

Irving Park Road & Canadian Pacific Railroad Grade Separation

February 2024

SCOPE OF WORK

This project built an underpass to provide a grade separation of the roadway from the rail line at IL Route 19 (Irving Park Road) at the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPRR) in Bensenville, IL. This project also included pavement reconstruction and widening, improved intersection geometry, additional auxiliary lanes, drainage system improvements, and signal modernization.

The most significant component of the improvement included lowering Irving Park Road and raising the Canadian Pacific Railroad Bridge to provide an improved vertical clearance. The structure is a 131 foot single span bridge with closed abutments.

Other project components included construction of retaining walls along the raised railroad alignment, culverts to convey the relocated Bensenville Ditch, additional turning lanes at the intersection and a 72 inch storm sewer to improve drainage and provide detention.

BENEFITS

Approximately 32,600 vehicles and 31 Pace buses pass through the crossing daily. Separation of the roadway from the rail line reduces roadway congestion and improves safety at this location on Irving Park Road (IL-19) – a primary arterial road. This project is located at the southwestern boundary of O'Hare Airport and was coordinated in conjunction with the adjacent grade separation of the Union Pacific Railroad over Irving Park Road (an O'Hare Modernization Program project).

This grade separation also significantly improves railroad operations by enabling the CPRR to run trains unimpeded at all times. Currently, the CPRR averages 25 trains per day. Previously, the CPRR did not run trains across IL Route 19 during weekday Metra commuter service peak hours.

Location

Irving Park Road at
and east of York Road
Bensenville, IL

Daily Trains Affected

25 Freight Trains

Communities Benefited

Bensenville, IL

PROJECT PHOTOS



Construction of retaining wall



New grade separation over IL Route 19
(Irving Park Road)

PROJECT STATUS

Phase I NEPA – Preliminary Design	Phase II Final Plans, Specifications and Estimates	Phase III Construction
Complete	Complete	Completed October 2017

PROJECT LOCATION MAP

