> Street Grade Crossing Study Public Information Meeting  
Woodson Regional Library, 9525 S. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL

**Date:** Thursday, March 26, 2026

Name	Address	Organization / Affiliation	Email
Dr. Stephanie Davenport	9439 S. Eisenhower	Trinity UCC	Stepbooks351@gmail.com
LENEAD SANDER	1215 E. 95TH ST	CARPENTER	sanderslenead268@gmail.com
DION FLEMING	8442 S MICHIGAN	TUCC	DPFLEM108@aol.com
SHABA DICKMAN	264-AW 95th St	Lowden Homes	
Myra King	202 W 95 <sup>th</sup>	LAC Lowden	myraking13@gmail.com
Janet Henderson		Images, Inc.	Janet.Henderson@ImagesInc.net
Carmen Collins	9617 S. Forest	RHCA	miamelohis@aol.com
Cynthia Johnson	9619 S Forest	RHCA	cjohnson77@gmail.com
Vance Saunders	9718 S. Indiana	RHCA	Vsaunders9188@att.net
Rev. Veronica Johnson	901 E. 95 <sup>th</sup> St. St. L.	EndeLeo	vmjohnson@endeleo.org



# SIGN-IN SHEET

Please print clearly.

**Event:** 95<sup>th</sup> Street Grade Crossing Study Public Information Meeting  
Woodson Regional Library, 9525 S. Halsted Street, Chicago, IL

**Date:** Thursday, March 26, 2026

Name	Address	Organization / Affiliation	Email
*DEBORAH TRUSS	60628 P.O. BOX 288644	RED LINE EXTENSION COALITION	DLTRUSS2015@GMAIL.COM
CHARLES WALTON	7346 S. CLYDE, CHGO 60649	TRINITY UCC	CEWALTON2@GMAIL.COM
Augh Woodson	347 W 102 <sup>nd</sup> PL Chicago, IL	Chicago and Black Deaf Advocates	Pandaaapricone@gmail.com
SAMUEL TOOK		IEI	stuck@infrastructure-eng.com
Velicia Goode		IDOT	stuck
JAMES ROBINSON	401 W. 95 <sup>TH</sup> ST		Velicia.goode@illinois.gov
Soliman Khudeira	1149 W. VERMONT PK	CDOT	GODFREY JR@COMCAST.NET
Charles Perry	21 E 95 <sup>th</sup> ST	Business owner	Soliman.khudeira@cityofchicago.gov
Susson Duchon	353 W. 95 <sup>th</sup>	Duchon Realty	charles.perry.1929@icloud.com
			Sussonduchon@MSW.COM

(773) 326-5582

**Exhibit I**  
**Live Comment/Response Session**

# 95<sup>TH</sup> STREET GRADE CROSSING STUDY

## PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Date: March 26, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM; 6:30 PM Presentation

Location: Woodson Regional Library

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### Live Comment/Response Session:

**Question:** Are you just doing the interim improvement until the design is approved to fix everything?

**Answer:** In the near term, CDOT is only considering the design and construction of the interim improvements. CDOT is treating the interim improvements and the grade separation as two separate projects. If/when CDOT pursues the grade separation in the future, the results of this study will be revisited.

**Question:** Which alternative was the CAG's recommendation?

**Answer:** All 8 alternatives were presented to the CAG, and Alternative 6 (95<sup>th</sup> Street under the UPRR) was identified as the Preferred Ultimate Improvement. There was no dissent that this was the best grade separation alternative, but members of the CAG did voice concerns regarding the potential impacts of the Preferred Ultimate Improvement.

**Question:** Is there some degree of certainty for funding?

**Answer:** Funding for the interim improvements will be requested after Phase I design approval. While CDOT is designing the interim improvements (about 60% complete), CDOT will request funding for construction.

**Question:** For any displacements, is this part of the funding that is requested.

**Answer:** The interim improvements will not require the acquisition of any property; therefore, there will be no displacements or other property acquisition. If/when the grade separation is revisited, funding for right-of-way acquisition will be requested as part of the future design and construction.

**Question:** How do they divert the traffic while they are doing the interim improvements?

**Answer:** It is anticipated that stage construction would be employed, which will allow traffic to be maintained through the project study area while improvements are being made. There will always be at least one lane open for each direction of traffic.

**Question:** Is there a chance that the interim improvements will satisfy the majority of concerns and lead to no need to pursue the ultimate improvement?

**Answer:** The interim improvements will improve safety, which should satisfy elements of the purpose and need in the short term. Project study area needs will be assessed in the future to determine if and when the Preferred Ultimate Alternative should be pursued.

**Question:** What is the estimated construction cost for interim improvements?

**Answer:** \$3 million.

**Question:** Who was a part of the Community Advisory Group?

**Answer:** The CAG was made up of representatives from local schools, churches, PACE, CTA, emergency responders, and other community members. CAG materials, including a list of CAG members, can be found on the project website. In addition, the discussion regarding the Preferred Ultimate Improvement can be found in the meeting summaries from CAG meetings #3 and #4.

**Question:** When will there be another public meeting?

**Answer:** No other public meetings are planned at this time. Comments will be accepted until April 10<sup>th</sup> to be included in the public information meeting record.

**Question:** Three miles west of this grade crossing, past Western Avenue and by Mariano's (on 95<sup>th</sup> between Western and California) has the same issue, and they did the interim upgrade but didn't go any further. Would hope they would study what is happening there, and they found out a grade separation wasn't needed. They have more cars and traffic over there. Hope that before people are displaced that it is investigated if it is necessary. Train doesn't stop over there like it does over here.

**Answer:** No displacements are required as part of the proposed interim improvements. Project study area needs will be assessed in the future to determine if and when the Preferred Ultimate Alternative should be pursued.

**Question:** Corridor improvements by the Chicago Department of Planning (CPD). They are planning to invest in a DPD property that would be torn down. They want to know if they should make their investment and would hope that there is much more investigation before a decision is made. Concerned for the future of the grade separation.

**Answer:** Project study area needs will be assessed in the future to determine if and when the Preferred Ultimate Alternative should be pursued. If a grade separation were to be advanced, there would be more CAG meetings, and traffic, safety, and mobility would be reevaluated.

**Question:** Concerns with the property immediately south of Trinity Church (the daycare). When you do move forward, will there be more contact with people in the area? How do you coordinate the needs of daycare access (and access to adjacent properties) during construction?

**Answer:** It is standard for all projects to assess access to properties during construction. In 2027, more outreach will happen in the community to address all exits and entrances to properties in the project area. CDOT will not block any entrance or driveways during these types of projects. None of the proposed interim improvements are in front of the daycare.

**Question:** Will the grade separation affect Lowden homes? Any displacements in this area? How will this impact them?

**Answer:** The grade separation would not require any permanent property acquisition or displacements at Lowden Homes. Temporary easement along 95<sup>th</sup> Street would be required during construction since 95<sup>th</sup> Street would be lowered in front of Lowden Homes. Access would be maintained at Harvard Avenue. The interim improvements would not impact any property at Lowden Homes.

**Exhibit J**  
**Additional Comments Received**



## COMMENT SHEET

Date: 3/26/26

Name: Dr. Stephanie Davenport

Address: 9439 So. Ebenhart Ave

Organization/Affiliation: Trinity United Church of Christ

Email: Stepbooks381@gmail.com

### Comments:

This is a thriving community that needs to  
stay intact - Alternative - Do nothing!

All other alternatives seem (in appearance)  
to interrupt/rearrange/upset several small

but important businesses. This is an older

community - my house belonged to my paternal

grandparents and great-grandmother. Please consider

Thank you for sharing your feedback.

**Answer: Alternative 6 was selected as the Preferred Ultimate Improvement. Alternative 6 would provide a grade separation by lowering 95th Street under the railroad tracks. CDOT is deferring the grade separation at this time due to impacts and community concerns. Interim improvements are proposed which will include improvements to the roadway and grade crossing surfaces, sidewalks, and warning devices.**

**From:** [Pakeltis, Anthony \[US-US\]](#)  
**To:** [cjpowell76@gmail.com](mailto:cjpowell76@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Chicago Department of Transportation  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026 5:41:00 AM

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Thank you for your comments regarding the 95<sup>th</sup> Street at the UPRR Grade Crossing Study.

The list of CAG members is available at the project website at this link:

<https://95thuprr.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Final-Stakeholder-Involvement-Plan.pdf>.

Please see Appendix C – Community Advisory Group.

The Preferred Ultimate Improvement (95<sup>th</sup> Street Under UPRR) was discussed at CAG Meetings #3 and #4. All the CAG Meeting summaries are available at this link:

<https://95thuprr.com/resources/>.

CDOT is aware of the 95<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Plan. The interim improvements will not affect any existing or future land use development along 95<sup>th</sup> Street as no property will be required for those improvements.

CDOT held the public information meeting to obtain input from community stakeholders regarding the preferred ultimate and interim improvements. No additional meetings are planned for the 95<sup>th</sup> Street Grade Crossing Study at this time since only the interim improvements would be advanced over the next couple of years. As noted during the public information meeting, timing for a future grade separation along 95<sup>th</sup> Street at the UPRR is unknown. When the grade separation project would move forward, there would be another round of public involvement and outreach associated with those improvements.

The interim improvements will address some of the safety and mobility issues identified in the project study area, but CDOT does not have the authority to address trains that may be idling at the crossing.

If you have any additional questions, please let me know.

Thanks,  
Tony

**TONY PAKELTIS, AICP**

222 South Riverside, Suite 2450, Chicago, Illinois 60606

[anthony.pakeltis@parsons.com](mailto:anthony.pakeltis@parsons.com)

Direct: +1 312.930.5268 / Mobile: +1 312.590.3312

[Parsons](#) / [LinkedIn](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#)



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**From:** Chicago Department of Transportation <admin@95thuprr.com>

**Date:** Friday, April 10, 2026 at 10:14 PM

**To:** Kenneth Wojcieszek <creativeservices@kenwojcieszekdesign.com>

**Subject:** Chicago Department of Transportation

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**Name**

Cynthia Jenkins-Powell

---

**Email**

[cjpowell76@gmail.com](mailto:cjpowell76@gmail.com)

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**Comment or Message**

After attending the March 26, 2026 public information meeting held at Woodson Library, I found the presentation very concerning to me and for my community. It appeared that the decision to install the grade separation had been made with unknown community representation. At the meeting, I inquired who are the Community Advisory Group members for the 95th Street & Union Pacific project. Mr. Tony Pakeltis, CDOT Consultant, responded he didn't know off the top of his head but that the information could be found on the website, <http://www.95thuprr.com> [95thuprr.com]. I did not find the CAG information on the website. I am therefore asking, as a community resident, who are the CAG members and which organizations do they represent.

The presentation provided no reference to the 95th Street Corridor Plan (Plan) adopted February 2025 by the Chicago Plan Commission. The Plan outlines what the community aspires to have accomplished on 95th Street. However, the presentation shared at the meeting reflects current and proposed businesses in defined areas of 95th Street being eliminated, which is totally unacceptable to those of us who support the 95th Street Corridor Plan. Mr. Soliman Khudeira repeatedly stated the proposed grade separation would be completed in the "future." It was my understanding that the public meeting was to secure input from community stakeholders which could impact how the grade separation project moves forward. Is this an accurate statement? When Mr. Khudeira was asked about the 95th Street Corridor Plan, he simply stated that he was aware of it but didn't share how or even if

it would impact the grade separation project. This disregard is unsettling especially with the inordinate amount of work poured into the 95th Street Corridor Plan and associated projects underway.

I and those who travel the 95th Street Corridor regularly are painfully aware of the mobility and safety issues with the current railroad landscape. Please know that the interim improvements shared in the presentation are welcomed and looked forward to having them completed in 2028. How will the interim improvements address better management of trains idling at the railroad crossing for extended periods of time?

In closing, I implore CDOT to hold another public meeting to allow additional time to understand the content presented and accept additional public comments. I was surprised when meeting attendees were told that the March 26, 2026 meeting would be the one and only public meeting. Unfortunately, March 26 was a stormy night, which surely kept many residents from attending. The information provided at the meeting was being received for the first time for a fair number of attendees. Community meetings are being scheduled to share and discuss the materials provided. I am hopeful that another public meeting hosted by CDOT will be scheduled to have a more robust and open dialogue with the community.

Thank you in advance for your responses and consideration.

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Sent from [Chicago Department of Transportation \[95thuprr.com\]](mailto:Chicago Department of Transportation [95thuprr.com])