



ARCHER AVENUE AT BELT RAILWAY COMPANY OF CHICAGO (BRC) GRADE SEPARATION STUDY – GS9

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETING # 2
MAY 9, 2017



MEETING AGENDA



Introductions

CAG #1 Recap

Project Overview

Updates from Community

Purpose and Need

Alternatives Considered

Community Input / Q&A

Next Steps

INTRODUCTIONS



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Section Chief, Major Projects

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CREATE Program



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IDOT Coordinator



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Structural Engineer

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Project Team
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Kim Morreale
Public Involvement Principal

Berenice Vallecillos
Public Involvement Manager

Allie Goodrich
Public Involvement Coordinator



CAG #1 Recap



COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)



Advocacy Groups



**Business Owners
Property Owners**



Elected Officials



Residents



Regulatory Agencies

- — — **Introduced the Project**
- — — **Presented Existing Conditions**
- — — **Provided overview of the Phase I Design Process**
- — — **Defined Roles of CAG**

PLANNING PROCESS



Project implementation process

PHASE I

- Preliminary engineering/alternative analysis
- Environmental studies (noise/air/historic/etc.)
- Public and agency coordination

PHASE II

- Final design
- Contract plans
- Land acquisition/CDOT contacts property owners

PHASE III

- Construction Phase

PROJECT SCHEDULE





Project Overview

Existing Conditions

18,600

vehicles daily

259

CTA buses (#62) daily

59,600

hours of delay yearly

32

freight trains daily





REET

WESTERN AUTO REPAIR
5318 S. ARCHER AVE.

LIQUOR DEPOT
5308 S. ARCHER AVE.

Knox Ave.

DOLPHIN CARTAGE INC.
5282 S. KNOX AVE.

S. ARCHER AVE.
Archer Ave.

BRC T

Kolmar Ave.

5248 S. ARCHER AVE.

PACHECO TIRE SHOP
5101 S. KILBOURN AVE.

OSTARR CORP.
5242 S. ARCHER AVE.

MORAN BODY SHOP
5243 S. ARCHER AVE.

HERTZ RENT A CAR
5259 S. ARCHER AVE.

**ALL SEASONS
HAND CAR WASH**
5285 S. ARCHER AVE.

WARATEK AUTO SERVICES
5315 S. ARCHER AVE.

GS-9 Study Area

KS

VE-

W

Community Feedback

- — — Need to consider public **transit users** in this study
- — — Potential **loss of access** at Kolmar Avenue or Knox Avenue
- — — **New projects near the area** include:
 - 1,000-car valet parking lot and restaurants and two boutique hotels coming to 53rd St. and Cicero Ave.
 - Dolphin Cartage property is currently for sale
 - El Cubano Wholesale Meats began operating in February 2017



Questions / Updates from the Community



Proposed Purpose & Need

Proposed Purpose & Need



The ***Purpose and Need Statement*** is intended to clarify the expected outcomes of a public expenditure and to justify that expenditure:

What is to be accomplished and why it is necessary.

Proposed Purpose & Need

Purpose:

Provide a transportation infrastructure improvement in the Archer Avenue corridor that increases operational efficiency and improves safety.

Need:

- — — Reduce congestion (increase operational efficiency)
- — — Eliminate road-rail conflicts (improve safety)

PROJECT BENEFITS



Improve safety



**Improve pedestrian
/cyclist path**



Reduce congestion



Improve air quality



Eliminate delays



**Easier access for
emergency responders**



Improve aesthetics



Economic benefits



Alternatives



Alternatives Considered



No Build Alternative

No improvements other than routine maintenance

Road Underpass

Archer Avenue would be depressed below the BRC track grade

Road Overpass

Archer Avenue would be elevated over the BRC track grade

Railroad Underpass

The BRC tracks would be depressed below the Archer Avenue grade

Railroad Overpass

The BRC tracks would be elevated over the Archer Avenue grade

Eliminate the crossing

Archer Avenue traffic would not be permitted to cross the railroad tracks, or relocate the railroad

Alternatives Analysis

Evaluation Criterion

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Needs | Railroad Crossing Safety | Minimizes potential for future vehicle-train collisions |
| | Operational Efficiency | Improve roadway and railroad operations |
| | Emergency Services | Improves emergency service mobility |
| Design Constraints | Airport Acceptance | Meet the vertical clearance requirement for the Chicago Midway International Airport |
| | Railroad Acceptance | Avoids impacts to the railroad and changes to railroad track grade |
| | Construction Cost | Meets the needs of the project at the lowest cost |
| | Community Acceptance | Maintain or improve community cohesion |
| | Public and Private Access | Minimize impact on public and private access |
| Other Project Components | Aesthetic Compatibility | Improve aesthetics which complement the surrounding area |
| | Alternative Transportation Modes | Maintain or improve ADA, bike, and pedestrian accommodations |

Alternatives Analysis

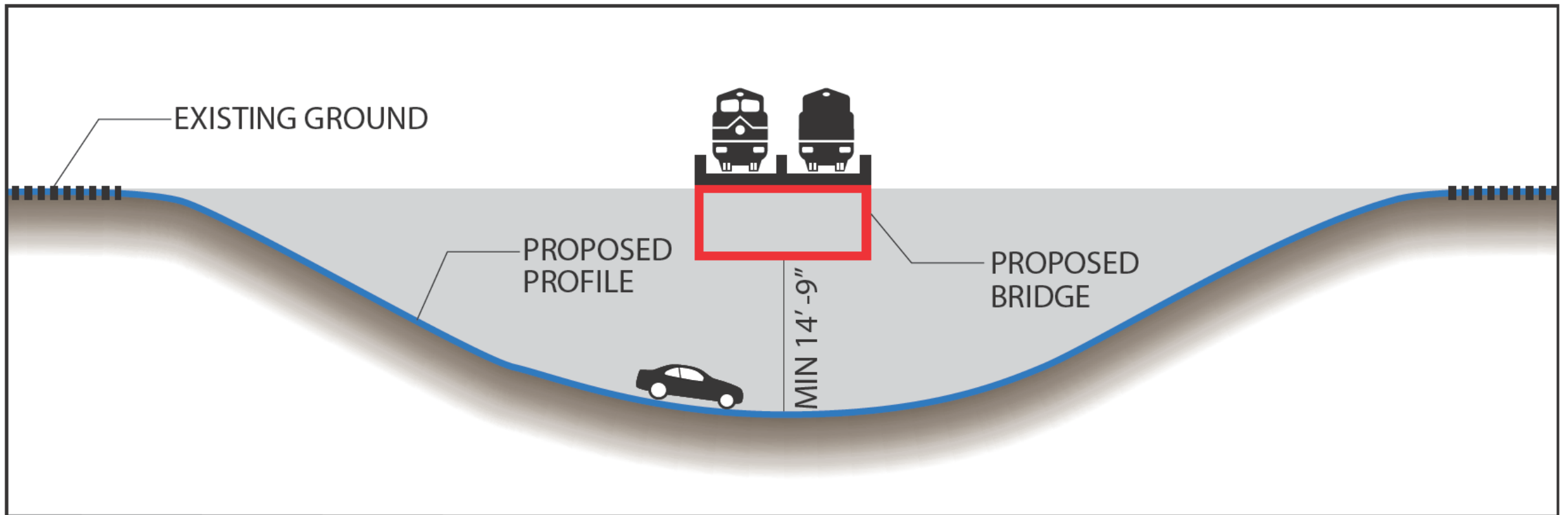
1 = Low Benefit or High Cost

5 = Moderate Benefit or Moderate Cost

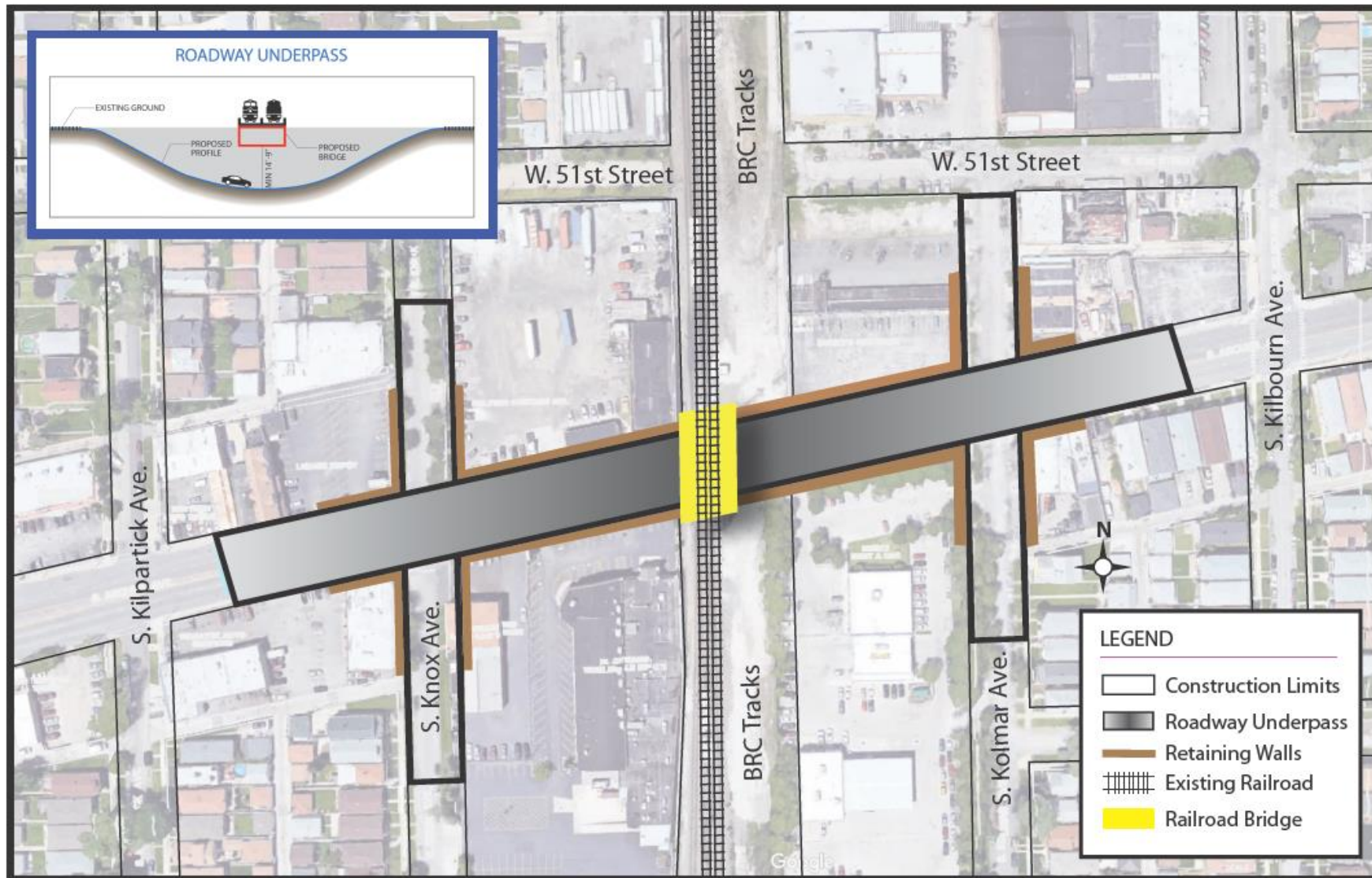
10 = High Benefit or Low Cost

| | Evaluation Criterion | No Action Alternative | Road Underpass | Road Overpass | Railroad Underpass | Railroad Overpass | Eliminate Crossing |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Needs | Railroad Crossing Safety | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Not a feasible alternative. |
| | Operational Efficiency | 1 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 5 | |
| | Emergency Services | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | |
| Design Constraints | Airport Acceptance | 10 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 1 | |
| | Railroad Acceptance | 5 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Construction Cost | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Community Acceptance | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Public / Private Access | 10 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Other Project Components | Aesthetic Compatibility | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Alternative Transportation Options | 1 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 1 | |
| Total | | 36 | 85 | 45 | 45 | 32 | N/A |

Road Underpass



Road Underpass



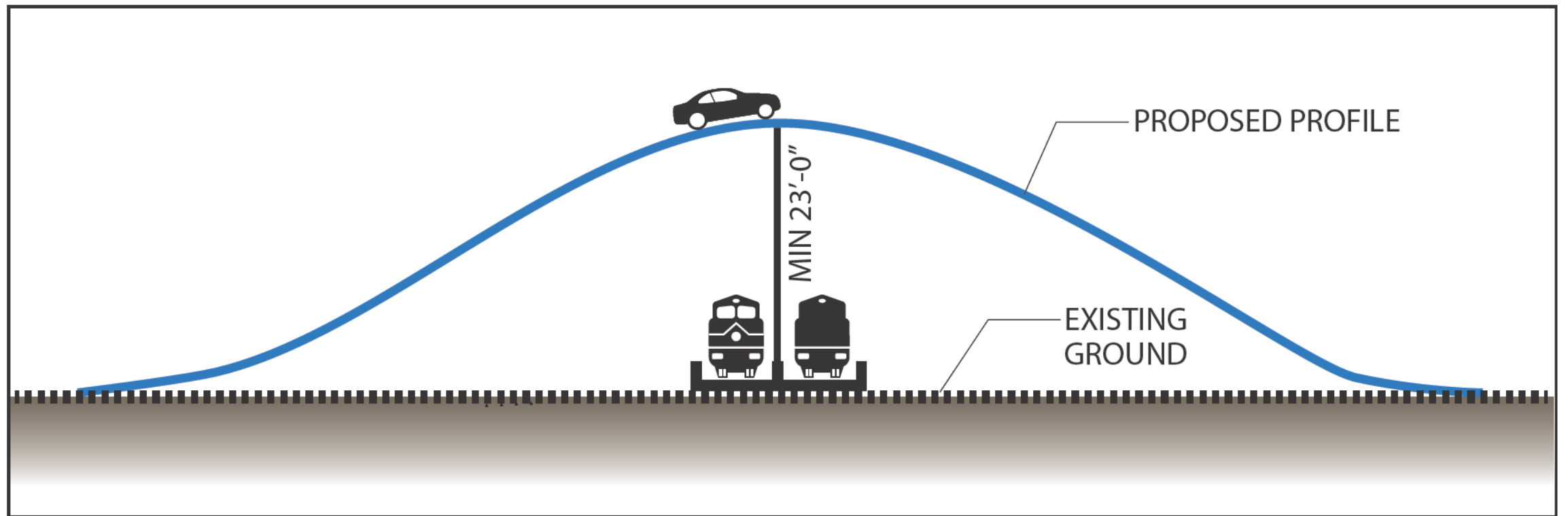


Road Underpass

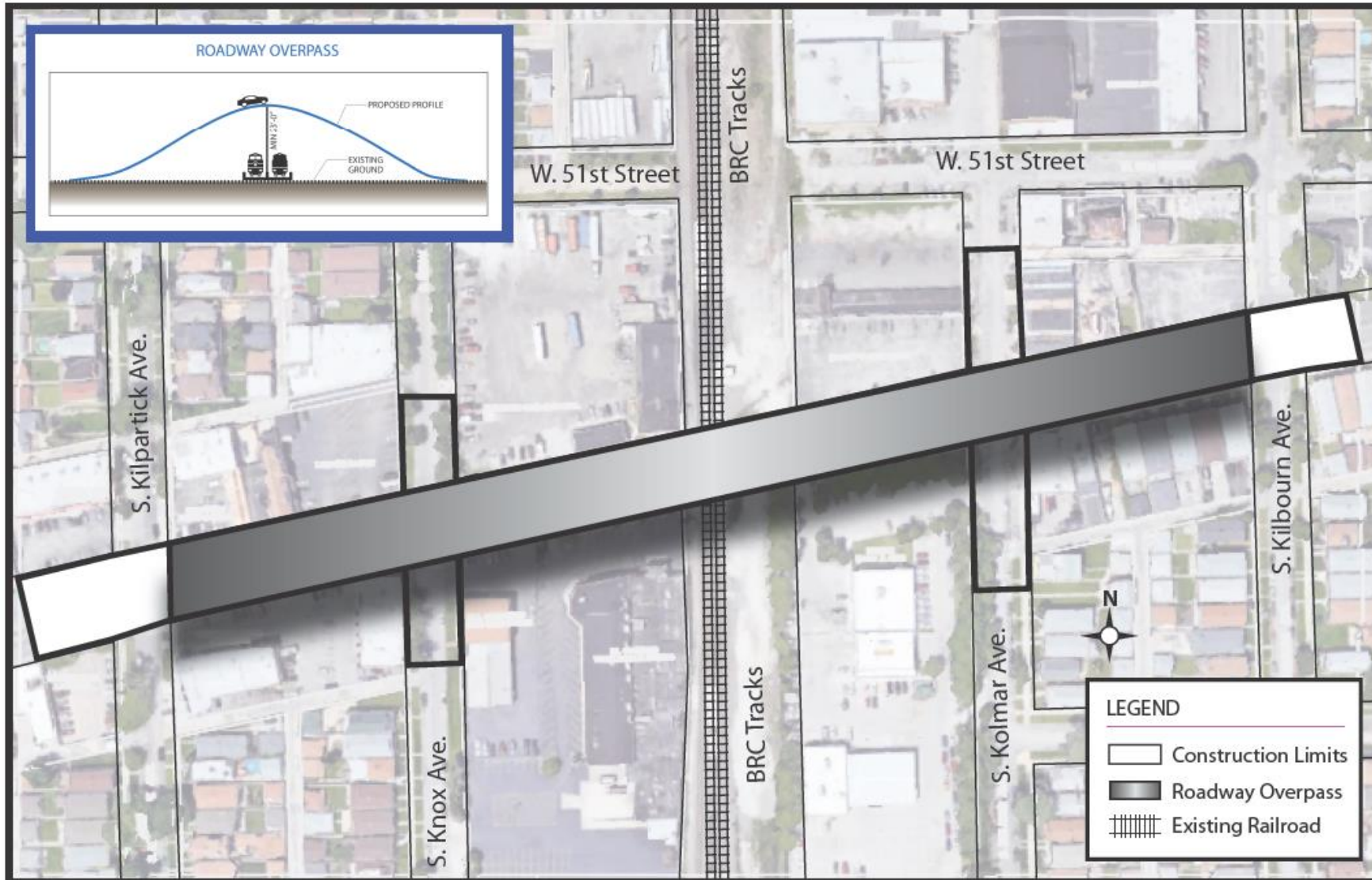
130th & Torrence & Norfolk Southern Grade Separation Study— GS15a



Road Overpass



Road Overpass



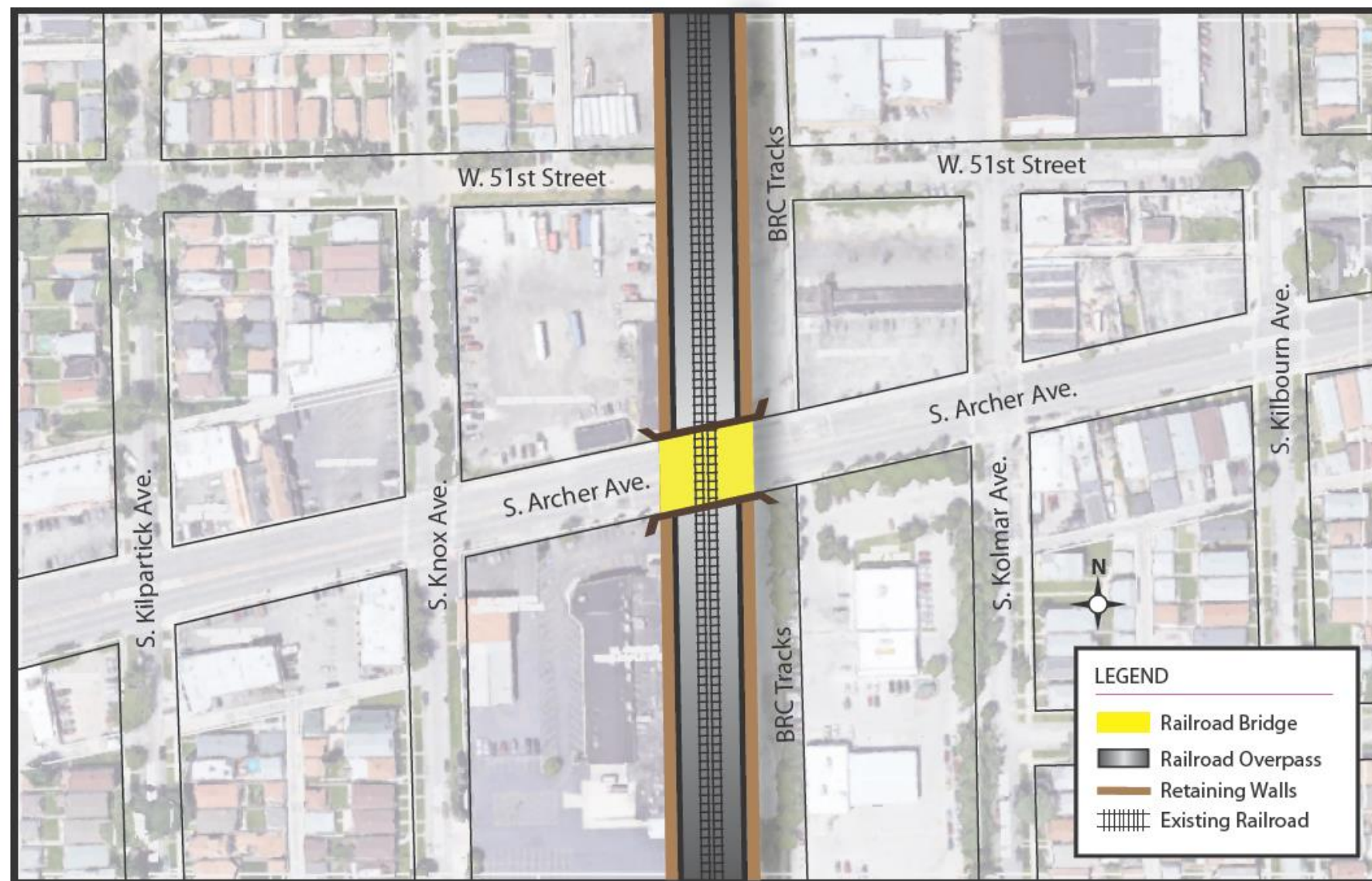
Road Overpass Pershing Rd @ Racine Avenue



Railroad Underpass



Railroad Overpass



Road Underpass

- ✓ Meets purpose and need for the project
- ✓ Meets vertical clearance requirements of airport ordinance
- ✓ Minimizes effects on railroad track grade
- ✓ Minimizes effects on access
- ✓ Improves aesthetics
- ✓ Improves accommodations for alternative transportation modes

Design Considerations

- Bridge and retaining wall design
- Alternative mode accommodations



- Access to cross streets and properties



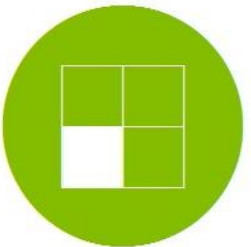
Design Considerations



Environmental Impacts



Community & Stakeholder Input



Right-of-way acquisitions, easements and displacements

Construction Considerations

Archer Ave Traffic:

Vehicles, Pedestrians & Bicyclists



Construction Considerations

Archer Ave Traffic:

Vehicles, Pedestrians & Bicyclists

Detour

- Traffic uses alternate streets

Lane Closures

- Maintain one lane open in each direction on existing roadway

Run Around

- Provide two-lane facility on alternative alignment to existing roadway



Construction Considerations



Railroad Operations

- Minimize interruption to service
- Shoofly during construction





ARCHER AVENUE
AT BRC GRADE
SEPARATION
STUDY



Community Input / Q&A





Feedback from Community





- — — **Continue sending comments from community through website**
- — — **CAG # 2 Meeting minutes to follow**



Next Steps

- **3rd CAG meeting:**
Tuesday July 11, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **Public meeting:**
Fall 2017



Thank you