



# Central Avenue and Belt Railway of Chicago Grade Separation

## Fact Sheet

**Project Number:** GS2

**Location:** Central Avenue at 54<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Chicago

**Scope of Work:** The project will consider eliminating the at-grade crossing of Central Avenue and two Belt Railway of Chicago (BRC) tracks located 330 feet south of Archer Avenue and 800 feet north of 55<sup>th</sup> Street. This will be accomplished by creating either an overpass or underpass for vehicles using Central Avenue at this location.

**Daily Trains Affected:**

- 20 freight trains

**Benefits:** Daily, 23,200 vehicles pass through the crossing. Midway Airport borders the southeast corner of 55<sup>th</sup> Street and Central Avenue.

This project will reduce roadway congestion and improve safety at this location. The grade crossing separation will eliminate delay to nearly 700 vehicles daily, resulting in alleviation of 7,500 annual motorist hours of delay. It will also eliminate the potential for collisions between vehicles and trains.

This location is designated a “911 Critical Crossing.” This is a critical location for emergency services to access communities that have high frequency of train movements or delays. The grade separation will eliminate this issue.

Communities Benefited

- Chicago -- Garfield Ridge community area

**Project Status:**

| Phase I – NEPA – Preliminary Design (30% Design) | Phase II – Final PS&E* | Phase III - Construction |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Pending Funding Availability</i>              |                        |                          |

\*Plans, Specifications & Estimates

**Project Location Map and Photos:**

