

Columbus Avenue & Belt Railway Company Grade Separation

February 2024

SCOPE OF WORK

This project will consider eliminating the at-grade crossing of Columbus Avenue by three Belt Railway Company of Chicago (BRC) tracks. This will be accomplished by creating either an overpass or underpass for vehicles using Columbus Avenue at this location.

BENEFITS

This project will reduce roadway congestion and improve safety at this location. Approximately 11,500 vehicles pass through this crossing daily. The grade crossing separation will eliminate delay to nearly 1,700 vehicles daily, alleviating of more than 36,800 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,” which means it is a critical location for emergency services to access communities with a high frequency of train movements or delays. The grade separation will eliminate this issue.

Location

Columbus Avenue at
Maplewood Avenue
(west of the Columbus Avenue/
Western Avenue intersection)
Chicago, IL

Daily Trains Affected

32 Freight Trains

Communities Benefited

Chicago –
Ashburn Community Area

PROJECT PHOTOS



Existing grade crossing

PROJECT STATUS

Phase I NEPA – Preliminary Design	Phase II Final Plans, Specifications and Estimates	Phase III Construction
Complete	Underway	Funded - to begin following completion of Phase II

PROJECT LOCATION MAP

