

95TH STREET AT THE UPRR GRADE SEPARATION STUDY



**95TH STREET AT UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD GRADE SEPARATION – GS21a
COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG) MEETING**

First CAG Meeting - April 16, 2019



CAG Background



Community Advisory Group (CAG)



- **Elected Officials**
- **Regulatory Agencies**
- **Advocacy Groups**
- **Business Organizations**
- **Community Leaders**

Purpose of the First CAG Meeting



- **Introduce the Project**
- **Present Existing Conditions**
- **Overview of the Phase I Design Process**
- **Define Roles of the CAG**

Meeting Agenda



- **CAG Background**
- **Introductions**
- **Overview of the Project**
- **CREATE Program**
- **Project Details**
- **Stakeholder Involvement Process**
- **Community Advisory Group (CAG) Details**
- **Next Steps**



Introductions



Introductions



Soliman Khudeira

Section Chief, Major Projects

Joe Alonzo

CREATE Program Manager

PARSONS

Tony Pakeltis

Project Manager

AnneMarie Jensen

Project Engineer



Zubair Haider

IDOT Coordinator

Samuel Tuck, III

IDOT Coordinator



Robin Beaman

Public Involvement Principal



Ken Freimuth

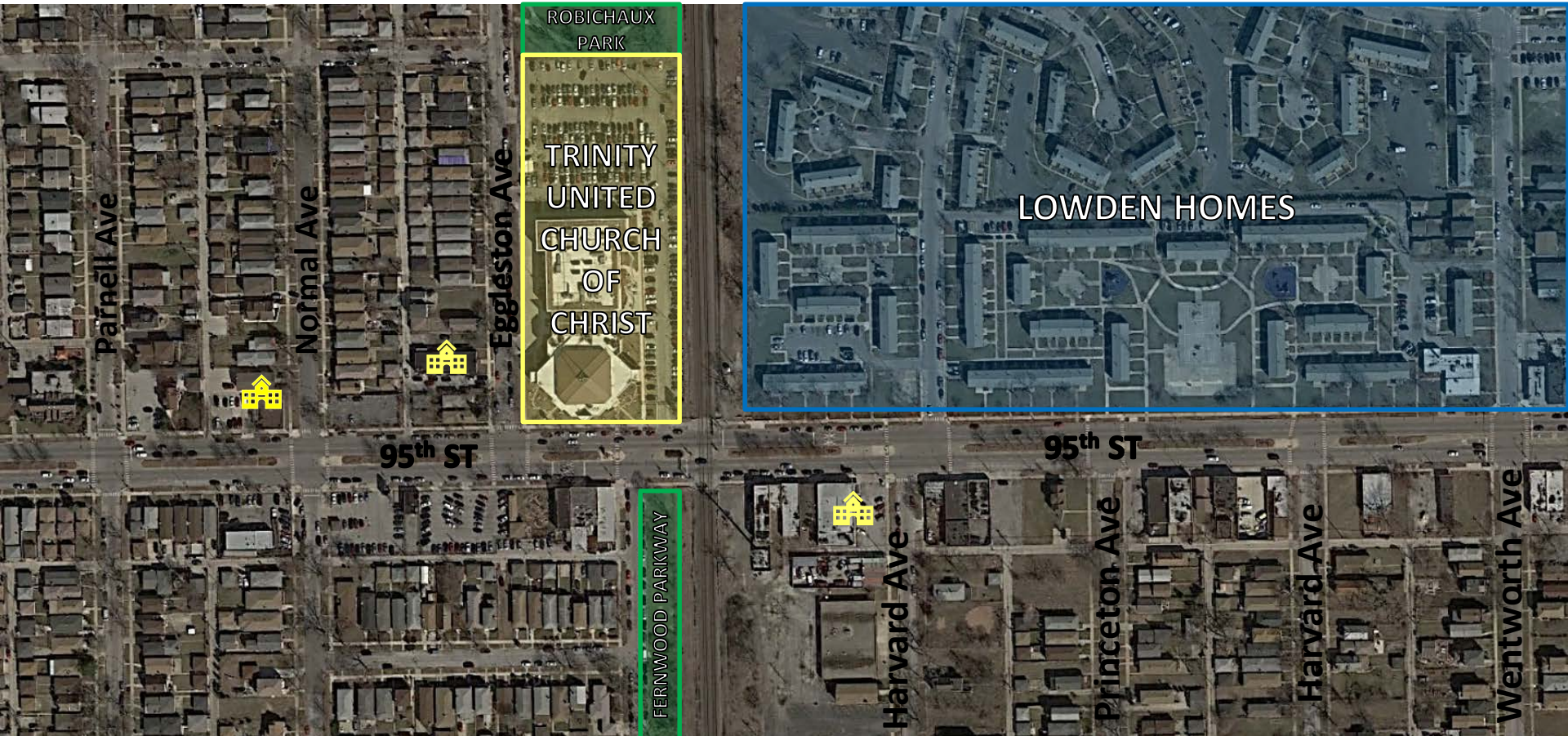
Union Pacific Project Design



Overview of the Project



Map



Project Benefits



- Improve safety
- Reduce congestion
- Eliminate delays
- Improve access for emergency responders
- Improve air quality
- Economic benefits
- Improve bicycle/pedestrian accommodations



Planning Process



Project Implementation Process

Phase I

2018 - 2020

Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Studies



Phase II

2021 - 2022

Contract Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition

Phase III

2023 - 2024

Construction

Phase 1: Preliminary Engineering



Phase I

- Data collection
- Purpose and need
- Identify options/alternatives
- Develop feasible alternative to carry forward
- Evaluate and refine preferred alternative
- Obtain approval of preferred alternative

Phase 1: Preliminary Engineering



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – 1969

- **Primary national charter for the protection of the environment**
- **Full range of reasonable alternatives**
- **Comprehensive environmental review**
- **Public Involvement**
- **Formal documentation/disclosure**

Phase 1:

Preliminary Engineering



Context Sensitive Solution (CSS)

- Guiding Principles
- Shared stakeholder vision
- Comprehensive understanding of context
- Increased communication and collaboration
- Sensitivity to the environment
- Exercises design flexibility



CREATE Program





CREATE Projects in the Chicago Area



CREATE Program



70 CREATE Projects ➔ 30-Year Benefits of **\$31.5 Billion**

Rail Benefits

Economic Growth

Chicago can accommodate growth in passenger and freight trains

Fewer Delays

Reduced delay to passenger and freight trains

Cost Savings

Reduced shipping costs may be passed on to consumers

Increased Safety

Elimination of rail – roadway conflicts at 25 grade crossing sites

Roadway Benefits

Fewer Delays

Reduced delay to vehicles from eliminating 25 grade crossings

Sustainability

Reduced fuel consumption and emissions

Reduced Congestion

Fewer trucks on the roadways



Project Details



Project Details



- **Eliminating the at-grade crossing of 95th Street by UPRR tracks.**
- **Accomplished by creating either an overpass or underpass**



Study Area Characteristics



- **Limits of the project: Parnell Avenue to Wentworth Avenue**
- **Mixed Land Use**
- **Chicago 21st Ward – Alderman Howard Brookins, Jr.**
- **Washington Heights and Roseland Communities**
- **Prominent Land Uses in the Area:**
 - **Lowden Homes (Chicago Housing Authority)**
 - **Trinity United Church of Christ**
 - **Fernwood Parkway Park (Chicago Park District)**

Project Details



23,000
Cars Daily

2,600
Trucks Daily

700
Buses Daily

26
Freight and
Amtrak Trains

Existing and Projected Daily Traffic Volumes – Project Details



XX - Existing ADT

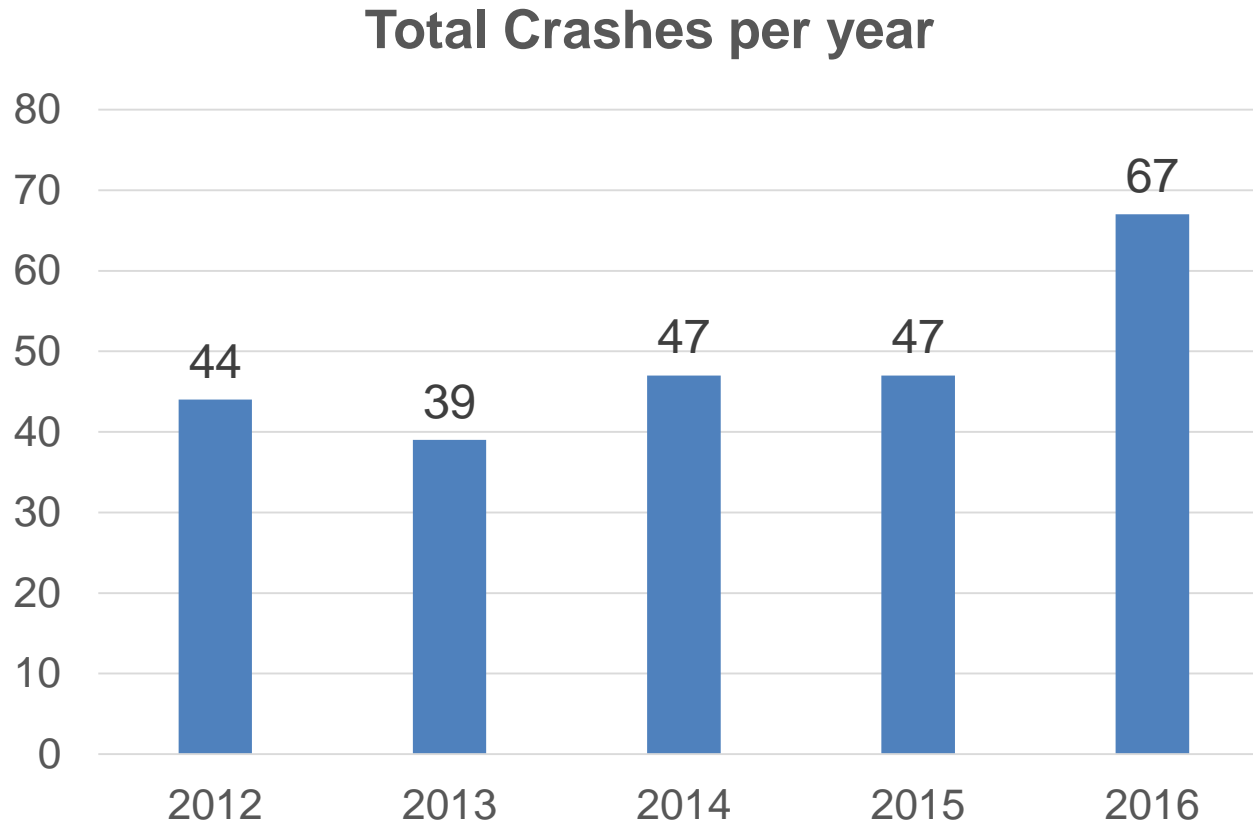
XX - 2050 Projected ADT

	S Parnell Ave
725 920	
	S Normal Ave
22,900 29,000	S Eggleston Ave
	UPRR
	S Harvard Ave
23,000 29,100	S Princeton Ave
	S Yale Ave
	S Wentworth Ave
	4,900 6,200

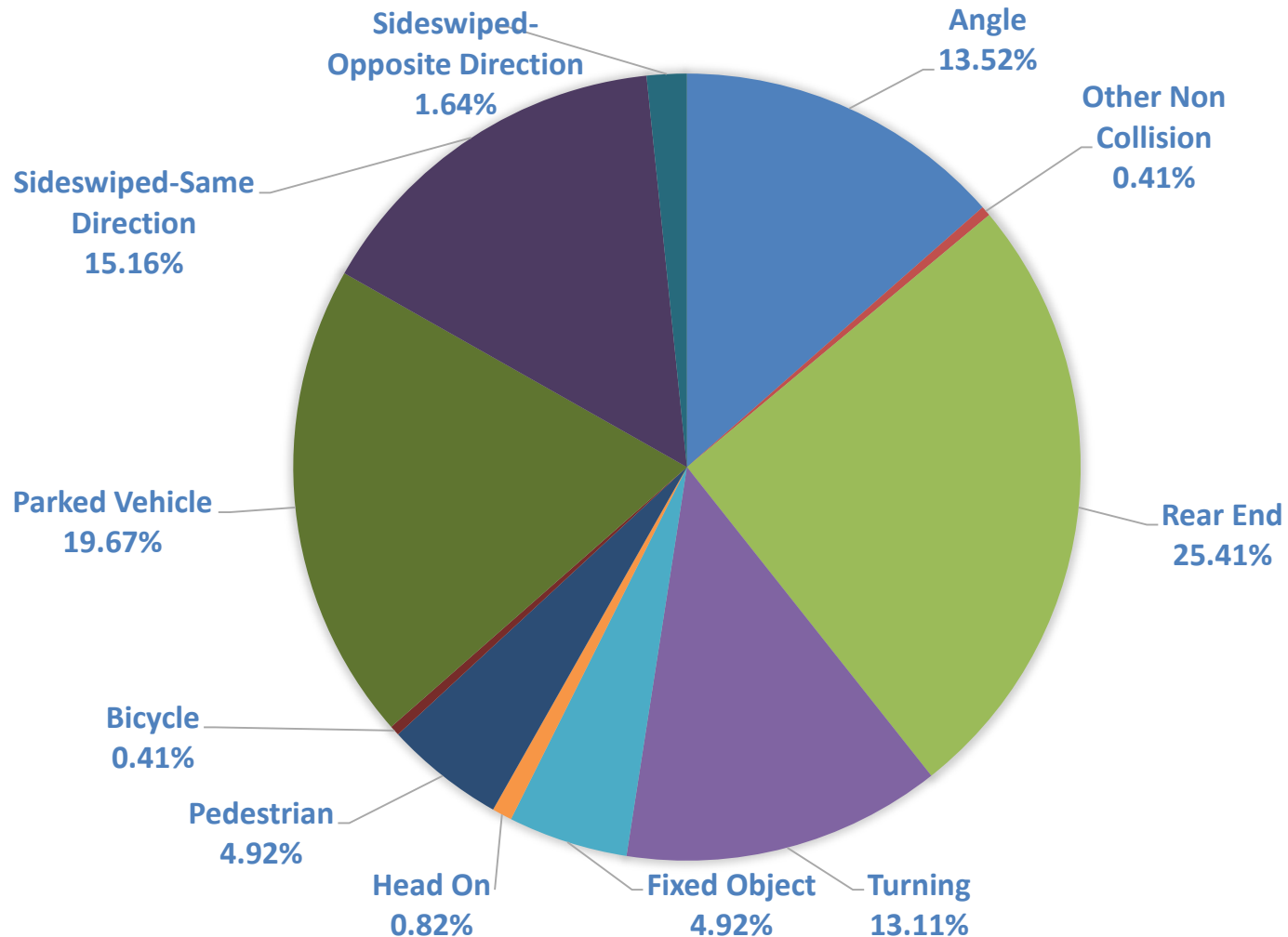
Crash Data – Project Details



A total of 244 crashes occurred within the project area between 2012 - 2016



Crash Data – Project Details



Key Challenges – Project Details



- **Property Impacts**
- **Access to surrounding properties**
- **Constructability**
- **Maintenance of Traffic**
 - **Roadway and Pedestrians**
 - **Railroad**
- **Utilities**



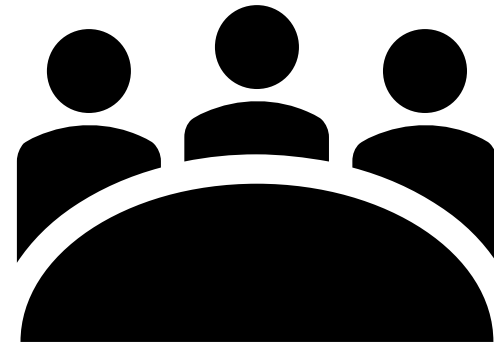
Stakeholder Involvement Process



Stakeholders



- **Property owners**
- **Residents**
- **Business Interests**
- **Elected Officials**
- **Regulatory Agencies**
- **Advocacy and special interests groups**
- **Travelers and general public**



Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP)



The Goal of the SIP:

- Educate
- Engage
- Build consensus



Stakeholder Involvement Plan (SIP)



- **Identify key stakeholders.**
- **Identify Community Advisory Group (CAG)**
- **Establish timing and type of activities**
- **Establish stakeholder requirements for input**



CAG Details



Roles and Responsibilities

Roles

- Identify project issues and community needs
- Provide input on project alternatives and proposed improvements
- Comment on public involvement activities

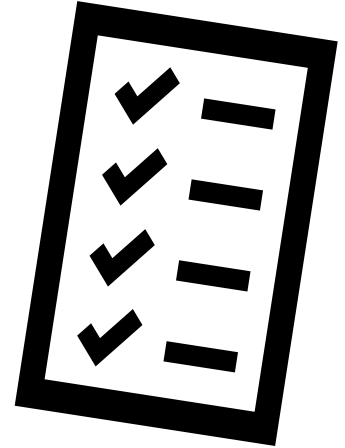
Responsibilities

- Attend and participate at meetings
- Support the CSS process
- Serve as communication conduit
- Work towards general understanding of project-related issues

CAG Ground Rules



- Come to the process with an open mind.
- Participate openly and honestly.
- Treat each other with respect and dignity.
- All input is valued and considered by CDOT.
- All decisions made in a clear and transparent manner.





Next Steps



Next Steps



- **Meeting Summary Prepared**
- **Next CAG meetings**
 - **CAG #2 – June 2019**
 - Purpose – Introduction of Grade Separation Alternatives, CAG input and comments
 - **CAG #3 – August 2019**
 - Purpose – Discuss Range of Grade Separation Alternatives, Preliminary Preferred Alternative, CAG input and comments
 - **CAG #4 – November 2019**
 - Purpose – CAG preview of Public Meeting Materials, CAG input and comments
 - **Public Meeting – 2020**
- **Project website: www.95thuprr.com**



Questions?





Thank you

