



# Burnham Avenue Grade Separation

Community Advisory  
Group Meeting #1



# Agenda

- Project Team & Community Advisory Group Introductions
- Project Overview
- Project Process
- Outreach
- Next Steps
- Question & Answer

# Project Team

## Village of Burnham

- Robert Polk, Mayor

## Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways

- Katie Bell, Project Studies Manager
- Sam Wright, Transportation Planner

## Mott MacDonald

- Kevin Bollinger, Project Manager

## Morreale Communications

- Kyle Duff, Project Manager



# Community Advisory Group (CAG)

This group consists of:

- **Businesses**
- **Community Groups**
- **Transportation Agencies**
- **Railroad Representatives**
- **Other Stakeholders**

## Expectations

- Represent the community and facilitate the discussion of issues and opportunities on behalf of constituents
- Input from all participants in the process is valued and considered.
- Keep an open mind and participate openly, honestly, and respectfully.
- Treat each other with respect and dignity.
- The project must progress at a reasonable pace, based on the project schedule.

# CAG Member Introductions

# Project Overview







# Project Purpose & Need

**The Burnham Avenue Grade Separation Project is needed to:**

- Address vehicular, pedestrian and railroad safety by eliminating five railroad at-grade crossings with Burnham Avenue and the sidewalk along the roadway.
- Reduce congestion and improve mobility within the Village of Burnham and City of Chicago.



# Project Benefits

## Safety



## Congestion



## Mobility



## Environment



This project will enhance the community's overall quality of life by improving safety, mobility, and operational issues while reducing environmental impacts associated with the railroad crossings at Burnham Avenue south of Brainard Avenue.

# Existing Projects in the Area

-  Burnham Resurfacing Project (Brainard Avenue to 159<sup>th</sup> Street)
  - Led by IDOT
-  Brainard Avenue Improvement Project (Muskegon Avenue to State Line Road)
  - Led by IDOT
-  Burnham Multimodal Connector
  - Led by DoTH
-  Planned Burnham Greenway Trail
  - Led by DoTH



 Project Study Area

# Questions?

# Project Process

# Project Study Group



Village of Burnham



# Project Development Process

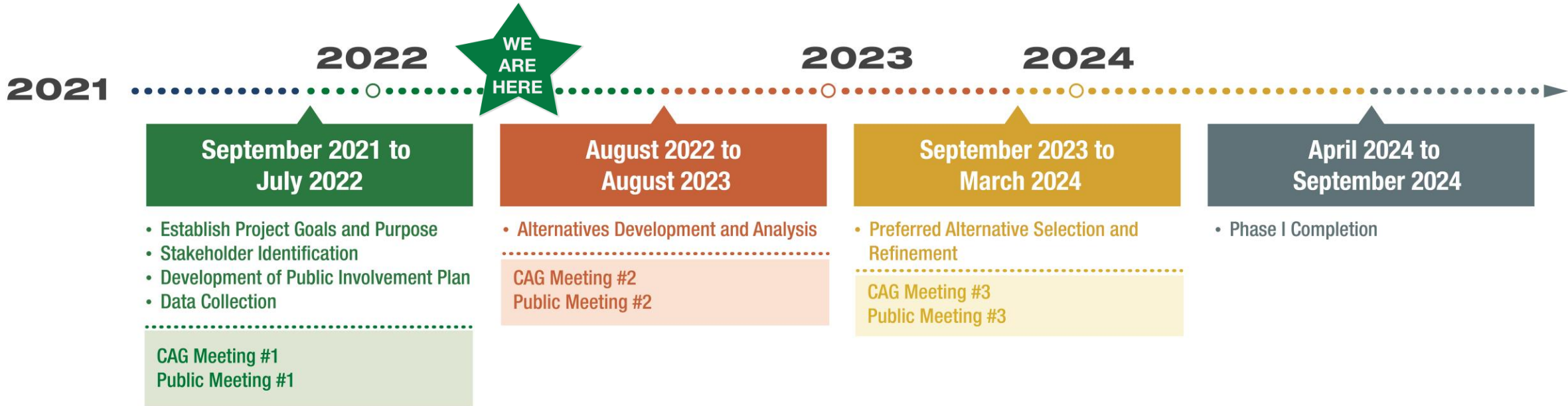
The Burnham Avenue Grade Separation project will follow IDOT's project development process from planning to construction.







# Phase I Project Timeline



# Project Evaluation Criteria

A variety of factors will be considered when looking at different alternatives. Factors considered will include but are not limited to:

**Safety** 

**Traffic Operations** 

**Bicycle/Pedestrian Access** 

**Drainage & Utility Impacts** 

**Railroad Operations** 

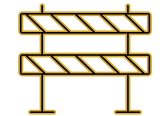
**Environmental Impacts**

**Community Impacts**

**Land Acquisition Needs**

**Construction Needs**

**Cost** 



# Data Collection

**Data collection will include methods shown here**

Surveys

Traffic Counts

Subsurface Utility Locating

Geotechnical Field Work

NEPA/Environmental Field Studies

# Environmental Studies

- All work performed during this project will be in accordance with State, Local, and Federal requirements, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- A primary goal is to ensure the project fits its surroundings and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources while addressing safety and mobility.



# Questions?

# Outreach

# Stakeholder Identification and Inclusivity

- Project will follow IDOT's Context Sensitive Solutions Policy
- Stakeholders identified:
  - Residents
  - Business Owners
  - Community Representatives
  - Schools
  - Neighborhood Groups
  - Hospitals and Emergency Services
  - Special Interest Groups
- Partner with community leaders to ensure hard-to-reach residents are informed about the project and develop bilingual project materials for Spanish speaking population



# Public Information and Communication Avenues

## Ways to receive information:

- Project website
  - [www.BurnhamGradeSeparation.com](http://www.BurnhamGradeSeparation.com)
- Public meetings
- Newsletters



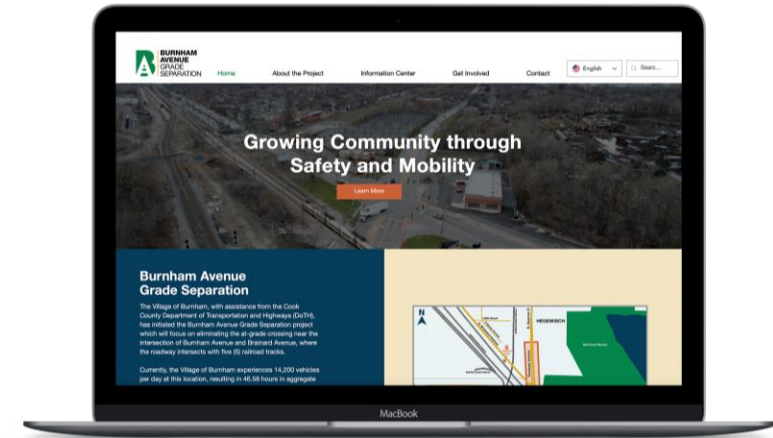
Public Meetings



Project Email

## Ways to provide input:

- Submit comments through:
  - [www.BurnhamGradeSeparation.com/contact](http://www.BurnhamGradeSeparation.com/contact)
  - [info@BurnhamGradeSeparation.com](mailto:info@BurnhamGradeSeparation.com)
  - (708) 232-8803
- Attend a public meeting



Project Website



# Next Steps

# Next Steps

- Public Meeting #1:
  - Date: Wednesday, July 27
  - Time: 6pm to 8pm
  - Location: Burnham School District 154-5
- Advance to developing and analyzing the alternatives



# Question & Answer



# Thank You!

We appreciate  
you taking the  
time to join us!