



Errata to Environmental Assessment

City of Decatur

Brush College Road Improvement Study

Section 09-00933-00-BR

June 2014



Prepared By
URS
345 East Ash Avenue, Suite B
Decatur, IL 62526
217-875-4800

Errata to Environmental Assessment

This Erratum includes corrections, revisions, and/or additions to the Environmental Assessment (EA) for proposed improvements to Brush College Road (FAU 7448) from just south of William Street Road (IL 105) to a point north of Faries Parkway, subsequent to the signed approval by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) on December 13, 2013 and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on January 17, 2014.

SECTION IV: IMPACTS, DOCUMENTATION AND MITIGATION

Part II. Agricultural

There is a property owned by ADM on the west side of Brush College Road between the James Randall Research Center (JRRC) and the IC RR track that is cultivated. 0.156 acres of right-of-way will be required from this parcel for the proposed improvements. Impacts to the cultivated area will be minimal.

Part XIII. Indirect and Cumulative Impacts

Public Involvement

Public involvement activities included online surveys for two stakeholder groups plus the community at large; early and frequent coordination with stakeholders directly affected by the project (e.g., the City of Decatur, businesses, railroads, various city and county support services), two public meetings, held on February 17, 2011 (64 Attendees) and July 24, 2012 (49 Attendees), and a public hearing held on April 22, 2014 (117 Attendees). Twelve comment forms were submitted prior to the end of the public hearing comment period on May 8, 2014. All comments were reviewed and addressed. Supporting documentation is included in Appendix I-C.

Appendix I-C

Public Meetings Documentation

City of Decatur
Brush College Road Improvement Study
Section 09-00933-00-BR
Public Hearing Documentation

Contents

Summary of Public Hearing

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice of Public Hearing Letter from City of Decatur – 4/2/2014*

Notice of Public Hearing Email from City of Decatur – 4/3/2014*

Herald and Review – Publication of Notice – 4/6/2014 & 4/17/2014

Decatur Tribune – Publication of Notice – 4/9/2014 & 4/16/2014

Herald and Review Article – 4/20/2014

Public Hearing Sign-In Log

Public Hearing Handout

Public Hearing Room Layout

Public Hearing Powerpoint Presentation

Public Hearing Easel Exhibits

Comments Received

Response Letters to Comments Received

* See Pages I-C-83 through I-C-108 of the EA for mailing/email list.

Summary of Public Hearing

An open house public hearing was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the National Sequestration Education Center on the campus of Richland Community College in Decatur, Illinois. The hearing site was accessible to individuals with disabilities and special assistance was offered to anyone who provided advanced notice. The hearing presented the Preferred Alternative and the approved Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

The advertisement for the public hearing was published in the Decatur Herald & Review and in the Decatur Tribune newspapers. A meeting notice was also sent to the local television (WAND) and radio (WSOY) stations. Notices were also sent by mail and email to public agencies and affected property owners and businesses and to individuals that provided an email address when responding to the questionnaires that were sent out at the beginning of the study. An article about the public meeting also appeared in the Decatur Herald & Review on April 20, 2014.

The public hearing was an open house format. The preferred alternative was illustrated on an aerial photo exhibit laid out for viewing in the center of the room. Easel exhibits were also on display. A separate table was set up for viewing the approved Environmental Assessment. A seating area was set up for viewing a PowerPoint presentation that ran as a continuous loop. Seating and tables were also provided for filling out comment forms. A court reporter was available to record verbal comments and the right-of-way consultant for the City of Decatur was available to answer questions about right-of-way and relocation.

The approved Environmental Assessment and other material were available for viewing 15 days prior to the hearing at the City of Decatur, Department of Public Works located at #1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza, Decatur, Illinois. Exhibits from the public hearing were also posted on the City of Decatur website www.brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov after the hearing.

Approximately 117 members of the public attended the hearing. WAND covered the event and interviewed several individuals. Prior to the May 8, 2014 deadline, twelve comments were received. The comments and response letters can be found in Appendix I-C.

Brush College Road Improvement Study – Public Hearing

You are invited to attend a Public Hearing held by the City of Decatur concerning proposed improvements to Brush College Road. The proposed improvements include construction of a 4-lane section between William Street Road and Faries Parkway, adding turn lanes to the William Street Road/Brush College Road intersection, reconfiguring the Marietta Street intersection, replacing the existing underpass at the Norfolk Southern rail yard with an overpass, and constructing an overpass at Faries Parkway. The proposed improvement will result in *de minimis* Section 4(f) impacts and will involve periods of road closure during construction. All persons interested in the project are invited to attend this meeting.

Date: Tuesday April 22, 2014
Time: 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM (Open-house format)
Place: National Sequestration Education Center
Richland Community College Campus
3451 President Howard Brown Blvd
Decatur, IL 62521 ***Follow the Signs***



Purpose of the Hearing:

The hearing will address topics such as the need for the project, the proposed improvements, right-of-way acquisition and relocation assistance.

Representatives from the City of Decatur and the City's consultant will be available to discuss the project, answer questions and receive comments. Exhibits will be on display. Preliminary reports, including environmental documents and engineering drawings, maps, and aerial photography, will be available for inspection at the City of Decatur, Department of Public Works 15 days before the meeting and after the meeting.

Comments can be submitted at the hearing verbally, in writing or mailed after the hearing. All comments submitted will become part of the public record for the project. Deadline for comments is May 8, 2014.

The hearing will be accessible to handicapped individuals. Persons planning to attend who will need a sign language interpreter, other similar accommodations or any special assistance should notify the consultant or City Engineering.

Contact Keith Benting of URS Corporation at 875-4800 or City Engineering at 424-2747 for more information. Comments may be emailed to

brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov.



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

April 2, 2014

Dear Current Resident,

Please Join Us

Brush College Road Improvement Study Public Hearing

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

4:30 pm - 7:00 pm

National Sequestration Education Center
Richland Community College
2451 President Howard Brown Boulevard*

Follow the Signs

The meeting will be an open house format and you may attend at any time.

The City of Decatur will be holding a public hearing to present information and receive input for the Brush College Road Improvement Study. The hearing will address topics such as the need for the project, the proposed improvements, right-of-way acquisition and relocation assistance. The public hearing is the third public meeting that has been held for the Brush College Road Improvement Study. Representatives from the City of Decatur and the City's consultant will be available to discuss the project, answer questions and receive comments. Exhibits will be on display.

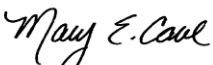
Preliminary reports, including environmental documents and engineering drawings, maps, and aerial photography, will be available for inspection at the City of Decatur, Department of Public Works at #1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza, 15 days before the meeting and after the meeting. These documents, as well as, the public notice of the meeting, are available at:

<http://www.decaturl.gov/brushcollegestudy/brushcollegestudy.html>

Contact Keith Benting of URS Corporation at 875-4800 or City Engineering, at 424-2747 for more information.

Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,


Mary E. Cave, P.E.
Civil Engineer II

Benting, Keith

From: Cave, Mary E <MCave@decaturil.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 03, 2014 12:05 PM
To: BrushCollegeStudy@decaturil.gov
Subject: Public Hearing - Brush College Road Improvement Study

~ Please Join Us ~



Brush College Road Improvement Study Public Hearing

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Contact Keith Benting of URS Corporation at 875-4800 or City Engineering, at 424-2747 for more information.

Hope to see you there!

Mary E. Cave, PE
Civil Engineer II
City of Decatur, Illinois

You are receiving this e-mail because you indicated you wanted to receive updates on the Brush College Road Improvement Study. E-mails regarding this project are limited, however, if you would like to stop receiving this information, please request so at brushcollegestudy@decaturl.gov.

NOTICE: E-MAIL TO OR FROM CITY STAFF MAY BE SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE ILLINOIS FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by email reply.

Herald & Review

www.HERALD-REVIEW.COM

601 E WILLIAM ST
DECATUR, IL 62523-1142
PHONE 800-453-2527

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APR 21 2014

URS

Certificate of Publication

URS CORPORATION
Keith Benting
345 E ASH AV SUITE B
DECATUR, IL 62526

ACCOUNT #	60035223	DATES APPEARED	
AD ORDER #	20624495		
INVOICE DATE	04/17/2014		04/06/2014, 04/17/2014
AMOUNT	240.18		

Paste Tear Sheet Here

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
COUNTY OF MACON
CITY OF DECATUR

} SS:

Lee Enterprises, Inc. hereby certifies that it is now and has been for more than one year continuously, d/b/a **Herald & Review**, a daily secular newspaper of general circulation in said County, printed and published in the City, County and State aforesaid, and further certifies that said newspaper has been continuously published at regular intervals of more than once each week with more than a minimum of fifty issues per year for more than one year prior to the first publication of the notice, and further certifies that **Herald & Review** is a newspaper as defined by the Statutes of the State of Illinois in such cases made and provided, and further hereby certifies that a notice of which the annexed notice is a true copy, has been regularly published in said paper.

By Janette Johnson

Date 04-17-2014

20624495

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Contact Keith Benting of URS Corporation at 875-4800 or City Engineering at 424-2747 for more information. Comments may be emailed to brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov.


CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

State of Illinois)
) ss.
County of Macon)

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am the publisher of DECATUR TRIBUNE, a public and secular newspaper of general circulation, published weekly in the City of Decatur, Macon County, Illinois, and that the same has been regularly published for at least one year prior to the date of the first publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned, and is qualified as a newspaper as defined in Act - Chapter 100, Sections 1 and 5, Illinois Revised Statutes.

I further certify that a notice, or advertisement, of which the annexed is a true printed copy, has been regularly published in said newspaper,.....2.....times, once in each week for.....2.....successive weeks, the first publication thereof having been made in the issue of the DECATUR TRIBUNE on the 9th day of April A.D. 2014 and the last publication thereof having been made in the issue of said newspaper published on the 11th day of April A.D. 2014 Fee \$ 23.00

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at Decatur in said County and State, this 11 day of April A.D. 2014.


Publisher.

DECATUR TRIBUNE

Received Payment

By _____

Brush College Road Improvement Study - Public Hearing

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Brush College Road project public meeting Tuesday



APRIL 19, 2014 12:01 AM • [ALLISON PETTY H&R STAFF WRITER](#)

DECATUR – Residents will have an opportunity view plans for major changes to Brush College Road and offer their comments for the official record Tuesday.

The third and final public hearing on the project is scheduled from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the National Sequestration Education Center on the Richland Community College campus. The proposal would build an overpass that passes over both the Norfolk Southern Corp. rail yard and Faries Parkway, and it would also widen the road's intersection with William Street.

City officials have said the project, which is estimated to cost more than \$70 million, would require funding from federal, state, local and even private sources. They have stressed that the area is vital to the city's economic future.

City Manager Ryan McCrady said the road runs through the “economic center of the universe” for Decatur.

“I think it’s going to be important for the community that we do build this sometime in the future if we want to keep maximizing the benefit of the current industrial infrastructure, industrial employers that are there, but also to attract future ones to that area,” he said.

The cramped underpass beneath the rail yard and long delays at Faries Parkway create headaches for drivers. Traffic accidents may be on the rise, too. There were 14 accidents on that stretch of road in 2012; 21 accidents in 2013; and 11 accidents in the first four months of this year, said City Engineer Mary Cave.

The meeting Tuesday will be an open-house format. Residents can view a presentation and maps related to the plans, speak with engineers from the city and consultant URS Corp., and leave comments by talking to an official recorder or writing them down.

People knowledgeable in the process of property acquisition and relocation will be available Tuesday to speak to property owners who might be affected by the project, Cave said.

The public comments will become part of the report, currently 3 inches thick, the city will submit to the Illinois Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration. Cave said the city must address all comments in its report.

Positive comments could be helpful when it comes time to search for funding, she said.

“Having community support definitely helps, so that people who don’t know Decatur see that Decatur wants it and it’s going to be beneficial to us,” Cave said.

Anyone who cannot make it to the meeting can email comments to brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov.

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
1.	Matt Newell	City of Decatur	#1 Gary K. Anderson Plaza 424-2743
2.	Steve Jackson	Myself	5061 D. Greenwitch Rd. 875-3929
3.	Divyesh Patel	myself	3755 E William St, 520-7037
4.	Paul Crail	myself	870 Boush College Rd.
5.	C.R. Crail		830 N. Brush College Rd.
6.	Bill Little	Litter Gitters	3938 E Olive Decatur.
7.	RICH LEINSEY	EMERSON FS	37 BENSON Decatur, IL 62526
8.	Lisa Gregory	Richland Community College	One College Park Decatur 62521
9.	Bob Wagoner	Citizen	625 Waterford Ln, Decatur 62526
10.	Henry Walston	self	
11.	She Whit	SELF	
12.	MICHAEL ASHLEY	ADM	670 Country Manor Dr,
13.	Mary Coffe	City of Decatur	
14.	David Lewis	SELF	1513 W. Sunset Ave Decatur IL 62522

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
15.	T. STUEBAKER		217 433 1466
16.	Judy Rhodes		217-425-4078
17.	Star Rhodes		217-425-4078
18.	Jim Bobitt	Tate + Lyle	217-521-4018
19.	Josh Schmitt	SELF	217-433-2755
20.	Tony Williamson		217-433-2908
21.	Mr. + Mrs. Jerry Bowles		217-428-0787
22.	Donald E. Nicholas Jr	Ron's Garage	217 422-9200
23.	Dow Floyd	MADACRES	423 6850
24.	John Shinn & Martene	SELF	422-5320
25.	Brad Warren	Bob Brady Arts Mall	876-3800
26.	Shelly Kunzeman	Self	428-9759
27.	Robert Bean	self	428-5857
28.	Greg Webb	ADM	451-8158

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PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
29.	Erwin J. Davis		3936 E Grand St
30.	Dale Shaffer		3801 E Hickory
31.	Bob SHAFER		1264 BRUSH college rd
32.	Phil Ghurel		1425 W. Green Rd
33.	Howard Reynolds		5981 S. Lewis
34.	William Haenning		91 Jarvis Park
35.	Stan Walters		4120 E Grand.
36.	Jon Stoekere		2230 BRUSH college RD
37.	Svetlan Taylor		3941 E Grand Avenue
38.	Charles Taylor		3941 E Grand Avenue
39.	DAN FLECKENSTEIN		3823 E. MARIETTA ST.
40.	Buf. Blair		522 92 Ridge Ln
41.	Russ REIMER		906 CEDAR HILL 67521
42.	Jeff White		4148 E. Faries Pkwy

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PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
43.	David Haskbarger	SELF	4001 E. LOGAN
44.	Bruce Haskbarger	SELF	4021 E Logan
45.	Scott Jutz	ADM	4666 Ferris Plung
46.	Rich Bourger	Branner	4036 E Olive
47.	Walt & Kathy Chambers	Self	1285 Mickey Ave
48.	George Conway	Self	—
49.	Steve Martin	Self	1415 N. LAKE SHORE DR
50.	MATT K	Self	
51.	WILLIAM MELANIE STENOVER	SELF	4004 E MITRIETTA
52.	THOS. L. CALDWELL	IDOT / MORGAN Co.	
53.	Allison Petty	Herald + Review	601 E William
54.	Bill Van Arstine	Brush College An Hosp	566 N. Brush College
55.	Jacob Lambright	Sunnise Bakery	2395 Sangamon Rd
56.	Beverly Chappell	self	480 N. Brush College Rd

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PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
57.	M. Mitchell	S.J. Smith	
58.	Mike Zeilman	SJ Smith Co	1980 N Brush College
59.	DAVID D. Wilhouer	Retiree	2176 S. Imboden Pl Decatur GA
60.	Griffin Eynart	City of Decatur	
61.	Teena Zindel-McWilliams	Richland Community College personal →	2128 E. Wood St. Decatur Ga 31702
62.	Tina Moran	Personal	4280 E Glenwood Ave Decatur GA
63.	Sara Plankenhorn	Personal	857 N. 35th St Decatur GA
64.	Jeremy Swalesky		217 201 1590
65.	Mike Boeman	Personal	217 201 - 0117
66.	Tom Kuehn	Personal	217 - 520 - 5877
67.	Paul Fughi	Personal	680 - 6403
68.	Teri Rouse	Poor House	3905 Farley Pkwy 519-0002
69.	Steve Funk	Personal	3905 E Harrison Av. 428-2808
70.	Simpson	Personal	2955 E Harrison

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
71.	James E. Foster	Home Owner	PO Box 2723 Decatur, GA 62529
72.	Rick Marley	Decatur Public Works	217-424-2747
73.	PAT HIGHLEY	CC FIRE EQUIP. CO. INC.	217-423-5395
74.	Deb Highley	CC Fire " " "	217-423-5395
75.	JERRY MURBALLON	AMEREM	217-424-8794
76.	ED DOUGHERTY	RESIDENT	217-876-0705
77.	Kathy Frazier	Resident	217-422-0721
78.	John Frazier	Resident	217-422-0721
79.	Joselyn Stennet	City of Decatur	217-4242782
80.	Kent Campbell	IUOE 965	217-836-6156
81.	JoAnn Patrick	Resident	217-429-4238
82.	Rosal PATRICK	RESIDENT	217-429-4238
83.	BOB RODERICK	BUS.	217 877 7697
84.	Billy Tyus	City	217-424-2727

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
85.	Carolyn J. Traugott		4170 Lake wood Dr
86.	Sally Holcomb		3820 E. Grand Ave
87.	Debra Benton		1202 Brush College Rd
88.	Robyn L. Smith		774 S. Webster St.
89.	Mark Powell		450 Christine Dr. Decatur City ²¹⁷⁻⁷³²⁻ 9835
90.	Mark Seeds		1440 Brush College Rd
91.	Rhonda O'Neal	Court reporter	Anchor Reporting
92.	Russell P. Stewart	Tri Star Marketing (Super Pantry)	2211 W. Bradley Ave. Champaign, IL 61821
93.	BILL STEENBLOCK		620 COUNTRY IN WOOD DR DECATUR IL 62521
94.	Delmer D. Moore	St John's Lutheran cemetery	1505 N. Lake Shore Dr
95.	Arnold Brown		81 PHILLIPS DR
96.	John Phillips	CITIZEN	80 Arrow Bend Rd
97.	Daniel Stewart		205 SELVAN DR.
98.	Hope Allen		374 N Glendale Decatur

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
99.	David W. Sands	myself	12 Buttridge MTZn IL 62549
100.	Eugene W. Timmerman		OAKLEY FL 7636139 412-1136
101.	Erny Harris	subway	Brush College Decatur
102.	Barbara Tucker	Self	3939 E Hickory St
103.	Shirley Binkley	Self	3935 E Hickory St
104.	Chh Lee	SELF	3925 Paris
105.	John A. Smith	CITY	Home, IL
106.	Charles E. McDaniel	city	PARIS, IL.
107.	Dan Skelley	URS	
108.	Matt Pope	URS	
109.	Peter Nohels	URS	
110.	STEVE SAMUELSON	URS	
111.	Jann Sanner	self	Decatur IL
112.	Keith Benting	URS	

PLEASE SIGN IN

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 22, 2014

CITY OF DECATUR

BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY

	NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS/PHONE
113	Bob Logan		4000 E. Marietta - 412-0548
114	Jan Elliott	Jan's East End Grill	
115	David Elliott	Brush College East End Plaza	566 Brush College Rd., Decatur
116	Kenne Walters		4180 E Grand Decatur 422-6248
117	BRUCE BIRD	Macon County Highway	2405 N. Woodmans, D 26
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City Of Decatur

Brush College Road Improvement Study

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Public involvement

Public involvement is encouraged in the process of this study. You are encouraged to submit your written or verbal comments regarding the proposed improvements. All comments will be reviewed and will help to evaluate the design details and potential impacts for the proposed improvements.

Welcome

The City of Decatur and URS Corporation welcome you to the Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study. Staff members from URS Corporation and the City of Decatur are here to discuss the project and to answer questions.

The meeting is being held in an open house format to allow informal discussion between the public and the study staff members. You are invited to view a presentation that will run continuously on the overhead screen. After viewing the presentation, please proceed to the displays and share your comments with members of the study team. Personnel are available to answer questions about right-of-way acquisition and relocation. You may provide comments either verbally with the recorder at today's meeting or written on the enclosed pre-addressed comment form. Comment forms can be left in the comment box or mailed after you leave the meeting. You may also email comments to brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov. All written comments received by May 8, 2014 will become part of the public record for the project.

Thank you for attending the hearing and for your interest in this study.



City Of Decatur

Brush College Road Improvement Study



Project description

URS Corporation has been retained by the City of Decatur to perform a preliminary design study to determine the most feasible option for providing adequate capacity to handle present and future traffic volumes in a safe and efficient manner for the Brush College Road corridor between William Street and Faries Parkway. Currently, Brush College Road has a two-lane cross section with narrow lanes and no pedestrian or bicycle facilities. Frequent train blockage at Faries Parkway impacts the motoring public and delays school bus and transit services. These blockages can also impact response times for emergency services such as police and fire/rescue. The purpose of this project is to increase safety and access for businesses and promote industrial development along the Brush College Road corridor.

Status of project

The study began in October 2010 and is in the final planning stage. This is the third and final public meeting designed to present the selected alternatives of this study and to obtain public input. The first public meeting was held in February of 2011 and the second in July of 2012. Various alternatives were presented at those meetings and based on comments received, the selected alternatives were carried forward and preliminary plans were developed. The proposed roadway alignment, intersection designs, and preliminary plans for the two overpasses have been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

This public hearing is being held to present the options that have been selected and collect public comments. The study will be completed when comments from this meeting are compiled, responses developed, and the final study report is submitted later this year. After the completion of the study phase, final plans will be prepared. It is estimated that preparation of final plans and the acquisition of right-of-way may take at least two years. The Ameren substation just south of the Faries Parkway intersection also needs to be relocated. Currently, there is no funding in place for construction but the City of Decatur will be actively seeking funding throughout the final design phase and after.

Environmental Assessment

When the significance of impacts of a proposed transportation project is uncertain, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is prepared to assist in making this determination. The EA is a concise public document that provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) needs to be prepared or if there will be a Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) must approve an EA before it is made available to the public. The EA for the Brush College Road project was approved by the FHWA in January of 2014 and is available for viewing at today's meeting. It will also be available on the City of Decatur web site at www.decaturl.gov (click on Brush College Road link). The EA and comments from this public hearing will allow the FHWA to determine the significance of impacts of this project.

City Of Decatur

Brush College Road Improvement Study

Overpass at Norfolk Southern rail yard

At the February 2011 public meeting, both an underpass and an overpass option were presented to replace the existing underpass at the Norfolk Southern (NS) rail yard. Public comments from that meeting favored the overpass option. An overpass can be constructed in less time than an underpass. Construction of an overpass will have fewer impacts to Norfolk Southern yard operations and to the public than the construction of an underpass. For these reasons, an overpass was selected at the NS rail yard.

Future NS Yard Overpass
Looking Northwest



Intersection and overpass at Faries Parkway

Based on the *Decatur Area Transportation Efficiency Study*, a train blocks the crossing at Faries Parkway 17.2 hours per week. This blockage time is longer than any other crossing in Decatur. Public comments also noted that the crossing is blocked frequently. Due to the large number of train blockages that occur at the Faries Parkway intersection, an overpass is also being proposed at Faries Parkway. The overpass will carry Brush College Road over Faries Parkway and the Norfolk Southern track.

Future Faries Parkway Overpass
Looking West



At the July 2012 meeting, two options were presented for connecting Brush College Road to Faries Parkway. One involved roundabouts and the other a ramp with traffic signals. The selected option consists of a ramp from Brush College Road to Faries Parkway, with traffic signals at the top and the bottom of the ramp. A free-flow right turn lane is provided from northbound Brush College Road to Faries Parkway.

Current Underpass
Looking South



Potential road closure

The overpass at the Norfolk Southern rail yard will be constructed in stages that will allow Brush College Road to remain open during most of the construction. Some periods of road closure may be required. For the proposed overpass at Faries Parkway, it will not be possible to construct the portion of the overpass on the north side of Faries Parkway in stages due to the high number of turning movements at the

City Of Decatur

Brush College Road Improvement Study

URS

345 East Ash Ave.
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: 217.875.4800
FAX: 217.875.3577
brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov

intersection and the limited width between St. John's Cemetery and CN/IC track. A portion of Brush College Road north of Faries Parkway will need to be closed during construction of the overpass. Final plans will be developed with the goal of keeping Faries Parkway open during construction.

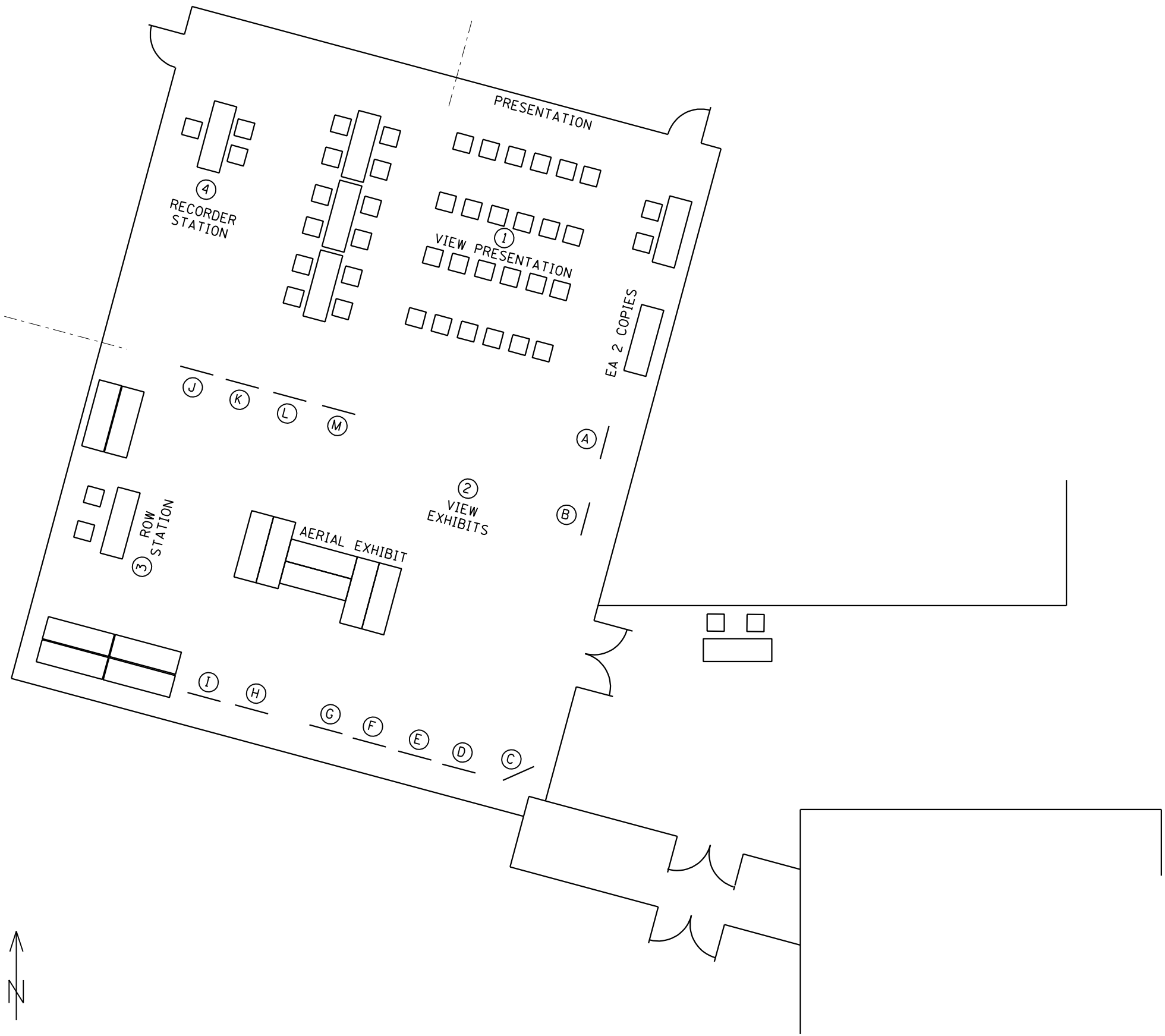
Improvements to the Williams Street intersection

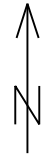
Due to the high number of turning movements at the William Street/Brush College Road intersection, additional turn lanes are required to avoid backups during peak travel times. Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) policy requires that raised medians be placed adjacent to dual turn lanes for safety. The length of the raised median depends on the required storage length for the turn lane, the required taper length and other factors. The raised median will limit access to some businesses and homes. The displays at tonight's meeting show the impacts of the intersection improvements.

Improvements to the Marietta Street intersection

Due to the high volume of traffic during peak travel hours, employees of the ADM James Randall Research Center have a difficult time exiting the facility. The study has shown that traffic signals are warranted at this location. The intersection of Brush College Road and Marietta Street/ADM James Randall Research Center will be reconfigured and traffic lights will be added.






 SCALE: 1" = 10'

Public Hearing - PowerPoint Presentation



Welcome!

Brush College Road Improvement Study Public Hearing

April 22, 2014



Purpose of Meeting

- Public Hearing - Open House format to present proposed improvements to Brush College Road
- Goal is to present selected options for final design and get your comments
- Written comments can be provided or you may give a statement to the recorder



Suggested Sequence

1. View this presentation
2. View Exhibits – Talk with URS and City staff
3. Speak with land acquisition staff if your property is impacted by project
4. Provide written comments or give verbal comments to the recorder



Purpose and Need of Project

- Provide adequate capacity to accommodate present and future year traffic volumes along Brush College Road
- Identify safe and efficient improvements
- Address non-motorized facilities
- Improve accessibility to support future development



Previous Public Meetings

- Public meeting #1 – February 2011
 - Underpass vs. Overpass at NS Yard
 - Shared-use path on west side vs. shared-use path on east side of roadway
- Public meeting #2 - July of 2012
 - Roundabouts vs. Signals at proposed ramp for Farries Parkway overpass



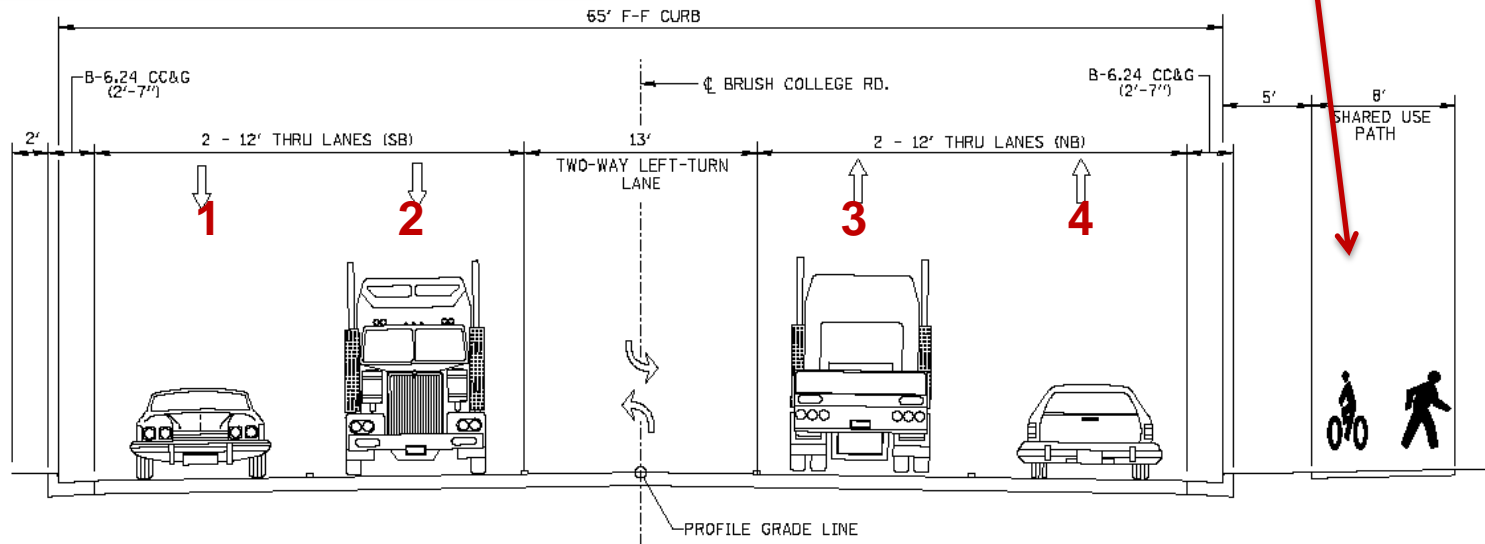
Previous Public Meetings

Based on comments received, and other project requirements, the preferred alternatives were selected and are being presented at this meeting



What is being proposed?

4-Lane Section with Shared-Use Path



BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD - LOOKING NORTH



What is being proposed?

- Overpass at NS Rail Yard





Proposed Overpass – NS Yard

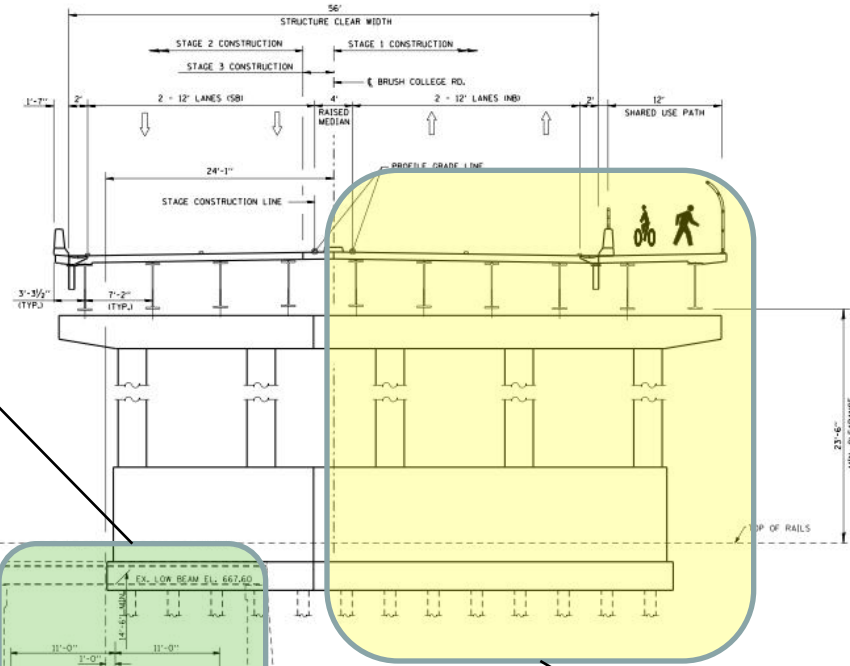


Computer Rendering – Looking Northwest

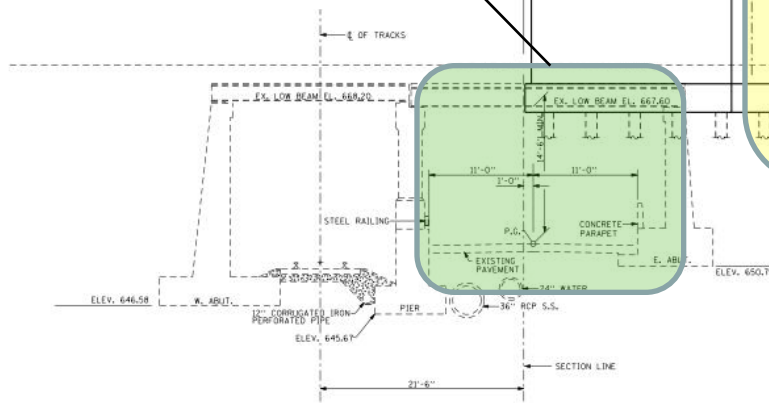


Overpass Option - Staging

Maintain traffic on
Brush College Road



Build east portion of
overpass first



CONCEPTUAL OVERPASS OPTION



Why an Overpass at NS Yard?

- Construction of a new underpass would:
 - ✓ Require multiple construction seasons
 - ✓ Require temporary relocation of NS tracks
 - ✓ Result in significant traffic disruptions
- Not feasible to widen or rehabilitate the existing underpass
- February 2011 Public Meeting comments support the overpass option



What is being proposed?

- Overpass at Farries Parkway





Faries Parkway Overpass



Computer Rendering –
Looking West on Faries
Parkway



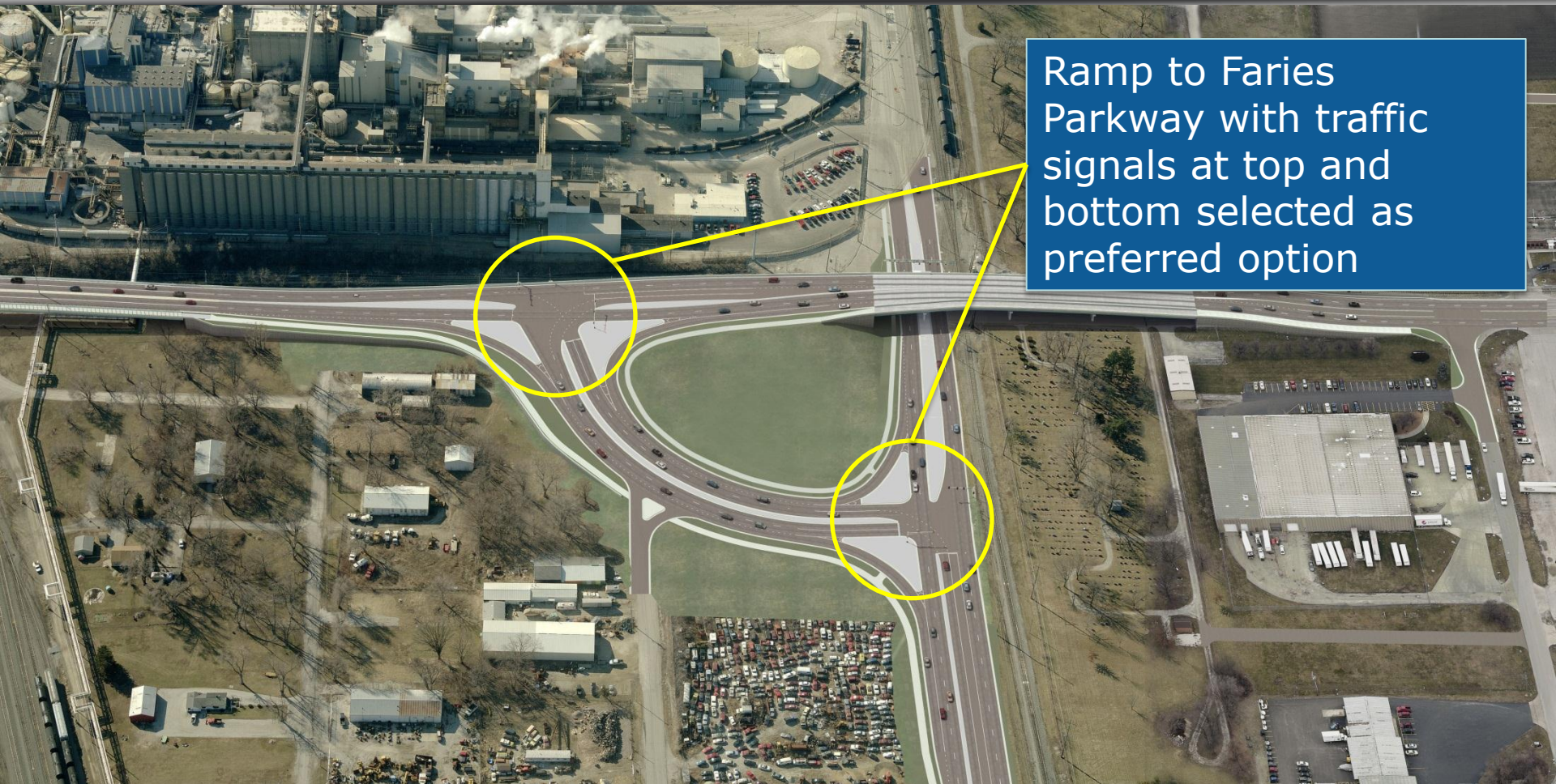
Faries Parkway Overpass



Second overpass will carry
Brush College Road over
Faries Parkway and NS Track



Faries Parkway Overpass



Ramp to Faries Parkway with traffic signals at top and bottom selected as preferred option



Faries Parkway Overpass

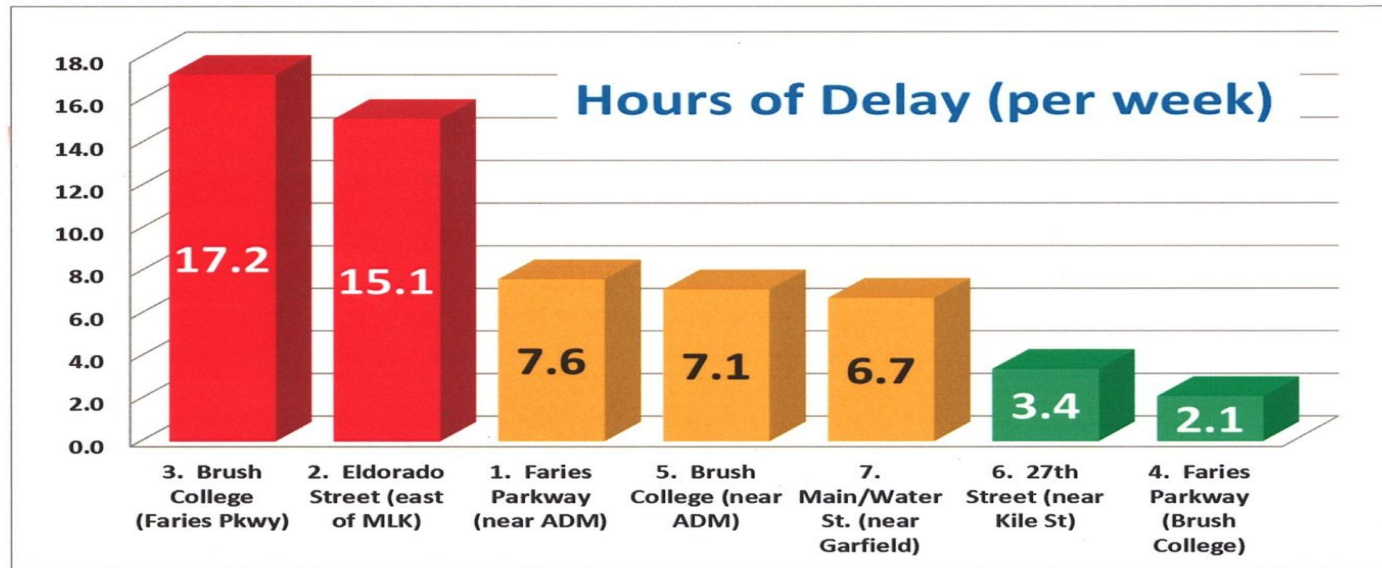
Overpass and ramp will require the acquisition of right-of-way and impact existing businesses in the area





Why an Overpass at Faries Parkway?

- Trains block intersection 17.2 hours/week





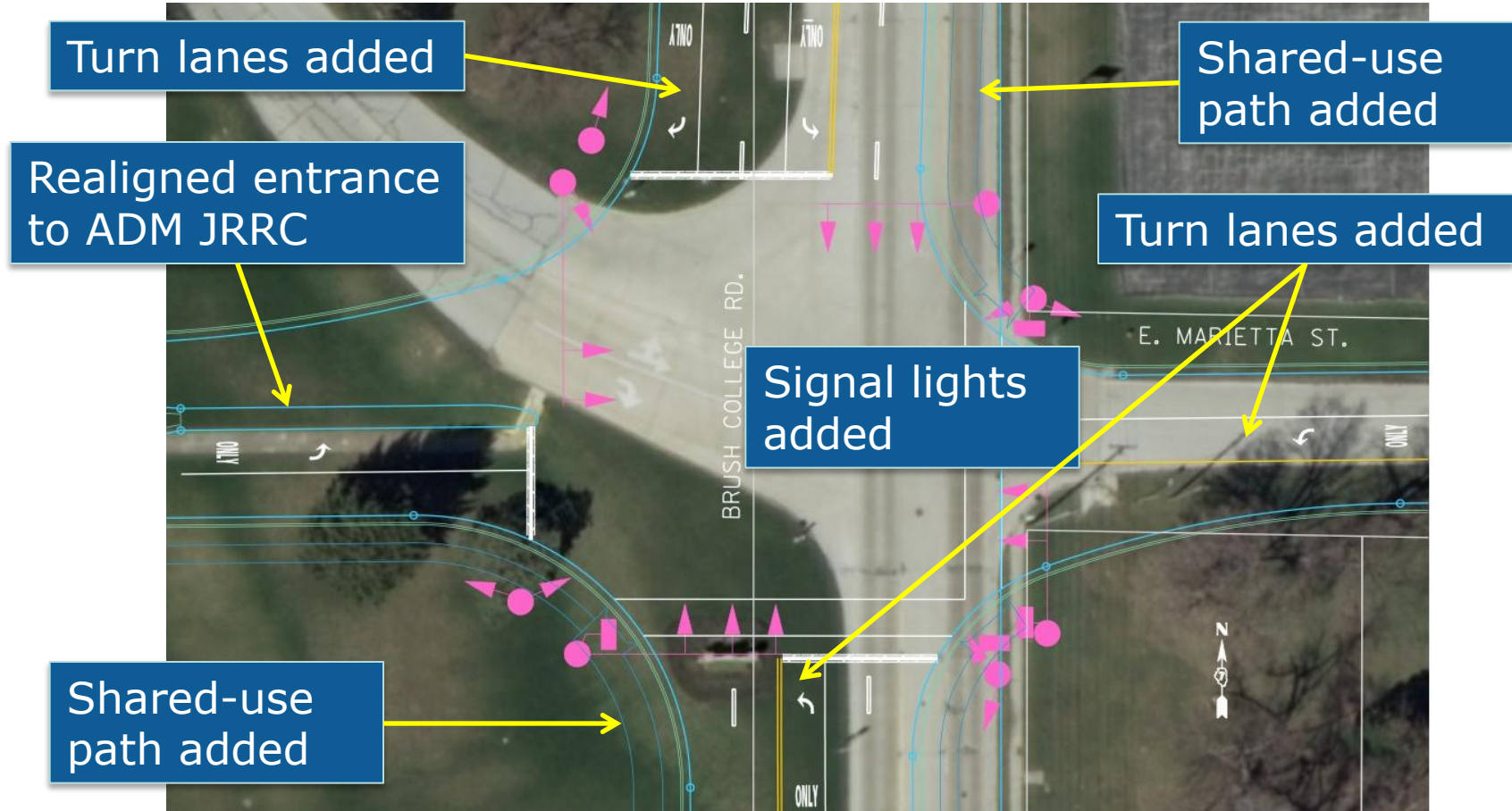
Faries Parkway Overpass

- Limited width available north of Faries Parkway between St. John's Cemetery and the CN/IC track
- Limited width will not allow traffic to be maintained during construction.
- A portion of Brush College Road north of Faries Parkway will need to be closed in order to construct overpass



What is being proposed?

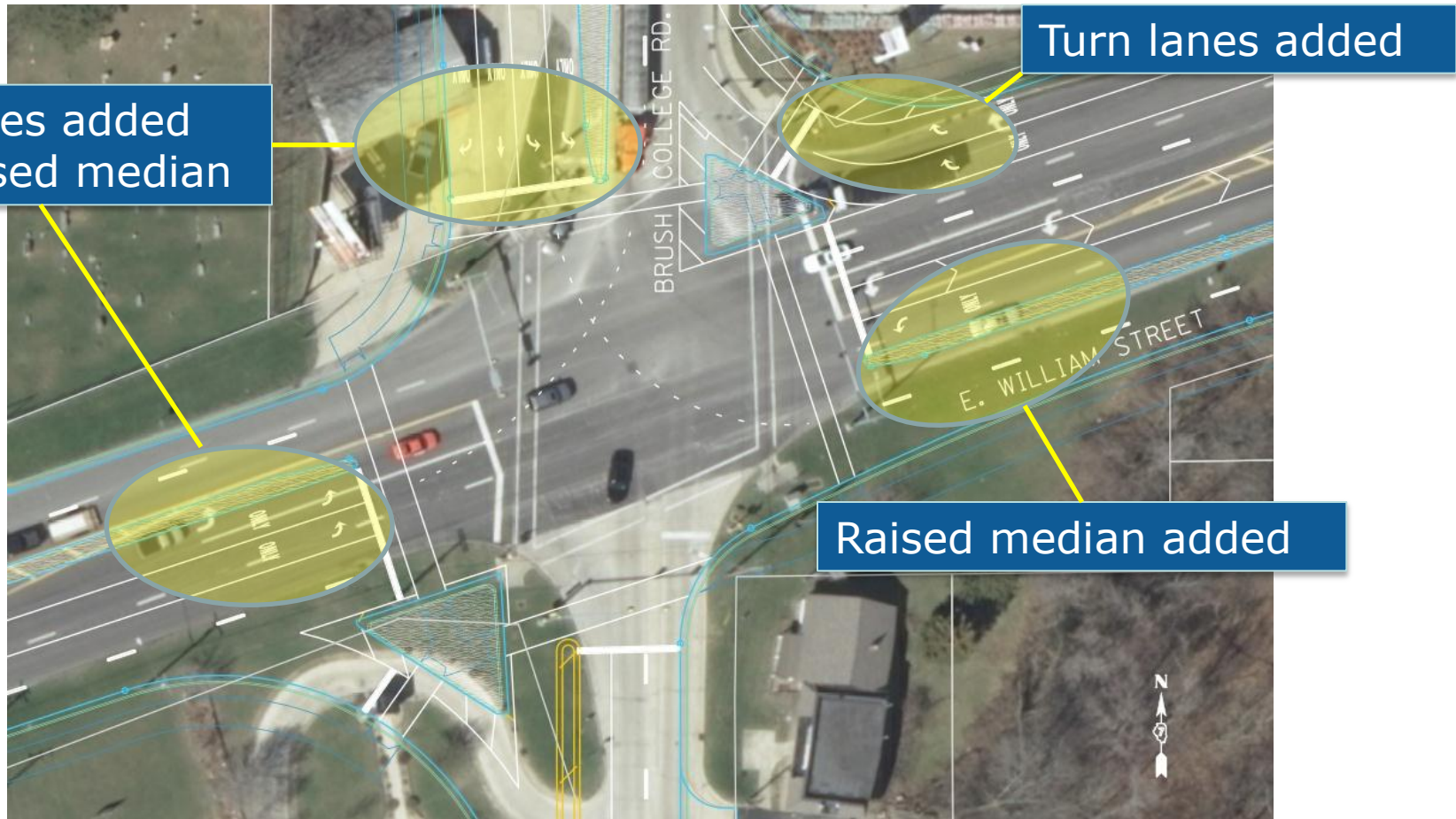
- Improvements to Marietta Intersection





What is being proposed?

- Improvements to William St. Intersection





William Street Intersection

- Additional turning lanes needed for high traffic volumes
- Raised medians along William Street and Brush College Road
 - IDOT policy requires raised medians adjacent to dual turn lanes
 - Results in limited vehicular access
 - Provides pedestrian refuge area

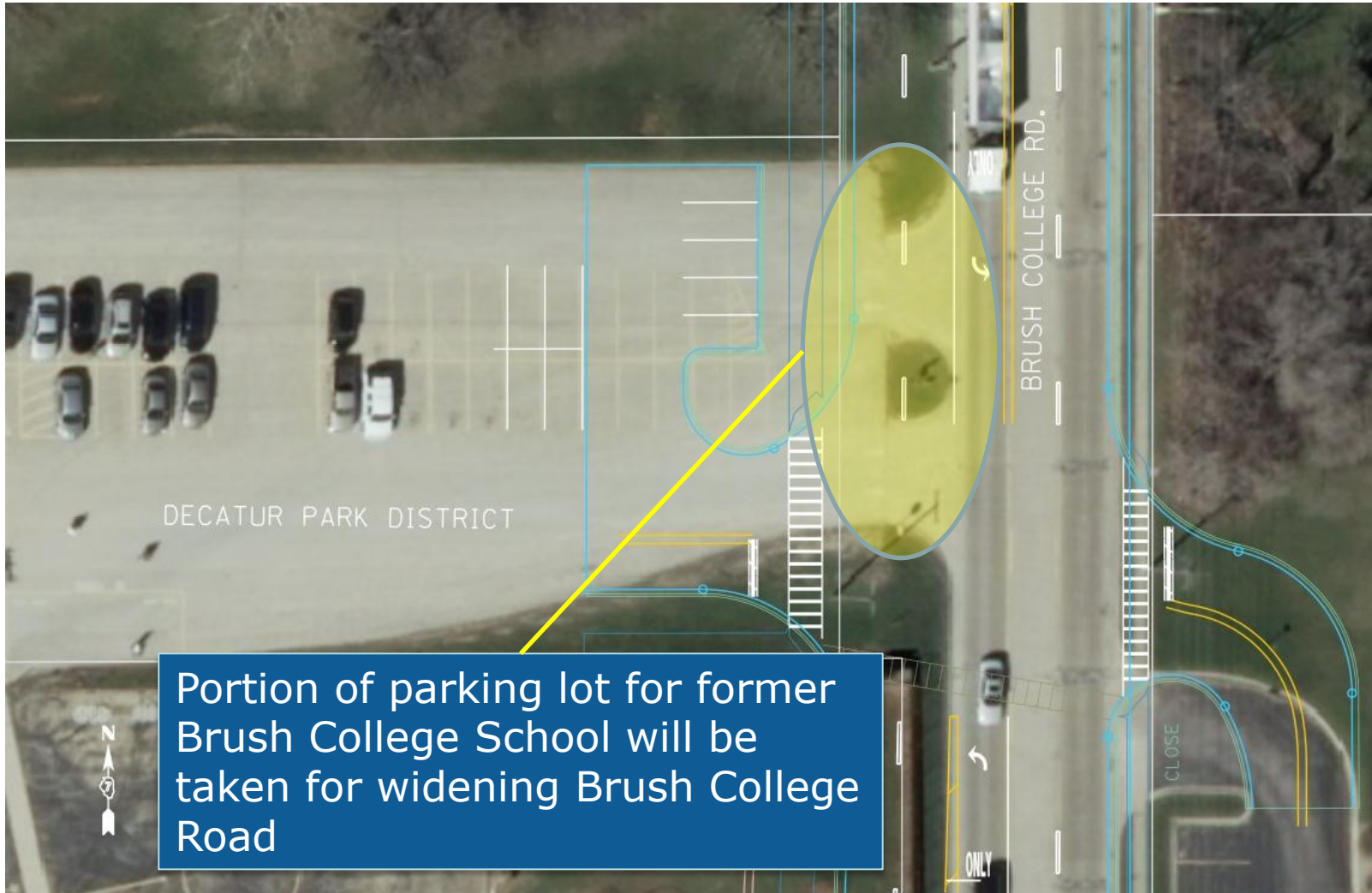


4(f) Impacts

- 4(f) lands are public park/recreation lands
- Parking lot for former Brush College School is owned by the Park District
- Proposed improvement will require some right-of-way from parking lot
- Impacts considered as "*de minimis*"



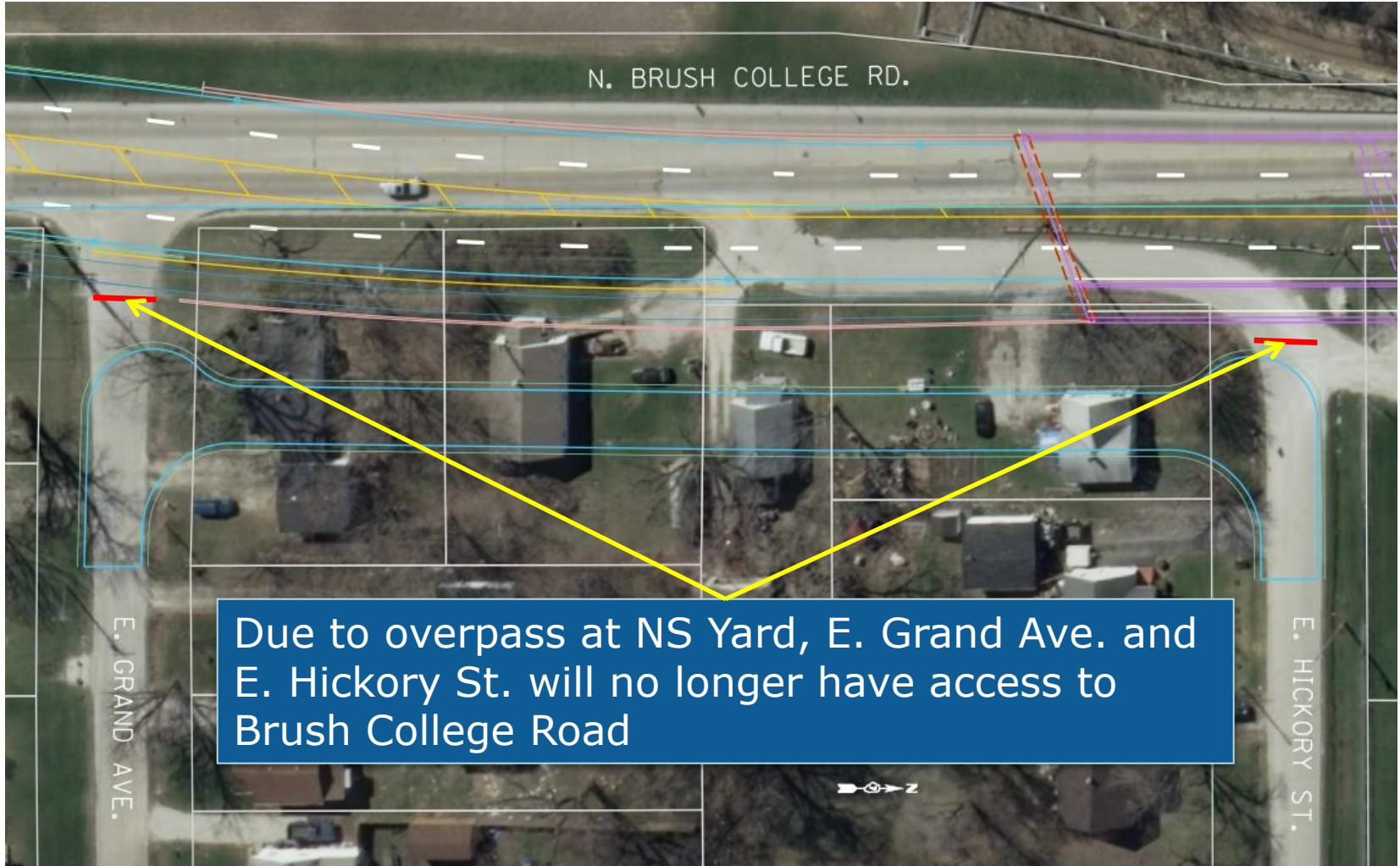
4(f) Impacts



Portion of parking lot for former Brush College School will be taken for widening Brush College Road



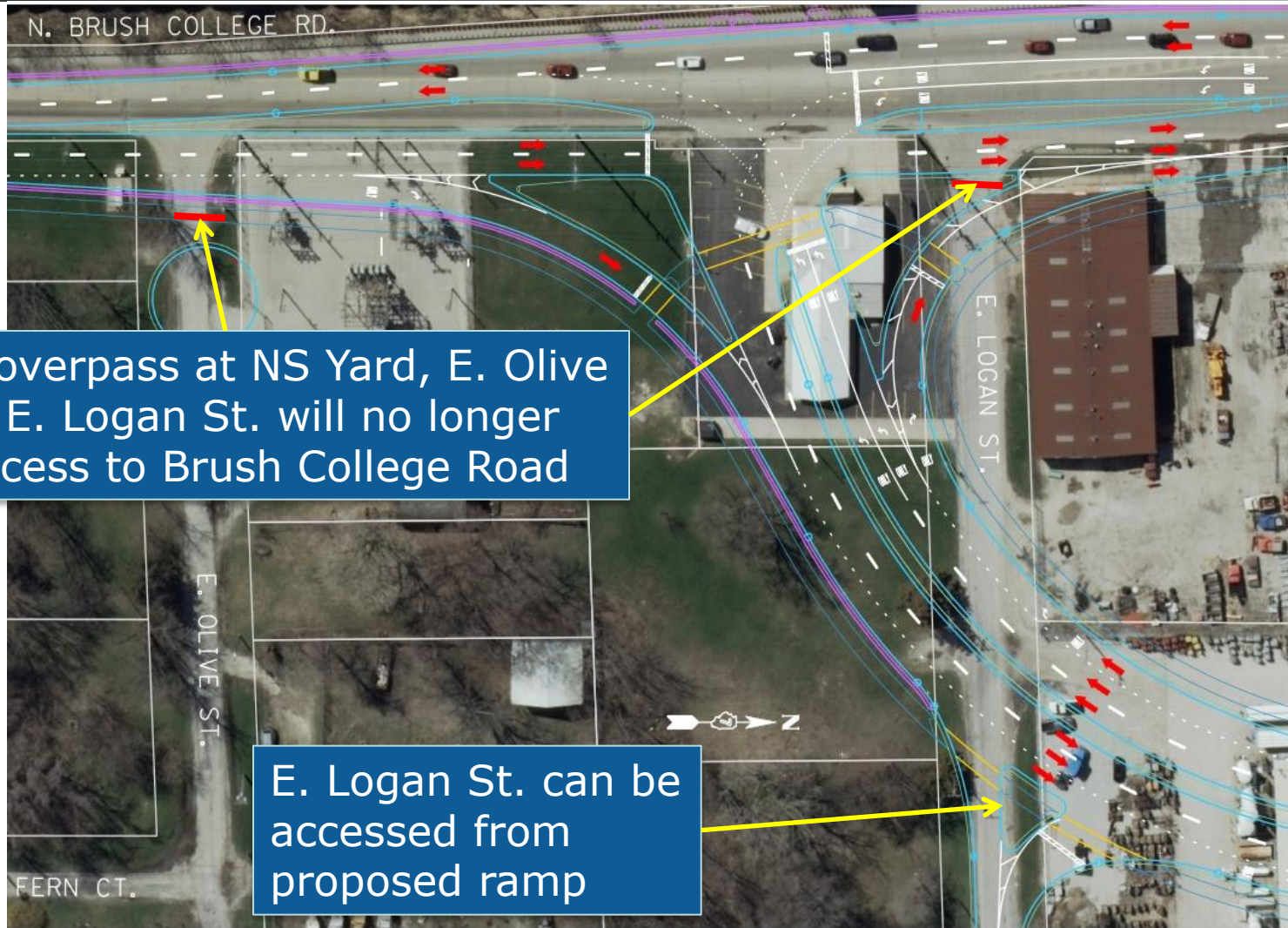
Impacts and Issues



Due to overpass at NS Yard, E. Grand Ave. and E. Hickory St. will no longer have access to Brush College Road



Impacts and Issues



Due to overpass at NS Yard, E. Olive St. and E. Logan St. will no longer have access to Brush College Road

E. Logan St. can be accessed from proposed ramp



Impacts and Issues





Impacts and Issues



James Street will be extended to Faries Parkway to allow entrance/exit to businesses on Logan St. and Olive St.



Types of Property Acquisition

- **Fee Simple**
 - Own all interests and rights
- **Permanent Easement**
 - Right to utilize portion of property, but ownership remains with land owner
- **Temporary Easement**
 - Temporary use of property during construction to make minor adjustments or modifications



Property Acquisition Process

- **REGULATED** by Federal Law (*Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970*) and reviewed by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for transportation projects.



Property Acquisition Process

▪ **UNBIASED PROCESS**

- Independent appraisal (land costs + damages)
- Independent review appraisal
- Offer
- Negotiations
- Acquisition
- Relocation Assistance (if necessary)



What Happens Next?

- Obtain and evaluate public comments
- Obtain design approval of Phase I Study (anticipated by Fall of 2014)
- Begin Phase 2 – Contract Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition (Duration 24 to 36 months)



Prior to Construction:

- All right-of-way must be acquired
- Funding must be obtained for construction
- Ameren must relocate substation and power lines, including acquisition of property and easements



Estimated Construction Cost

\$86.4 Million – includes:

- Engineering cost for final design (\$5.1M)
- Right of way and relocation costs (\$8.1M)
- Utility relocation costs (\$4.7M)
- Environmental testing and mitigation costs (\$1.15M)
- Construction cost (\$62.25M)
- Construction engineering cost (\$5.1M)



Potential Sources of Funding

- City Bonds
- Funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation
- Illinois Commerce Commission
- Private Contributions
- Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants from US DOT
- Other federal funds
- Other state funds



Thank you for Participating!

- Meet the project team
- Look at the exhibits
- Ask questions
- Tell us about your concerns
 - Fill out comment form or give statement to recorder
 - Can also email comments (see handout)
 - Comments must be received by 5/8/14



Questions, Comments & Information

For questions or concerns contact:

City Engineering at 424-2747

or

Keith Benting at URS Corporation

875-4800

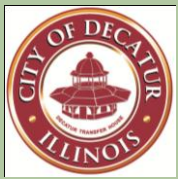
Send comments to:

brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov

For additional information:

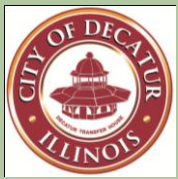
www.decaturil.gov

Public Hearing - Easel Exhibits



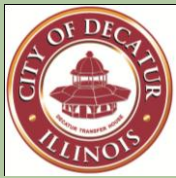
Purpose and Need of Project

- Provide adequate capacity to accommodate present and future year traffic volumes along Brush College Road
- Identify safe and efficient improvements
- Address non-motorized facilities
- Improve accessibility to support future development

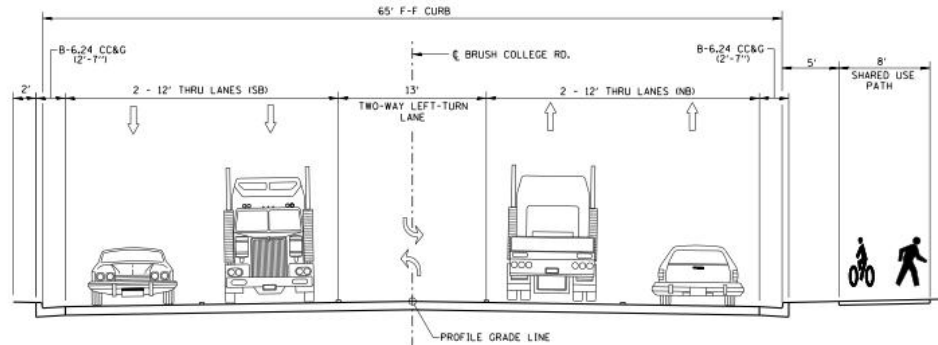


What is being proposed?

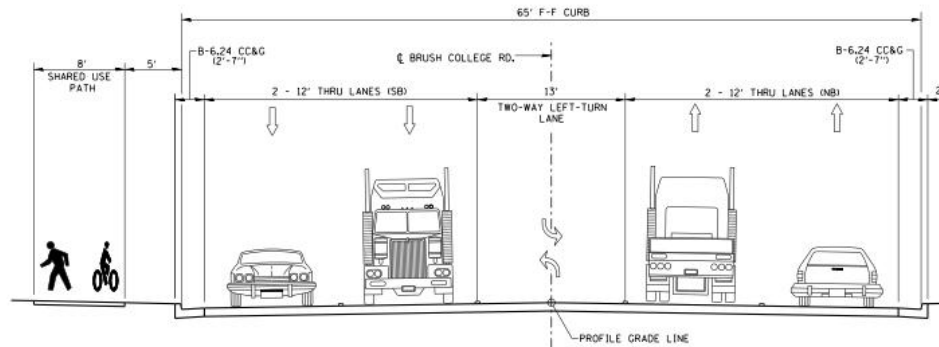
- 4-Lane Section with Shared-Use Path
- Overpass at NS Rail Yard
- Overpass at Farries Parkway
- Marietta Street/ADM JRRC Intersection Improvements (Add traffic signals)
- William Street Intersection Improvements (Add turn lanes and raised median)



4-Lane Roadway Section

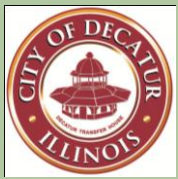


BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD - LOOKING NORTH
5-LANES NORTH OF JAMES R. RANDALL RESEARCH CENTER
(WITH FLUSH CENTER LANE)



BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD - LOOKING NORTH
5-LANES SOUTH OF JAMES R. RANDALL RESEARCH CENTER
(WITH FLUSH CENTER LANE)

...Proposed Typical Section Roadway Options.dgn 2/18/2011 10:48:58 AM



Proposed Overpass - NS Yard

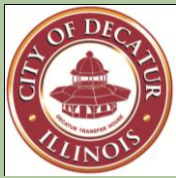




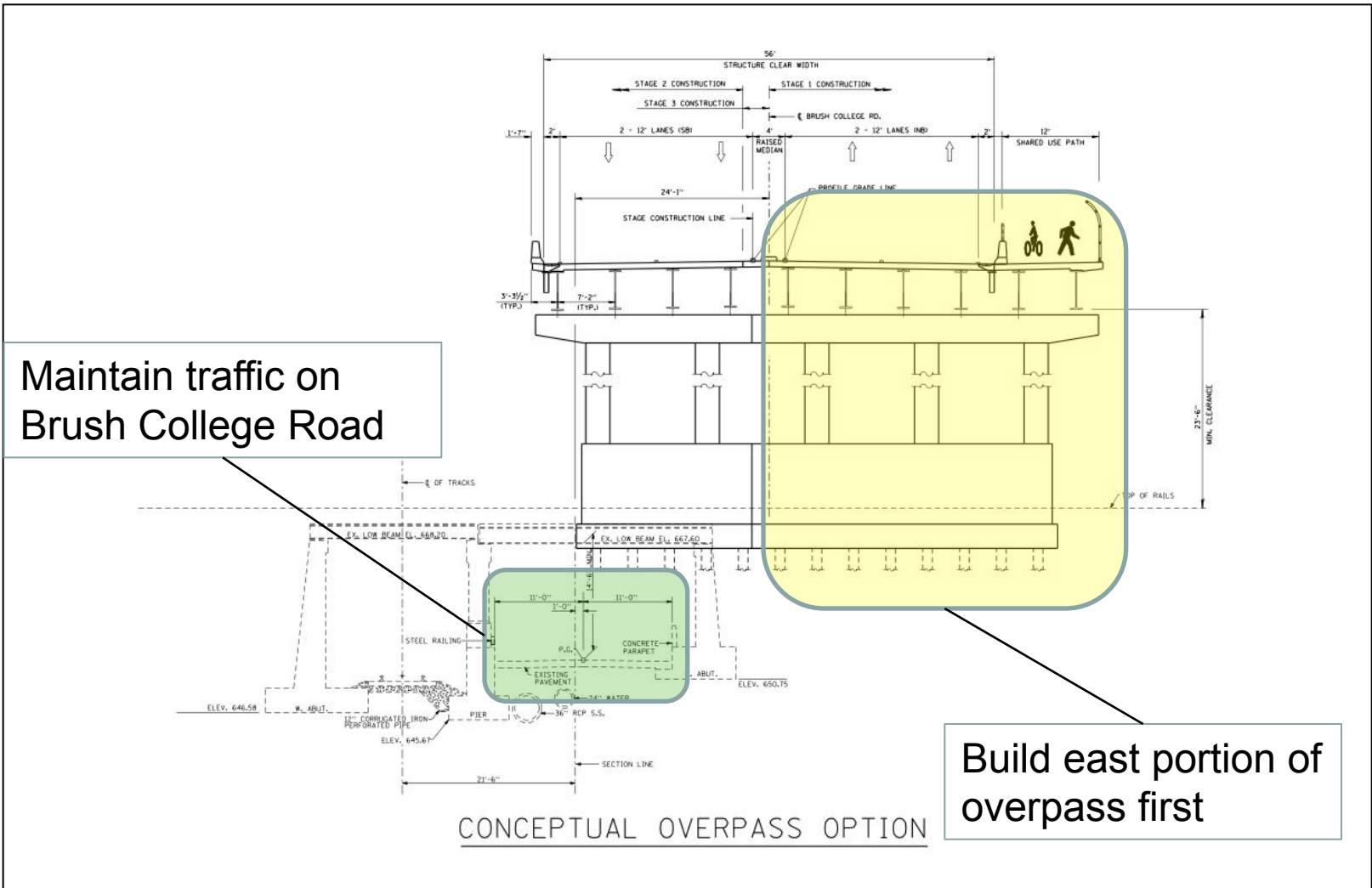
Proposed Overpass – NS Yard



Computer Rendering – Looking Northwest



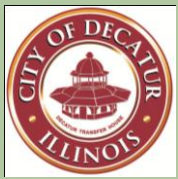
NS Yard Overpass - Staging



Maintain traffic on Brush College Road

Build east portion of overpass first

CONCEPTUAL OVERPASS OPTION



Overpass at Faries Parkway



A section of Brush College Road north of Faries Parkway will need to be closed during construction of this overpass due to the limited width between the ICRR track and St. John's Cemetery.



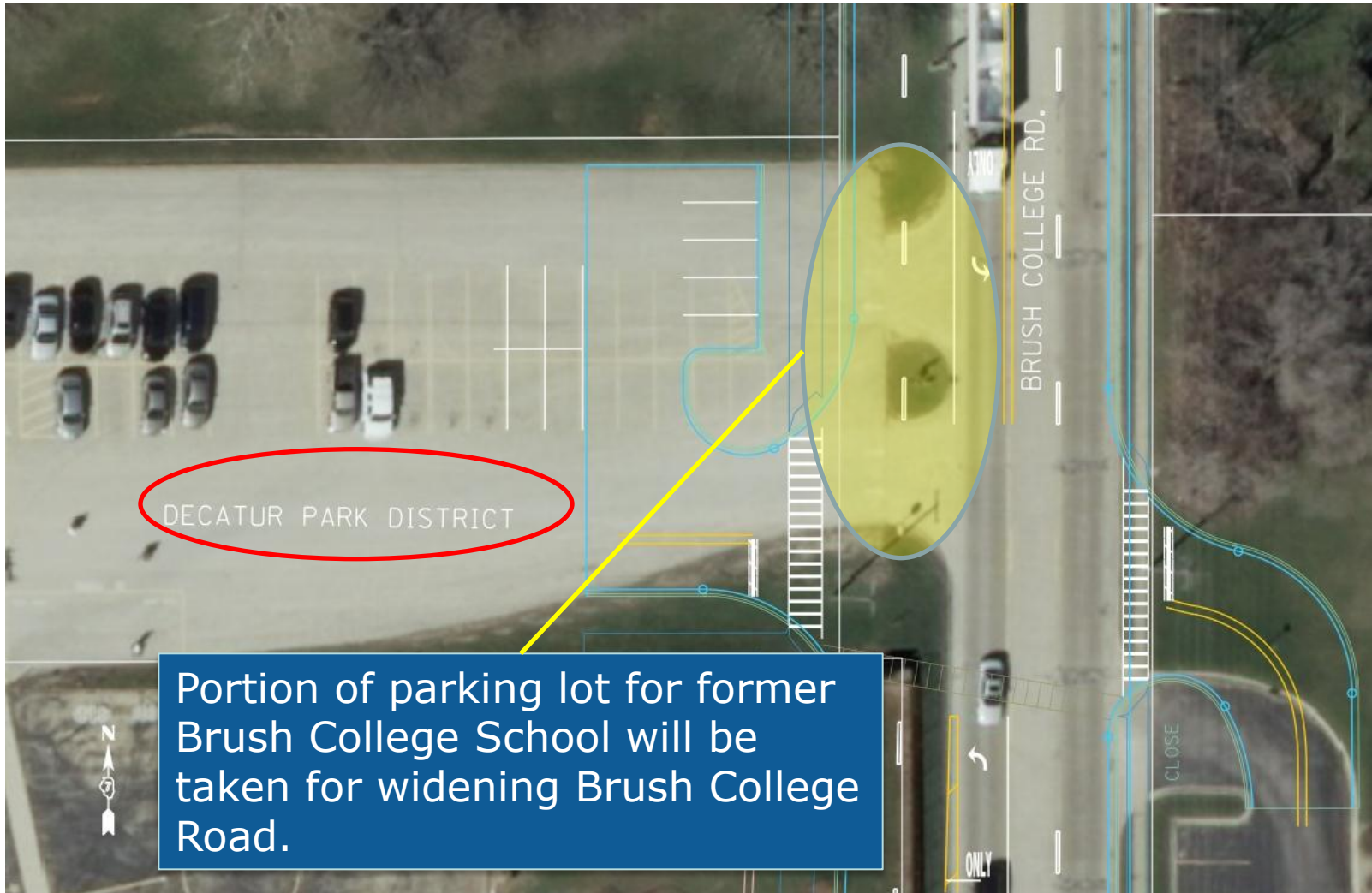
Faries Parkway Overpass



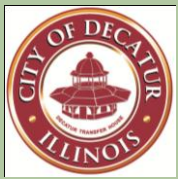
Computer Rendering –
Looking West on Faries
Parkway



4(f) Impacts – *de minimis*

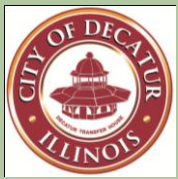


Portion of parking lot for former Brush College School will be taken for widening Brush College Road.



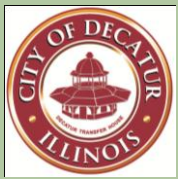
William Street Intersection

- Additional lanes needed to:
 - accommodate unusually high a.m. and p.m. peak hour turning movements
 - provide a consistent cross section with the new Brush College Road NS overpass
 - support future development planned for the surrounding area
- Raised medians along William Street and Brush College Road:
 - are required by IDOT policy (adjacent to dual turn lanes)
 - will reduce vehicular access to some adjacent properties
 - will provide a refuge for pedestrians crossing the intersection



Impacts and Issues

- Elimination of access to Brush College Road at several streets
 - Grand
 - Olive
 - E. Harrison (west)
 - Hickory
 - Logan
- Extend James Street to Faries Parkway
- Maintain access to homes & businesses
- Closure of portion of Brush College Road during construction
- Acquisition of properties and relocation of businesses



What Happens Next?

- Obtain and evaluate public comments
- Obtain design approval of Phase I Study (anticipated by Fall of 2014)
- Begin Phase 2 – Contract Plan Preparation and Land Acquisition (Duration 24 to 36 months)

Prior to construction:

- All right-of way must be acquired
- Funding must be obtained for construction
- Ameren must relocate substation and power lines, including acquisition of property and easements



Estimated Construction Cost

\$86.4 Million – includes:

- Engineering cost for final design (\$5.1M)
- Right of way and relocation costs (\$8.1M)
- Utility relocation costs (\$4.7M)
- Environmental testing and mitigation costs (\$1.15M)
- Construction cost (\$62.25M)
- Construction engineering cost (\$5.1M)

Public Hearing - Comments Received

COMMENT SHEET
BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 22, 2014

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

We encourage you to make your views a part of the record. Space is provided on this page for you to provide comments. Comments may be mailed or dropped off as you leave the meeting. You may also provide verbal comments to the recorder or email comments to brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov. Written comments received by May 8, 2014 will be included in the record and will receive equal consideration along with the statements received at this meeting. Please be sure to include your NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER so that we may include your comments in the official report.

Name: ED DOUGHERTY Phone #: 217 876 0705
eMail: ralphthehog58@comcast.net
Address: 851 KAREN DR
Decatur IL 62525

Comments: Excellent ideas. The job can't
be completed fast enough. This will create
construction jobs AND ASSIST IN GROWING THE
MIDWEST IN HAND PORT

**COMMENT SHEET
BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 22, 2014**

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

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Name: STEVE FUNK Phone #: 217-428-2068
eMail: sfunk@continentalcarbonic.com
Address: 165 S. 4th St.
Decatur.

Comments: _____

\$70 million cost is way too much for benefit.
Negative demographics in City and at ADM do
not justify the cost.
Effort should be put into re-configuring railroad
tracks across Brush College to alleviate that traffic

COMMENT SHEET
BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 22, 2014

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

We encourage you to make your views a part of the record. Space is provided on this page for you to provide comments. Comments may be mailed or dropped off as you leave the meeting. You may also provide verbal comments to the recorder or email comments to brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov. Written comments received by May 8, 2014 will be included in the record and will receive equal consideration along with the statements received at this meeting. Please be sure to include your NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER so that we may include your comments in the official report.

Name: WILLIAM STEINER Phone #: 217-433-9750
eMail: SCORPION13063@COMCAST.17ET
Address: 4004 E MARIETTA
DECATUR, IL 62526

Comments: _____
I am all for the overpass and glad to see it has somewhere for pedestrians. I am glad to hear they are not running James St. through to ADM from William St.

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PUBLIC HEARING
BRUSH COLLEGE ROAD IMPROVEMENT STUDY
APRIL 22, 2014
4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Public Hearing held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014,
at the National Sequestration Center, Richland
Community College Campus, 3451 President Howard Brown
Boulevard, Decatur, Illinois. Public Comments taken
before Rhonda K. O'Neal, CSR, RPR, taking place
between the hours of 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

COMMENTS BY:	PAGE
RON NIHISER	2
MATT KUZEL	3
DON RODERICK	4
BEVERLY CHAPPELL	5
MARK A. SMITH	6

COMMENT BY RON NIHISER

1
2 MR. NIHISER: Now, I was thinking about the
3 frontage road that goes from my place to Grand, and
4 it don't go onto Marietta, which would be right at
5 the intersection of the -- where the underpass starts
6 going over -- the overpass starts going over. And I
7 think that should be in there because all the other
8 streets around there is all residential, and you're
9 not supposed to have truck traffic in there.

10 And I have a storage lot that brings semi
11 trucks in to haul the cars out. We have a storage
12 lot, a repo lot, and they have a lot of cars coming
13 and going, and they haul them out on big trucks. And
14 then -- so then the trucks would have to go down --
15 now that just come off of Brush College Road into my
16 lot.

17 Now they would have to go down Hickory
18 Street and James Street and then back around to get
19 on the interstate on Brush College Road. So the
20 design ain't finished. Okay? That's all I can say.
21 That's my idea. Thank you.

22 I don't see where they have an entrance
23 going into my garage. They got -- they're going to
24 take the one that's there away. Where they going to

1 put the new one in? At the end of the road they put
2 in? But it don't show it. Okay? Thank you.

3 (Comment concluded.)

4
5 COMMENT BY MATT KUZEL

6 MR. KUZEL: I guess my question or my
7 concern is, I own 3650 and 3660 East Williams Street.
8 The building used to be a hardware store years ago.
9 And when they changed Williams Street from a two-lane
10 to a four-lane road, what was supposed to be a couple-
11 Month project turned into a couple-year project
12 closing Kemnitz Hardware; there's no access.

13 My question or concern is, how long will we
14 have limited or no access eastbound on Williams
15 Street, north on Williams Street to get -- or Brush
16 College to get to ADM, and more importantly, how long
17 will our customers in that area have limited or no
18 access to get to us? That's my question.

19 On the corner of Kurent Safety, my building,
20 and K&H Auto Sales, my building also, there's a
21 utility pole that is inside the red shaded by the
22 easement area. Will that pole be relocated, and if
23 so, where? That's it.

24 (Comment concluded.)

COMMENT BY DON RODERICK

1
2 MR. RODERICK: Now I come in with a semi
3 truck, and my Quonset hut's on Olive off of Brush
4 College. I got heavy commercial property. Now
5 they're going to set Olive off, and they got a little
6 old, narrow street. You go down to the end of that
7 street, and then it's almost impossible to get to my
8 property because those intersections and the street
9 is not improved.

10 And so they should take into consideration
11 instead of destroying all that commercial property
12 with the way it is now, that's what they'd be doing.
13 My property will be useless when they do that. I
14 come in there with a semi, would make it down to the
15 other end, if I could. How you going to get a big
16 semi turned around and to get back up?

17 So they should take into consideration
18 improving Olive Street, widen it, widen the other
19 streets down at the other end so the semis could get
20 in there. Walston's had the same problem. They were
21 having the same problem. They own a lot of property
22 there, and then their other junkyard, they're going
23 to have to come with the semis, and it will be hard
24 for them to get in.

1 So whoever does the developing should take
2 into consideration those heavy industrial property
3 there. \$60 million spending, that would be peanuts
4 to improve those streets.

5 (Comment concluded.)

6
7 COMMENT BY BEVERLY CHAPPELL

8 MS. CHAPPELL: I own 480 North Brush College
9 Road. And part of it's on Williams Street Road. So
10 it's -- there's one block that's -- it's just Brush
11 College -- you know, there's Williams Street, and
12 then there's just one road here that's Brush
13 College -- I mean that's.... You're going straight,
14 and Brush College.

15 And over here is just like one block which
16 is Brush College. But I own that building there they
17 call 480 North Brush College Road. And it looks like
18 they don't know what to do with me. And I will only
19 sell the two parcels together. I will not accept --
20 they call them parcel in my deed, but I don't know if
21 they -- but I get separate bills on them.

22 One's in front, and then there's a parcel in
23 the back. But I -- it has to be sold together. I
24 will not separate them. Because I put that in there

1 so they won't come after me just wanting a part of
2 it, you know, a piece of it.

3 (Comment concluded.)

4
5 COMMENT BY MARK A. SMITH

6 MR. SMITH: My name is Mark A. Smith, and I
7 live up in Argenta. I have a house in Decatur,
8 though, but -- another one, but it has nothing to do
9 with this. I don't think the William -- any -- on
10 the William's Streets in Junior Junction area needs
11 to be too much changed and the Lake Shore Drive parts
12 and stuff.

13 To me, that's just an extra to what's not
14 going -- it may be in the future down the road, but
15 not -- not immediate here for what they need other
16 than widening out to the double lanes only, the
17 overpass or underpass, whatever they're going to do.
18 That's just my opinion.

19 I don't know how much that would -- it just
20 looks like an extra -- buying up a lot of extra
21 three, four foot off the road which is already a
22 four-lane. And it would get you by for what -- it
23 just don't make no sense, that side of it, why
24 they're going to that extent there. But other than

1 that, I don't know what.... I -- that's just my
2 opinion.

3 (Comment concluded.)
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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2) SS
3 COUNTY OF MACON)

4
5 I, RHONDA K. O'NEAL, do hereby certify that
6 I am a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public
7 in the State of Illinois and that I reported in
8 shorthand the foregoing, taken on the 22nd day of
9 April, 2014, and that the foregoing is a true and
10 correct transcript of my shorthand notes so taken.

11
12 *Rhonda K. O'Neal*

13 Notary Public -- CSR, RPR
14 CSR #084-004158



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24

**Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing – April 22, 2014**

Comments given to recorder by the following:

1. Ron Nihiser, Sr.
Owner – Ron’s Garage
3800 E. Hickory St.
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: 217-422-9200

2. Matt Kuzel
Owner 3650 and 3660 E. William Street
345 Secretariat Pl.
Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Phone: 217-519-0512

3. Ron Roderick
Owner – Business on E. Olive Street
3741 N. Bearsdale Road
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone: 217-877-7697

4. Beverly Chappell
Owner – 480 N. Brush College Road
3644 E. Minnie
Decatur, IL 62521
Phone: 217-423-2736

5. Mark A. Smith
138 E. Water Street
Argenta, IL 62501
Phone: 217-795-4419

Benting, Keith

From: John Sanner <sanner@samuelsmiller.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2014 9:25 AM
To: Benting, Keith
Subject: FW: Brush College Road Improvement Study - comment

Keith,

Here is a copy of what I sent to the city's email address yesterday, which resulted in a bounceback message.

- John

John E. Sanner
Samuels, Miller, Schroeder, Jackson & Sly, LLP
225 North Water Street, Suite 301
Decatur IL 62523

Mailing address:
PO Box 1400
Decatur IL 62525

tel 217-429-4325
fax 217-425-6313

From: John Sanner
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2014 5:07 PM
To: 'brushcollegestudy@decaturil.gov.'
Subject: Brush College Road Improvement Study - comment

The proposed Brush College Road overpass is a much needed improvement that would eliminate the problems presented by the current cramped railroad underpass and the many train movements at the rail crossing to the north.

The proposed overpass could also provide a tourism draw. With some relatively modest effort, the overpass could provide a safe place for local and out of town railroad enthusiasts and others who are interested in trains to watch and photograph the busy Norfolk Southern railroad yard and the many trains that pass through Decatur.

The current plans call for a sidewalk and bike path on the east side of the overpass. I assume that tall fencing will be required where the bridge crosses above the railroad yard. If the fence is over about four feet high, a typical mesh fence makes photography very difficult. If the fencing for the bridge could be designed to include a 6 inch horizontal gap approximately 5 to 5 ½ feet above the sidewalk, or a series of 6 inch vertical gaps spaced every ten feet or so over the length of the bridge, it would enable rail enthusiasts to take photographs of the trains from the overpass.

The view to the west, looking into the rail yard, would be even more interesting because of the greater rail activity. Please consider including an "observation area" on the west side of the overpass. This could simply be a sidewalk on the bridge over the railroad yard connected by a walkway from the south end of the overpass, perhaps as a branch off of the main sidewalk /bike path before it crosses to the east side of Brush College. The observation area would only need to be wide enough to provide a safe place to stand and would not need to continue north of the bridge. (Such an observation

area on the bridge would, however, enable a sidewalk or bike path to be added along the west side of Brush College in the future.)

It may sound odd to provide a place for people to watch trains, but several cities around the country are attracting tourism with railroad viewing areas. An internet search for “railroad viewing platforms” will provide many examples. In Illinois, examples include Homewood (see www.blackhawknrhs.org/homewood.htm and www.village.homewood.il.us) and Rochelle (see www.rochellerrailroadpark.org).

Federal or state economic development or tourism funds might be available to help pay for appropriate fencing on the bridge and for the addition of a dedicated observation area on the west side of the bridge.

I am not suggesting that anything as formal or as extensive as what Homewood and Rochelle have done is necessary or would be appropriate for this site. Just providing a publicly available viewing area on the overpass and camera friendly fencing will be enough to draw visitors.

John Sanner
1011 S Cedar Hill Dr.
Decatur IL 62521
217-429-4325 (weekdays)

May 6, 2014

Since the last comments on February 26, 2011 submitted from Walston Auto Wrecking concerning the Brush College Road Improvement Study, many project design changes have been introduced. These changes drastically affect the future of our business as a whole. The loss of two offices, warehouses, along with a massive amount of land on the south side of Faries Pkwy combined with direct access being denied to this main arterial route will not only reverse our long term plans, its certain to set us back to a position comparable to an entry level business with substandard entry locations.

In addition to this, the free flow lane from Brush College Rd. merging on to Faries Pkwy presents a dangerous scenario in which vehicles stopped attempting to turn left on to our complex to the north of Faries Pkwy at the intersection of N. James will require lane change from left to right to be passed by other vehicles, thus two opposing outside lanes merging onto one center lane at one location.

Other items to be addressed are the necessary inclusion of dual accesses off the new extension of N. James St. one to each parcel combined to comprise Lot B known as 4147 Faries Pkwy and the same off of E. Logan to the rear of Lot C known as 3941 E. Faries Pkwy. All approaches need to be thirty feet in width separated by a distance of no less than ninety feet as close to grade as possible. This creates a minimum acceptable ingress/egress for tractor trailer use.

The radius from N. James St. to E. Olive St. needs to be revisited to accommodate tractor trailer use also. This corner as it is will not be able to serve E. Olive as a commercial thoroughfare.

We have recently acquired a second cell tower site located on E. Olive. As landlord to this site and the site on E. Logan, we need total assurance both sites remain open and receive adequate road dimensions and conditions to serve these sites at all times.

You can reach us at:

Walston Auto Wrecking
(217) 422-4733

Benting, Keith

From: Cave, Mary E <MCave@decaturil.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 9:51 AM
To: Benting, Keith
Subject: Fwd: Brush College Road Improvement Study Comments

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paul Scharnett <pscharnett@trism.net<<mailto:pscharnett@trism.net>>>
Date: May 8, 2014 at 9:49:20 AM CDT
To: "BrushCollegeStudy@decaturil.gov<<mailto:BrushCollegeStudy@decaturil.gov>>"
<BrushCollegeStudy@decaturil.gov<<mailto:BrushCollegeStudy@decaturil.gov>>>
Subject: Brush College Road Improvement Study Comments

Name: Paul Scharnett – Tri Star Marketing, Inc.
Address: 2211 W. Bradley Avenue, Champaign, IL 61821
Phone: 217-367-8386 x140
Email: pscharnett@trism.net<<mailto:pscharnett@trism.net>>

Mr. Benting,

Tri Star Marketing, Inc., which owns and operates the Super Pantry located at 3810 E. William St. Rd., Decatur, IL, provides the following formal comment to the Brush College Road Improvement Study.

Tri Star Marketing, Inc. remains vehemently opposed to the options chosen for proposed improvement at the intersection of Brush College Road and William Street. As we have stated previously, the damage to our business (as well as the surrounding businesses) will be immediate and significantly detrimental if the project is carried through in its currently intended capacity. This project will effectively put our establishment out of business.

Our business relies greatly upon the convenience factor associated with adequate and straightforward ingress/egress to our property, and the intended plans do nothing to accommodate the access issues to our site created by the proposed medians. It is clear that our business will be one of the most—if not the most—significantly impacted by the median installation.

Furthermore, we believe options still exist that would do much less harm to our business while still maintaining the desired level of service for traffic at the intersection. The Improvement Study, to date, has failed to address all options that could maintain sufficient access to and from our property.

Clearly, the City of Decatur would like to see tax dollars and jobs go elsewhere.

NOTICE: E-MAIL TO OR FROM CITY STAFF MAY BE SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE ILLINOIS FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

Public Hearing – Response Letters to Comments Received



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Ed Dougherty
851 Karen Drive
Decatur, IL 62526

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Your comments will be made a part of the final Design Report which will be reviewed by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Steve Funk
165 S. 44th Street
Decatur, IL 62521

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Funk:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concerns relating to the cost being too high for the project benefit and suggested reconfiguring the railroad crossing on Brush College Road to alleviate traffic impacts.

Part of the purpose of the public hearing process is to determine the public benefit of the project. Traffic delays due to train interruptions on Brush College will approach nearly 24 hours in the near future and promises to increase with progress of the Inland Port being developed by ADM. Maintaining traffic flow on this heavily used critical arterial in the City which feeds many current and future businesses is critical to the growth of the City and a substantial public benefit.

Studies have been completed exploring the possibility of altering the current railroad crossings or modifying their operations to reduce their impact to traffic flow. Separating the crossing to allow a free flow of rail and vehicular traffic is the only feasible option that will allow future growth in the area.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

William Stenger
4004 E. Marietta
Decatur, IL 62526

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Stenger:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project.

Your comments will be made a part of the final Design Report which will be reviewed by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Ron Nihiser, Sr.
3800 E. Hickory Street
Decatur, IL 62526

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Nihiser:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concerns with maintaining truck access to Ron's Garage, 3800 E. Hickory Street. In a follow-up conversation you had with Keith Benting of URS, on May 8, 2014, you elaborated on the concern with future access and requested that a frontage road be extended two blocks south to Marietta Street as part of the project.

According to your May 8 conversation with Keith Benting, it was determined that truck traffic currently uses James Street to access your business since the Brush College Road access for Hickory Street is too tight to accommodate truck traffic. Future access for your business will need to use James Street as the nearest direct access to the neighborhood will be Marietta Street, two blocks to the south. Construction of the overpass structure will close off access to Hickory Street and Grand Avenue. It is not feasible to extend a frontage road one more block south and further disrupt developed properties to accommodate different access than you currently have for your business.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Matt Kuzel
345 Secretariat Place
Mt. Zion, IL 62549

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Kuzel:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concerns regarding the length of the construction projects and how the construction will impact the access to your properties at 3650 and 3660 East William Street. You also requested if a power pole at the common property line for the two properties will be relocated during the project.

The project will be designed to maintain traffic flow and business access along William Street. The overpass design for Brush College Road will allow for staged construction that will enable the road to be open to traffic during much of the work. Brush College will need to be closed from time to time during the work but we cannot foresee the length of those closures until the design is completed. Construction related questions are difficult to answer at this stage in the project development process. Similarly, it cannot be stated with certainty regarding the power pole in question but at this time the pole does not appear to be impacted by future construction.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Don Roderick
3741 N. Bearsdale Road
Decatur, IL 62526

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Roderick:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concerns regarding access to your property on East Olive Street and ability for semi-trucks to use Olive and James Street when Olive is closed at Brush College Road. You requested that Olive and James be improved with the Brush College Road project.

After improvement of Brush College Road, access to properties along East Olive Street will need to be from James Street. The intersection of James and Olive will be reviewed during the design process to determine the necessary improvements that will allow semi-trucks to make the turn. Trucks do make the turn although the maneuver is very tight and it is used very infrequently. James and Olive are currently in poor condition. The City is not willing to commit to full improvement of the streets but will have discussions with the Decatur Township on possible improvements closer to the time of construction.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Beverly Chappell
3644 E. Minnie
Decatur, IL 62521

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Ms. Chappell:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concern with selling your property and that you will require that your parcel on the southeast corner of William and Brush College be sold together with an adjacent parcel immediately to the east.

We will not know for certain that any property is needed on the southeast corner until the final design process is further along. Your stipulation to sale both parcels together will need to be addressed as part of negotiating the sale of your property.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Mark A. Smith
138 East Water Street
Argenta, IL 62501

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concern with making changes to William Street as part of the project.

The preliminary design process looks at current traffic and future traffic using the roadway, including the intersection of Brush College Road and William Street. Currently, there are traffic problems as certain times of the day and those problems will only increase as the area to the north continues to develop. Traffic projections show a need for two left turn lanes and two right turn lanes on William Street turning onto Brush College Road. This is the reason William Street needs to be widened as part of the overall project.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

RECEIVED

JUN 05 2014

URS

William Van Alstine
566 North Brush College Road
Decatur, IL 62521

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Van Alstine:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project.

You expressed agreement with the property owners, Dave and Jan Elliot, that adding a third driveway in the middle of the property at 566 North Brush College Road is not needed. The entrance will be eliminated on the preliminary plans to be included with the final Project Report.

Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

John Sanner
1011 South Cedar Hill Drive
Decatur, IL 62521

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Sanner:

This letter is in response to your comments provided at the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You requested that a gap be provided in the fence designed to be mounted on either side of the structure that would accommodate those seeking to photograph trains. You also suggested that an observation platform be placed on the west side of the bridge.

You presented interesting ideas that we investigated further. We contacted the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) which is the State agency that provides the final review and approval of the bridge design. IDOT engineers indicated that there are no provisions to provide a gap in the fence to accommodate photographers. They expressed concern that a gap would enable individuals to more easily drop items onto the rail yard. Discouraging such behavior is one of the reasons for the fence.

There is no provision in the bridge plans to provide any pedestrian access on the west side of the bridge. Pedestrians will only be accommodated on the east side where the walkway is planned.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Lynn Walston
Walston Auto Wrecking
4148 East Faries Parkway
Decatur, IL 62526

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Walston:

This letter is in response to your comments provided for the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated concerns relating to the loss of property, buildings and direct access to Faries Parkway on the south side; concern with the safety of access to your property north of Faries Parkway; and general access concerns to your properties south of Faries Parkway.

In order for Brush College Road to be improved to accommodate the future growth in this part of the City it is necessary to acquire right of way and limit some access. The right of way acquisition process is structured such that property owners and businesses will be compensated for costs in access, land, buildings, relocation, etc.; if the impact is such that you can no longer conduct business on the site. Access in terms of the number of driveways and widths are also part of the right of way negotiation process that will be conducted during the final design.

We have tentatively determined that a left turn lane can be included in the design for your property north of Faries Parkway. The intersection of James and Olive will be reviewed during the design process to determine the necessary improvements that will allow semi-trucks to make the turn. Trucks do make the turn although the maneuver is very tight and it is used very infrequently.

We appreciate your attendance at the Public Hearing and your comments regarding the project. Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

#1 GARY K. ANDERSON PLAZA

DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

June 4, 2014

Paul Scharnett
Tri Star Marketing, Inc.
2211 West Bradley Avenue
Champaign, IL 61821

Re: Brush College Road Improvement Study
Public Hearing
April 22, 2014
Section 09-00933-00-BR

Dear Mr. Scharnett:

This letter is in response to your comments provided for the recent Public Hearing for the Brush College Road Improvement Study held on April 22, 2014. You stated in part that "Tri Star Marketing, Inc. is vehemently opposed to the options chosen for the improvement at the intersection of Brush College Road and William Street."

The concerns raised by Tri Star Marketing were very thoroughly reviewed during the design process. In order to accommodate current and future traffic as the area north continues to develop, multiple turn lanes are required on William Street and on Brush College Road at the intersection. Current design standards required by the Illinois Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration will not allow left turns out of the Super Pantry driveways. This is very unfortunate but necessary for the project.

You indicate that "options still exist that would do much less harm to [your] business while still maintaining the desired level of service for traffic at the intersection." We continue to be willing to review any options that you may have to accommodate the desired access to your business.

Please contact Mary Cave or me at 424-2747 or email: mcave@decaturil.gov or mnewell@decaturil.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew C. Newell".

Matthew C. Newell, P.E.
City Engineer

Cc: Keith Benting, P.E., URS
Mary Cave, P.E., City of Decatur, Public Works Department